

Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



JUNE 25, 2023

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

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church
June 25, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude: O Lord Most Holy

-Franz Abt, 1819-1885, arr. Benton Price, 1977

Welcome and Announcements

*Passing of the Peace

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

Call to Worship

One: Not one sparrow will fall to the ground apart from their Creator.

All: **God tells us we are of more value than many sparrows.**

One: God knows us and loves us. Even the hairs of our head are all counted.

All: **We praise you, O God! Grateful are we for your love and care!**

Prayer of the Day (*unison*)

Holy and gracious God,
your steadfast love abides with your people in every age.
You teach us to trust in you
and call us to live in peace with one another.
Show us the way to live grateful lives, without fear,
knowing the true worth of your creation,
including ourselves;
in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***Opening Hymn:** "Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim"

No. 477

*Invitation to Confession

Before we hear the Word read and proclaimed,
let us prepare our hearts through the confession
of our individual and collective sins.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

O LORD, you have enticed me,
 and I was enticed;
 you have overpowered me,
 and you have prevailed.
 I have become a laughingstock all day long;
 everyone mocks me.
 For whenever I speak, I must cry out,
 I must shout, "Violence and destruction!"
 For the word of the LORD has become for me
 a reproach and derision all day long.
 If I say, "I will not mention him,
 or speak any more in his name,"
 then within me there is something
 like a burning fire
 shut up in my bones;
 I am weary with holding it in,
 and I cannot.
 For I hear many whispering:
 "Terror is all around!
 Denounce him! Let us denounce him!"

All my close friends
 are watching for me to stumble.
 "Perhaps he can be enticed,
 and we can prevail against him,
 and take our revenge on him."
 But the LORD is with me like a dread warrior;
 therefore my persecutors will stumble,
 and they will not prevail.
 They will be greatly shamed,
 for they will not succeed.
 Their eternal dishonor
 will never be forgotten.
 O LORD of hosts, you test the righteous,
 you see the heart and the mind;
 let me see your retribution upon them,
 for to you I have committed my cause.
 Sing to the LORD;
 praise the LORD!
 For he has delivered the life of the needy
 from the hands of evildoers.

Antem: Give Me a Faith

-Robert Bitgood, 1947

Second Scripture Reading: Matthew 10:24-39

P. P. 10-11 in the New Testament

"A disciple is not above the teacher, nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher, and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!"

"So have no fear of them; for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered, and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light; and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather fear him who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

"Everyone therefore who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven; but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace, but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
 and a daughter against her mother,
 and a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law;
 and one's foes will be members of one's own household.

Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

No. 579

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

You send us, God of the Great Commission, but we hedge and hesitate.
 Forgive our fear and our excuses.
 We are witnesses of your grace and glory but allow others to silence our praise.
 We imprison ourselves with doubt and shame and fail to shine your light for all to see.
 Forgive our fears. Free our testimony.
 Help us be your faithful disciples. Amen.

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

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

***Assurance of Pardon**

One: Through Christ's death and resurrection, we are a new creation,
 ready to sing God's glory and testify to God's grace.
 All: **In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and freed. Thanks be to God. Amen.**

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

Prayer of Illumination

Savior God, your Word is a lamp to our feet on this discipleship road.
 Walk with us. Guide us with your wisdom and grace.
 Open us to discerning your will and your way. Amen.

Sermon: “It Only Takes a Spark”

Carol Rahn

Silence and stillness

***Congregational Hymn:** “Baptized in Water”

No. 492

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: Though I May Speak

-English Folk Melody

***Doxology** (*unison*)

No. 592

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

Holy God,
who gives life, nourishment, and strength to all creation,
we thank you:
for the community of faith you have built,
for your servants who have held fast to you through centuries,
for the teachings and the witness of our ancestors,
for the gospel’s welcome to all in need,
for the healing that comes from your watchfulness.
Bless these gifts that all may be nurtured in truth.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.

***Affirmation of Faith** (*unison*)

from The Book of Common Worship

Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross.
Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord! Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer

***Closing Hymn:** “Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts”

No. 510

***Charge**

***Benediction**

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

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

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

‘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

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 3

Verse 2

Verse 4

Ye Servants of God, Your Master Proclaim

Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim,
And publish abroad His wonderful name;
The name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
His kingdom is glorious, He rules over all.

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne,"
Let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces, and worship the Lamb.

God ruleth on high, almighty to save;
And still He is nigh, his presence we have;
The great congregation His triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.

Then let us adore, and give Him His right,
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honor and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

Baptized in Water

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Cleansed by the blood of Christ, our King;
Heirs of salvation,
Trusting his promise,
Faithfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Marked with the sign of Christ, our King;
Born of the Spirit,
We are God’s children,
Joyfully now God's praises we sing.

Baptized in water,
Sealed by the Spirit,
Dead in the tomb with Christ, our King;
One with His rising,
Freed and forgiven,
Thankfully now God's praises we sing.

Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts

Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts,
 Thou fount of life, Thou light of all,
 From the best bliss that earth imparts
 We turn unfilled, to heed Thy call

Thy truth unchanged hath ever stood;
 Thou savest those that on Thee call;
 To them that seek Thee Thou art good,
 To them that find Thee, all in all

We taste Thee, O Thou living bread,
 And long to feast upon Thee still;
 We drink of Thee, the fountain head,
 And thirst our souls from Thee to fill

Our restless spirits yearn for Thee,
 Where'er our changeful lot in cast,
 Glad when Thy gracious smile we see,
 Blest when our faith can hold Thee fast.

O Jesus, ever with us stay,
 make all our moments calm and bright;
 chase the dark night of sin away,
 shed o'er the world Thy holy light.



Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests

Gloria Aouelle

Bette Austin

Joey Farrell

Nathan Galvan
 (Son of Leila Galvan)

Maria Pezeski
 (Mother of Leila Galvan)

Bain Rogers
 (Bob & Gayla Whitakers Grandson)

Mikey Ruddock

Carol Wisdom
 (Daughter of Lea Lenz)

**For caregiving concerns—please contact:
 Lynn McAuley (979.248.6238)**

FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service

Friday June 23

10:00 AM One Great Hour of Caring

Sunday, July 2

9:30 AM Kingdom Kids— Sunday School for
 children ages 5-12

10:30 AM Sunday Worship Service.

Lord's Supper

FPC Victoria Servant Leadership

Session Members

Jim DeMent, Moderator

Class of 2023

John Horadam, Building & Grounds
 Lynn McAuley, Ass't Clerk, Caregiving & Fellowship
 Bonnie Wilkinson, Clerk of Session, Membership

Class of 2024

Frances Byrne, Caregiving & Fellowship, Personnel
 Patrick Patterson, Building & Grounds, Finance
 Becky Richter, Christian Education, Mission & Outreach

Class of 2025

Donald Anderson, Mission & Outreach
 Leila Galvan, Christian Education
 Camille Miller, Worship

Other

Dawn Neel, Treasurer
 Melissa Samudio, Presbyterian Day School
 Jim Stokes, Assistant Treasurer

Pastor's Notes

Clergy, Music, and Administration

Rev. Jim DeMent, Interim Pastor
 Robert Wyatt, Organist/Choirmaster
 Erica Colding, Office Administrator

Office Hours

Monday — Friday 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM
 361.575.2441
 info@fpcofvictoria.org