

# Welcome All to Sunday Worship Service



August 6, 2023

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

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

First Presbyterian Church  
August 6, 2023, 10:30 a.m.  
Tenth Sunday after Pentecost  
Proper 13

**Prelude** “All Hail the Power of Jesus”

*Oliver Holden, 1793 arr. Joseph Prentiss, 1993*

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Moment for Mission**

*Dawn Neel*

**\*Passing of the Peace**

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

All: **And also with you!**

**Call to Worship** (*The lyrics from Hymn 430, “Come Sing, O Church in Joy!”*)

One: Come sing, O church, in joy!  
Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has led us  
Through the ages long!

All: **In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

One: Long years have come and gone,  
And still God reigns supreme,  
Empowering us to catch the vision,  
Dream the dream!

All: **In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

One: Let courage be our friend,  
Let wisdom be our guide,  
As we in mission  
Magnify the Crucified!

All: **In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

One: Come sing, O church, in joy!  
Come join, O church, in song!  
For Christ the Lord has triumphed  
Over the ages long!

All: **In bold accord,  
Come celebrate the journey now  
And praise the Lord!**

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

Creator God,  
you have formed us as your own,  
so whether we are weeping or laughing,  
dreaming or shouting for joy,  
we are always coming home to you.  
For all this and more, we thank you in Jesus’ name. Amen.

*\*Please stand in body or spirit*

**\*Opening Hymn:** “How Firm a Foundation”

No. 361

**\*Invitation to Confession**

With confidence in God’s generosity,  
Let us confess our sins  
and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ.

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

**Purifying God,  
we grow comfortable with the way things are  
in our lives, in the church, and in the world.  
We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ,  
for you overturn our notions of power and control.  
Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others.  
Help us bend our lives toward your own life of self-giving and sacrifice.  
Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world,  
with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new.  
In Christ’s name, we pray. Amen.**

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

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

No. 572

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

The apostle Paul reminds us that we do not make ourselves righteous.  
Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ,  
who has made us his own.  
The old life has passed away—and a new life has begun.  
Believe in God, Friends!  
Believe the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

**\*Gloria Patri**

No. 579

**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.**

**Mission Hymn Reading** (*The lyrics from Hymn 429, “Lord, You Give the Great Commission*) Henry Hauschild

Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
And the gospel go unheard,  
Help us witness to your purpose  
With renewed integrity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy:  
"This my body, this my blood."  
Let us all, for earth's true glory,  
Daily lift life heavenward,  
Asking that the world around us  
Share your children's liberty;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service:  
"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
Life abundant meant for each,  
Give us all new fervor, draw us  
Closer in community;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
All that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
To a just society;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
"I am with you to the end."  
Faith and hope and love restoring,  
May we serve as you intend,  
And, amid the cares that claim us,  
Hold in mind eternity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

**Anthem:** Something for Thee

*Robert Lowry, 1826-1899*

**Prayer for Illumination**

Break open the Scripture through the power of your Spirit, O God.  
Let your word, read and proclaimed,  
pour out until its essence fills this house and our lives.  
Then, anointed with your word,  
send us out to share the good news we have received. **Amen.**

**Second Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 43:16-19

P. 672 in the Old Testament

Thus says the LORD,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.

**Sermon:** A New Thing

Rev. Jim DeMent

Isaiah 43:18-19: Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?

*Silence and stillness*

**\*Congregational Hymn:** “Let Us Break Bread Together”

No. 513

**Presentation of Tithes and Offerings**

**Offertory:** I Gave My Life for Thee

*Philip P. Bliss, 1839-1876*

**\*Doxology**

*No. 592*

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

**Abundant God,  
your generosity astounds and humbles us.  
We bow before you in gratitude and awe,  
asking you to receive what we have brought in response.  
May these gifts be a pleasing offering  
for the sake of the world you came to save. Amen.**

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

*From A Brief Statement of Faith*

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life.  
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles  
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,  
engages us in the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism,  
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,  
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.  
In a broken and fearful world  
the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing,  
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,  
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,  
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,  
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.  
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,  
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives,  
even as we watch for God’s new heaven and new earth,  
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

**Prayers of the People** (“*The lyrics to Hymn 412, “Eternal God Whose Power Upholds”*”)

**The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper**

**INVITATION TO THE LORD’S TABLE**

**GREAT THANKSGIVING**

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is truly right and just to give you thanks  
in every time and in every place, almighty God.

We give you thanks for the gift of creation  
and especially for the gift of our life.  
We are grateful that you have made us in your image  
and that you pardon us when we act  
as though you have no authority over our lives.  
We are grateful that you sustain us in your great love.

And so, with all your people,  
with angels, archangels,  
and with all the company of heaven  
we praise and magnify your glorious name,  
joining our voices in the eternal hymn:

**SANCTUS: UNISON**

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, and blessed is your Son, Jesus Christ,  
who was born of Mary  
and shared the joys and sorrows  
of the life that we know.  
You anointed Jesus Christ with your Spirit  
to preach good news to the poor,  
to bind up the brokenhearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives,  
to give sight to the blind, and to liberate the oppressed,  
proclaiming the year of the Lord’s favor.

In Christ's baptism, suffering, death, and resurrection  
you gave birth to your Church,  
and made a new covenant with us  
by water and the Spirit.

Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ,  
we take from your creation this bread and this wine,  
and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming,  
proclaiming the mystery of faith:

**THE MYSTERY OF FAITH: UNISON**

**Great is the mystery of faith:  
Christ has died,  
Christ is risen,  
Christ will come again.**

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon your people  
and upon these your gifts of bread and wine,  
so that the bread we share and the cup we bless  
will be for us the body and blood of Christ.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ  
and with all who share this feast,  
united in ministry in every place.  
As this bread is Christ's body for us,  
send us out to be the body of Christ in the world.

Make us one with Christ,  
one with our neighbors,  
and one in service to all the world.

Keep us faithful in your service  
until Christ comes in final victory,  
and we shall feast with all your saints  
in the joy of your eternal realm.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**BREAKING OF THE BREAD**

**COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**One:** We give you thanks, Lord Jesus Christ,  
for the gifts of grace we have received from your hand.

**All:** **Now send us forth to reflect your light, your love, and your hope,  
proclaiming your saving death and resurrection  
until you come again in glory. Amen**

**\*Closing Hymn:** "Lord, You Give the Great Commission"

No. 429

**\*Charge**

**\*Benediction**

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

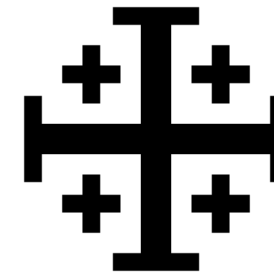
*Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880/William G Tomer, 1880*

**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:** God, Bless Your Church with Strength

*- Johann Sebastian Bach, 1736*



We have reproduced below 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 worshipping with us from home, we encourage you to sing along. Follow the verses in this order:

Verse 1  
Verse 2

Verse 3  
Verse 4

### How Firm a Foundation

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!  
What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by My righteous, omnipotent hand.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."

### Let Us Break Bread Together

Let us break bread together on our knees;  
(on our knees);  
Let us break bread together on our knees.  
(on our knees.)  
*Refrain*

Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
(on our knees);  
Let us drink wine together on our knees.  
(on our knees.)  
*Refrain*

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
(on our knees);  
Let us praise God together on our knees.  
(on our knees.)  
*Refrain*

Refrain:  
When I fall on my knees,  
With my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me. (on me.)

### Lord, You Give the Great Commission

Lord, you give the great commission:  
"Heal the sick and preach the word."  
Lest the church neglect its mission,  
And the gospel go unheard,  
Help us witness to your purpose  
With renewed integrity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you call us to your service:  
"In my name baptize and teach."  
That the world may trust your promise,  
Life abundant meant for each,  
Give us all new fervor, draw us  
Closer in community;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you make the common holy:  
"This my body, this my blood."  
Let us all, for earth's true glory,  
Daily lift life heavenward,  
Asking that the world around us  
Share your children's liberty;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you show us love's true measure:  
"Father, what they do, forgive."  
Yet we hoard as private treasure  
All that you so freely give.  
May your care and mercy lead us  
To a just society;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.

Lord, you bless with words assuring:  
"I am with you to the end."  
Faith and hope and love restoring,  
May we serve as you intend,  
And, amid the cares that claim us,  
Hold in mind eternity;  
With the Spirit's gifts empower  
Us for the work of ministry.



**Caregiving Concerns and Prayer Requests**

Gloria Auaille	Bette Austin	Beverly Bright	Joey Farrell
Nathan Galvan (Son of Leila Galvan)	Maria Pezeski (Mother of Leila Galvan)	Timmy Richter (Son of Ruth Ann Barnard)	Bain Rogers (Son of Ginny & Wilson Rogers)
Mikey Ruddock	Carol Wisdom (Daughter of Lea Lenz)		

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

**FPC Opportunities for Worship & Service**

**Wednesday, August 9**

PDS Comes Back to School

**Friday, August 11**

5:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting

**Sunday, August 13**

9:30 AM Nellie Hudson Adult Sunday School Class  
*Being Reformed Faith Seeking  
Understanding: Christian Hope*

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

10:30 AM Sunday Worship Service.

**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

**Pastor's Notes**

During our annual Stewardship Campaign, which will run from this Sunday, August 6, 2023, through Saturday, September 30, 2023, we will be adjusting our Order of Worship a bit on each Sunday in August to remind ourselves of how poets and hymnwriters have captured the evangelical and missional aspirations of Christ's church. We will listen to the words of familiar hymns being read, or we will ourselves recite those words aloud, to hear afresh the spiritual messages they contain.

The Worship Committee hopes that by listening to the words of sacred hymns, without the music, we will be even better reminded of the work that we are to do as good stewards of Christ's church on earth.

And then on each Sunday in September, we will spend a Moment for Mission to remind ourselves of the numerous charitable organizations that the members and organizations of our church (the Presbyterian Women, our Mission and Outreach Committee, and of course our individual members) support with their time, their treasure, and their prayers.

While we do all that, we will also remind ourselves that Christian Stewardship is about more than money. It is the giving of our time, attention, and service. It is the sharing of our faith. It is the daily devotion to prayer and Christ-pleasing behavior that sustains us and invites others who are lost, lonely, or discouraged to come experience the joy that we share in serving our Lord and Savior.

**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