# Responding to the Word

**Time of Reflection** 

\***Hymn of Response** No. 345 "Blessed Assurance"



Lord's Supper

Sacrament of Communion

The Exchange of Love

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

**Instrumental Communion Meditation** *II. Adagio* from Violin Concerto in A Minor by J. S. Bach



## Benediction

\*Response

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

Postlude

II. Allegro from Sonata No. 3 in F Major by G. F. Handel

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

ASSURANCE

**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*.

**Prayer Requests.** We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to *prayer@fpcbr.org*, through 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.

**Glorious Christmas Offering.** You contributed over \$55,000 to our Christmas offering for city ministry. The Christian Outreach Center and Gardere Community Christian School send their heartfelt thanks for your contributions.

**Mission Trip Informational Meeting Today.** We are excited to offer mission trips again in 2022: two to Romania and one to Colombia. Join us today at the home of Wendi and Stephen French, (212 Shady Lake Parkway) at 5 pm to hear the details. Please RSVP to Whitney if you are coming to this meeting (225.810.2607).

**Women's 1 Corinthians Study.** How can Christians live in the world but not of it? How can we relate to the world without compromising our faith? Join Women's Ministry for a study on 1 Corinthians. We meet Wednesdays at 6.30 pm via ZOOM or Thursdays at 9.30 am in EB 202. More information at *fpcbr.org*.

**MDO and Preschool Registration for 2022-2023** opens for our church members Monday, January 24. Contact Whitney Weiner at *mdo@fpcbr.org* or 225.620.0245 for more information.

**January 26 Mission Outreach to Thibodaux.** Whitney Alexander is coordinating a relief trip to Thibodaux Wednesday, January 26. Those interested in attending this one-day trip should meet in the Target parking lot on Siegen Lane at 6.30 am. Wear sturdy closed-toed shoes and bring work gloves. You'll return home by 4.30 pm. Contact Whitney if you have questions (225.610.2607).

**Discover First Dinner January 30.** Discover First Dinners are an opportunity to learn more about the mission and ministry of First Presbyterian Church in a smaller setting. Our next dinner is Sunday, January 30. Please contact Jaci Gaspard to RSVP (*jaci@fpcbr.org*).

**Parents' Night Out.** Save the date for our next Parents' Night Out: Sunday, February 6 at Red Stick Social. Details and online registration coming soon.

**Sunday School Is Back.** Our Sunday school teachers are back for the new year and would love to have you join them. Please visit the Connection Center for a list of classes and locations.

**"God in Skin and Time: Jesus As Beloved Son"** is a Christmas article by Gerrit published on *desiringgod.org.* Hard copies are available at the Connection Center.

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*Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers:* The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Norwood, Jr. and Larry Charles Musgrove, Sr. by Chrystal Norwood Musgrove and family.

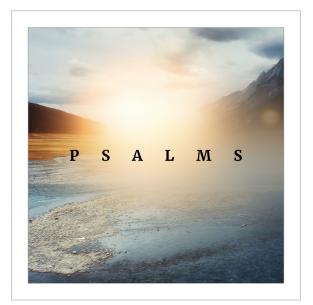
Scripture for Next Week: Psalm 107: 17-43

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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## ORDER of WORSHIP

January 16, AD 2022 11 am

## GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Whitney Alexander

#### Prelude

No. 1 Siciliana for Organ and Violin, Op. 4 by John Stanley Aaron Farrell, violin

#### \*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 107

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, For his steadfast love endures forever!

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands. We were hungry and thirsty, our soul fainted within us. Then we cried to the LORD in our trouble, and he delivered us from our distress.

Let us thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wondrous works to the children of man! For he satisfies the longing soul, and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

\*Hymn of Praise No. 76 "O for a Thousand Tongues" AZMON

\*Blessing God

Scriptural Call to Confession

#### **Prayer of Confession**

O Lord, we have been quick to complain, whine and criticize. We have been slow to speak praise or gratitude. We have heard of your steadfast love. How it endures forever. We have experienced your love in countless ways. You are always faithful. But we have failed to say so. Forgive us. Give us the wisdom we need to recognize when we are wandering or imprisoned. Give us the humility we need to cry out to you for help. Then give us urgent hearts and passionate voices to declare when you answer our call. You are good. O how grateful we are for your wondrous works! Amen.

Silent Confession

#### \*Response

What love could remember, no wrongs we have done; Omniscient, all-knowing, he counts not their sum. Thrown into a sea, without bottom or shore; Our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

Praise the Lord, his mercy is more. Stronger than darkness, new every morn; Our sins they are many, his mercy is more.

\*Greeting and Announcements Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children's Church.

Offertory "Almost Home" by Matt Boswell, Lauren and Matt Papa

Don't drop a single anchor, we're almost home; Through every toil and danger we're almost home. How many pilgrim saints have before us gone? No stopping now we're almost home.

The promised land is calling, we're almost home; And not a tear shall fall then, we're almost home. Make ready now your souls, for that Kingdom come. No turning back we're almost home.

Almost home, we're almost home So press on t'ward that blessed shore, O praise the LORD! We're almost home.

This journey ours together, we're almost home. Unto that great forever, we're almost home. What song anew we'll sing 'round that happy throne Come faint of heart, we're almost home.

This life is just a vapor; we're almost home. The sun is setting yonder; we're almost home. Take courage for this darkness shall break to dawn! Oh, lift your eyes, we're almost home.

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

\*Response Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Prayer of Dedication



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

\*Hymn of Preparation No. 233 "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus"

Time with God's Word Prayer for Illumination

Psalm 107: 1-16

hungry and thirsty,

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 "He Shatters the Doors of Bronze"

OLD HUNDREDTH

#### HYFRYDOL

Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever! Let the redeemed of the LORD say so. whom he has redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west,

from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to a city to dwell in;

their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the LORDin their trouble,

and he delivered them from their distress.

He led them by a straight way

till they reached a city to dwell in.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love,

for his wondrous works to the children of man!

For he satisfies the longing soul,

and the hungry soul he fills with good things.

Some sat in darkness and in the shadow of death, prisoners in affliction and in irons, for they had rebelled against the words of God, and spurned the counsel of the Most High. So he bowed their hearts down with hard labor; they fell down, with none to help. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress. He brought them out of darkness and the shadow of death, and burst their bonds apart.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love.

for his wondrous works to the children of man!

For he shatters the doors of bronze

and cuts in two the bars of iron.