

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



MAY 21, 2023

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH | 2408 N. NAVARRO ST. | VICTORIA, TEXAS 77901

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
May 21, 2023, 10:30 a.m.  
Seventh Sunday of Easter

Prelude: Blessed Assurance

-Fanny Crosby

### Welcome and Announcements

### \*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.  
All: And also with you!

### Call to Worship

One: Let the righteous be joyful!  
Let them rejoice before God.  
All: **Let us all be jubilant with joy.**  
One: Sing to God, all peoples of the world.  
Sing praises to God most high.  
All: **From the sanctuary of heaven,  
God gives life and renews the face of the earth.**  
One: Let the righteous be joyful!  
Let them rejoice before God.  
All: **Let us all be jubilant with joy!**

### Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Redeeming God,  
you call us to be one with you,  
as you are one with Christ.  
As his perfect love casts out our fear,  
and changes it to love,  
unite us by your Spirit of peace,  
that we may be one with you,  
as you are one with Christ. Amen.

\*Opening Hymn: "Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

No. 483

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**\*Invitation to Confession**

Sisters and brothers,  
God not only desires our repentance,  
but longs to offer us forgiveness.  
Therefore, cast all your anxiety on God,  
because God cares for you eternally.

**\*Prayer of Confession** *(unison)*

Loving God,  
we confess that we do not always bring honor  
and glory to your name.  
We are rebellious and weak;  
we flee before your goodness.  
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us  
by the grace and mercy of Christ,  
that we may rise up again in peace  
to love and serve your world. Amen.

**\*Kyrie Eleison** *(unison)*

Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

Sisters and brothers,  
the Spirit of God is resting on you,  
to restore, support, and strengthen you.  
Therefore, be at peace in the One  
who forgives and loves you.

Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**\*Gloria Patri** *(unison)*

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

**Prayer of Illumination**

Spirit of Glory, Spirit of God,  
bless us with a word of life this day  
to restore, support, and strengthen us  
as we seek to be one with you. Amen.

**First Scripture Reading:** Psalm 67

P. 529 in the Old Testament

May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us,  
that your way may be known upon earth,  
your saving power among all nations.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth.  
Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you.  
The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, has blessed us.  
May God continue to bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth revere him.

**Piano Anthem:** “Early One Morning”

*Played by C. F. Schneider*  
*Ancient English Carol*

**Second Scripture Reading:** Matthew 15:21-28

P. 17 in the New Testament

Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.” But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, “Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us.” He answered, “I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.” But she came and knelt before him, saying, “Lord, help me.” He answered, “It is not fair to take the children’s food and throw it to the dogs.” She said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters’ table.” Then Jesus answered her, “Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish.” And her daughter was healed instantly.

**Sermon:** The Canaanite Woman

Rev. Jim DeMent

Matthew 15:22: “Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon.”

*Silence and stillness*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said”

*No. 393*

**Service of Installation—Presbyterian Women**

*See Insert*

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** Seek Ye First

*-Karen Lafferty, b. 1948*

\***Doxology** (*unison*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, all heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

\***Prayer of Thanksgiving** (*unison*)

Glorious God, everything that is given to us  
rains forth out of the abundance of your love,  
even Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Bless these gifts and our lives together  
that all we are and all we offer give glory to you;  
in the name of Christ,  
who is the way, truth, and life. Amen.

\***Affirmation of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;  
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;  
he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead;  
he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

\***Closing Hymn:** “Jesus Shall Reign”

\***Charge**

\***Benediction**

\***Congregational Response** (*unison*)

God be with you until we meet again;  
By His counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you;  
God be with you ‘till we meet again

-Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880

‘Till we meet, ‘till we meet  
‘Till we meet at Jesus’ feet;  
‘Till we meet, till we meet  
God be with you ‘till we meet again.

**Postlude:** At The Name of Jesus

-*Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925*

*No. 592*

Below are the lyrics of the hymns selected for this morning’s worship service. All the hymns below are either in the public domain or have been reproduced, under license, from *The Presbyterian Hymnal* (Westminster/John Knox Press, Louisville: 1990) or from Christian Copywrite Licensing International (*ccli.com*). If you are worshiping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1  
Verse 2

Verse 3  
Verse 4

**Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above**

Sing praise to God, who reigns above,  
The God of all creation,  
The God of power, the God of love,  
The God of our salvation;  
With healing balm my soul is filled,  
And every faithless murmur stilled:  
To God all praise and glory!

What God’s almighty power hath made,  
God’s gracious mercy keepeth;  
By morning glow or evening shade  
God’s watchful eye ne’er sleepeth;  
Within the kingdom of God’s might,  
Lo! all is just and all is right:  
To God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away,  
But through all grief distressing,  
An ever present help and stay,  
Our peace, and joy, and blessing;  
As with a mother’s tender hand,  
God gently leads the chosen band:  
To God all praise and glory!

Thus all my gladsome way along,  
I sing aloud Thy praises  
That earth may hear the grateful song  
My voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart,  
Both soul and body take your part:  
To God all praise and glory!

*No. 423*

**Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said**

Take up your cross, the Savior said,  
If you would my disciple be;  
Take up your cross with willing heart,  
And humbly follow after Me.

Take up your cross; let not its weight  
Fill your weak spirit with alarm;  
Christ’s strength shall bear your spirit up  
And brace your heart and nerve your arm.

Take up your cross, heed not the shame,  
And let your foolish heart be still;  
The Lord for you accepted death  
Up on a cross, on Calvary’s hill.

Take up your cross, then, in Christ's strength,  
And calmly every danger brave:  
It guides you to abundant life  
And leads to victory o'er the grave.

Jesus Shall Reign

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
Does its successive journeys run,  
His kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
Till moons shall wax and wane no more.

People and realms of every tongue  
Dwell on His love with sweetest song,  
And infant voices shall proclaim  
Their early blessings on his name.

To Him shall endless prayer be made,  
And praises throng to crown His head;  
His name like sweet perfume, shall rise  
With every morning sacrifice.

Blessings abound where'er He reigns;  
The prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
The weary find eternal rest,  
And all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring  
Honors peculiar to our King;  
Angels descend with songs again,  
And earth repeat the loud Amen!



<u>Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests</u>			
Gloria Aouelle	Bette Austin	Joey Farrell	Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)
Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)	Ginny & Wilson Rogers (Daughter of Bob & Gayla Whitaker; Son of Bruce & Elizabeth Rogers)	Mikey Ruddock	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)
For caregiving concerns—please contact: Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238)			
<u>FPC Opportunities for Worship &amp; Service</u>		<u>FPC Victoria Servant Leadership</u>	
<u>Monday, May 22</u> 6:00 PM Combined Meeting of Session and Mission Study Task Force		<u>Session Members</u> Jim DeMent, Moderator <u>Class of 2023</u> John Horadam, Building & Grounds Lynn McAuley, Ass't Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Membership <u>Class of 2024</u> Frances Byrne, Caregiving & Fellowship, Personnel Patrick Patterson, Building & Grounds, Finance Becky Richter, Christian Education, Mission & Outreach <u>Class of 2025</u> Donald Anderson, Mission & Outreach Leila Galvan, Christian Education Camille Miller, Worship <u>Other</u> Dawn Neel, Treasurer Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School Jim Stokes, Assistant Treasurer	
<u>Friday May, 26</u> 10:00 AM One Great Hour of Caring			
<u>Sunday, May 28</u> 9:30 AM “Prayer and Poetry” Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class 9:30 AM Kingdom Kids– Sunday School for children ages 5-12 10:30 AM Sunday Worship Service. Pentecost Joint Service with Grace Presbyterian Church			
<u>Pastor’s Notes</u>			
Our Bulletin cover this morning features an oil-on-canvas painting, “Christ and the Woman from Canaan,” by Sebastiano Ricci (1659-1734), an Italian painter of the late Baroque school of Venice. The original hangs in the Museo Nazionale di Capodimonte, Naples. Typical of classical artists, Ricci has painted his scene in an Italian setting with his characters wearing the fashions of the 18th century. As if to label the scene, the artist has painted a small dog in the foreground. A more accurate, and thus more telling, aspect of the artist’s work, however, is the condescension he has captured on the faces of the characters who are observing the scene. Notice the downward glances and frozen gestures of disapproval of the men in the painting. Even the woman on the left appears shocked to witness a woman behaving in this manner. The Canaanite woman was an outsider to Jesus’ native community (“the house of Israel”), and her behavior conformed to the norms of neither Jesus’ community nor her own (“the district of Tyre and Sidon”). And yet, she persisted. Moved to action by the love of her daughter, drawn to Jesus by his reputation for healing, she does what she must, first, to gain Jesus’ attention and, second, to receive his mercy. We, the readers, are surprised by how Jesus treats her initially, just as the onlookers are surprised by how she behaves. Jesus always surprises us, does he not? Come to find out, Jesus does not always withhold his blessings from those who are brash, assertive, and non-conforming. He does not reserve his favor for those who look and act as we expect them to, for those who know to stay in their place. For all God’s creation, Jesus responds to those who call on him in faith (“Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David” [Matt. 15:22]).			
<u>Clergy, Music, and Administration</u> Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster Erica Colding, Office Administrator		<u>Office Hours</u> Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM 361.575.2441 info@fpcofvictoria.org	