



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome.** We are glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please use the Visitor Card in the pew racks, our church app (FPCBR in the App Store) or online at [fpcbr.org/connect](http://fpcbr.org/connect).

**Prayer Requests.** We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to [prayer@fpcbr.org](mailto:prayer@fpcbr.org), through Facebook Live and the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack and placing in the offering basket as you come forward to receive communion.

**Officer Suggestions for the 2024 Class.** The Officer Nominating Committee nominates Elders and Deacons by receiving suggested names of members from the congregation, prayerfully preparing a slate and presenting the slate at the annual October congregational meeting for election. We have extended suggestion time. Please fill out a suggestion card from the pew rack and place in the offering plate.

**Three Worship Services Next Sunday.** Our normal worship schedule resumes August 8. Please join us at 7.45 am in the Chapel or 9 am and 11 am in the Sanctuary. Sunday school is from 10.10 to 11 am.

**Come Back to Sunday School!** Beginning August 8, we invite you to join one of our four adult Sunday school options: Ryan Dickerson teaching on the gospel of Mark (SB 220), Jeff Swarner teaching on church history (SB 219), Barry Phillips teaching on the gospel of John (EB 202) and Kevin McCarter teaching on Romans (EB 202). Sunday school is a fantastic avenue for connecting with old friends and making some new ones.

**Stay-Treat: The Deeper Challenge in Cancel Culture.** The First Presbyterian "Stay-Treat" August 20-21 will feature three dynamic presentations by an expert in Critical Theory. Dr. Neil Shenvi brings the rigor of his background in theoretical chemistry along with his unique ability to present complex issues clearly. Read more about Neil at [shenviapologetics.com](http://shenviapologetics.com). Please plan to join us. And bring a car load! We can't afford not to understand what's going on in our current cultural conversations. Registration now online at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org). Price increases after August 10.

**LSU Prayer Walk.** Saturday, August 14 at 8.15 am we will intercede for the unreached international and American students at LSU and in our city. Meet under the shady oaks in front of the LSU Union at 8.15 am. Parking is usually available directly in front of the Union or in the parking lot behind Barnes & Noble across from the Union. Dress casual.

**Twice a Week: Hurricane Relief Day Trips.** Whitney Alexander leads a group of relief workers each Wednesday and Saturday. Everyone is welcome. Meet him in the church parking lot at 6.30 am. Bring work gloves!

**Kingdom Kids SS Teachers Needed!** We are looking for Sunday School teachers grades 1-5. We are starting a brand new, exciting curriculum on August 8. Please come join our team and share the love of Jesus with our children. Please contact Kendra Bremer if you are interested in teaching ([kendra@fpcbr.org](mailto:kendra@fpcbr.org) or 713.829.0828).

**Nursery Helpers Needed.** The So Loved ministry is looking for helpers for the nursery on Sunday Mornings. Volunteers typically serve for one hour, one Sunday per month. If you feel led to help minister to the precious children in our church, please sign up online at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org). You may contact Karah Guillory ([karah@fpcbr.org](mailto:karah@fpcbr.org) or 225-278-8753) if you have questions.

**Calling All Rising 6th Graders!** Confirmation starts in August but we need to be sure your rising 6th grader is included. Please contact Jessica Saffell ([jessica@fpcbr.org](mailto:jessica@fpcbr.org) or 225.921.2175) if you have a student who will be participating in the 2021-2022 Confirmation class. Important Confirmation Dates: Parents' meeting Sunday, August 8 at 10.10 am; Confirmation Lock-In August 13; First day of class Sunday, August 15.

*announcements continue on back panel . . .*



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**Need a Pastor After Hours?** Would you like to reach a pastor after hours? Please call the church office (387.0617) and press 5 to be connected to the pastor on call.

**Give Online.** Visit [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org) or go to the church app to make your gift online. You may also give through the U.S. mail. Email [prayer@fpcbr.org](mailto:prayer@fpcbr.org) if you have online giving questions.

**First Presbyterian Church and Social Media (Instagram, YouTube and Facebook).** Sanctuary services are livestreamed on the web and we frequently post photos of members engaged in fellowship at our small groups, worship services and events. If you have any questions, contact Katie Robinson or Jay High.

**Sanctuary Flowers:** If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday, please contact Kathy Mullins at 603.4735.

*Scripture for Next Week: Romans 3: 23-25a; Colossians 2: 13-14; I Timothy 1: 15-17*

*Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

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August 1, AD 2021  
10.30 am



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD  
763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802  
225.387.0617 | [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org)





## GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Darin Travis

### Prelude

Steve Gustafson, piano

### \*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 73

O LORD, by your mercy, I am continually with you;  
you hold my right hand.

**You guide me with your counsel,  
and afterward you will receive me to glory.**

Whom have I in heaven but you?  
And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.  
**My flesh and my heart may fail,  
but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.**

For me it is good to be near God;  
**I have made the Lord GOD my refuge,  
that I may tell of all your works.**

### \*Song of Praise

“His Mercy Is More”

### \*Blessing God

### \*Hymn of Preparation

No. 275 “How Firm a Foundation”

FOUNDATION

### \*Greeting and Announcements

Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children’s Church.

### Choral Offertory

“All I Have Is Christ”

Please place your prayer requests and offerings in the plate as it is passed.

\*Standing



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 139: 17-18

How precious to me are your thoughts, O God!  
How vast is the sum of them!  
If I would count them, they are more than the sand.  
I awake, and I am still with you.

John 1: 14

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

John 14: 15-17

“If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.”

The secret things belong to the LORD our God.  
**But what has been revealed belongs to us, and to our children forever.  
That we may do all the words of this law.**

### Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

Five Questions You Can’t Solve by Yourself, Part 1: “Are We Ultimately Alone?”

### Time of Reflection



## LORD’S SUPPER

### Scriptural Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

Once there was no barrier between us. You walked in the Garden with our first parents. There was no shame. Now we are the silent planet. We cannot hear you. We do not know how to connect to you. Sin is a wall between us. Our hearts are hard. We don’t even know what we are missing. But we know that we are lonely for you. We are frightened of the dark. Terrified of stillness. Searching and never finding. Forgive our sin, our blindness and our deafness. Lord Jesus, you have torn down the dividing wall between us by the tearing of your own flesh. So now sunder our hearts that they may receive you and we might be made whole, amen.

### Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

### Sacrament of Communion

### The Exchange of Love

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts!  
**We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

### Communion Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

### Words of Institution

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

Communing in Christ  
Prayer of Thanks

\*\* This morning we will come forward to receive communion. Ushers will direct worshipers from the back pews.

### Communion Meditations

“Come Lift Up Your Sorrows” by Michael J. Card

II. *Andante con moto tranquillo* from Piano Trio in D minor, Op 49, by Felix Mendelssohn

Rafael Galvan Herrera, violin  
Jaime Compton, cello  
Steve Gustafson, piano



## BENEDICTION

### \*Song of Response

“In Christ Alone”

### \*Benediction Response

**Blessed be the LORD I AM, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen!**

### Postlude

Sonata for Trumpet and Piano by Halsey Stevens