



## 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 [fpibr.org/connect](http://fpibr.org/connect).

**Prayer Requests.** We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to [prayer@fpibr.org](mailto:prayer@fpibr.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.

**Contemplative Prayer Group Tomorrow.** On Monday, July 19 from 10–11 am, we will have a quiet hour in the Chapel featuring guided silent prayer based on Scripture, as well as a brief reflection on Sunday's sermon. All are welcome.

**Fiesta Lunch Next Sunday, July 25.** We love congregational lunches! What a great opportunity to fellowship with members of the church you don't normally see as well as invite a guest. Join us next Sunday in the gym following our combined worship service for fajitas and tacos. A love offering will be taken at the door.

**Register for VBS 2021.** We are taking the children on a wilderness adventure joining Moses as he and the Israelites escape Egypt! VBS dates are July 26-29, 9 am-12 pm. Both volunteer and student (1st-5th grades) registrations are available online at [fpibr.org](http://fpibr.org). Please contact Kendra Bremer ([kendra@fpibr.org](mailto:kendra@fpibr.org) or 713.829.0828) with any questions.

**July and August Worship Schedule.** First Presbyterian Church will continue just one 10.30 worship service in the Sanctuary through August 1. There will be no Sunday school. We resume the normal three service schedule on August 8.

**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. Please be in prayer about who you might suggest. Suggestion cards are available in the pew racks each Sunday in July as well as online at [fpibr.org](http://fpibr.org).

**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!

**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 [fpibr.org](http://fpibr.org). Price increases after August 10.

**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@fpibr.org](mailto:jessica@fpibr.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.

*Sanctuary Flowers: The flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of loved ones by Melissa and Mike Thibodeaux.*

*Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

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July 18, AD 2021  
10.30 am



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





## GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Whitney Alexander

### Prelude

Brad Larpenter, flute  
Braeden Larpenter, bodhrán

### \*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 107

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD tell their story.

**We were hungry and thirsty, and our lives ebbed away. Then we cried out to the LORD in our trouble, and he delivered us from our distress.**

Let the redeemed give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds.

**He satisfies the thirsty and fills the hungry with good things.**

He brought you out of darkness, the utter darkness, and broke away your chains.  
**Let us give thanks to the LORD for his unfailing love and his wonderful deeds!**

### \*Hymn of Praise

No. 88 “Fairest Lord Jesus”

CRUSADERS’ HYMN

### \*Blessing God

### Scriptural Call to Confession

### Prayer of Confession

**You show yourself as the One who would heal our disease, restore our sight and set us free. You call us to represent you to the sick, blind and bound. Yet in our pride, we refuse to come to you for healing. And we do not share you with our dying neighbors. Forgive us, Son of God, for choosing bondage over liberty. Forgive us for choosing blindness over sight. Heal us. Restore our vision. Empower our faith that we might shed your light into a darkened world through Christ. Amen.**

### Silent Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

\*Standing

### \*Hymn of Preparation

“Amazing Grace”

AMAZING GRACE

### \*Greeting and Announcements

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

### Offertory

“O Draw Me, Lord” by David Baroni

O draw me, Lord.  
And I’ll run, after you.

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



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

### Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Mark 8: 22-26

And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Do you see anything?” And he looked up and said, “I see people, but they look like trees, walking.” Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. And he sent him to his home, saying, “Do not even enter the village.”

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

Darin Travis

“The Touch of Jesus Brings Healing”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### Time of Reflection

### \*Hymn of Response

“Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me”



## LORD’S SUPPER

### 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: outer sections first, center section next and the balcony last.*

### Communion Meditation

“Come Thou Fount” arranged by Grace Kim  
Rachel Kollmeyer, violin  
Steve Gustafson, piano  
Adalus Low-Manzini, cello

### Chorus of Response

“O Draw Me, Lord”



## BENEDICTION

### \*Response

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

### Postlude

“Be Strong in the Lord” arranged by Anna Laura Page