

***Affirmation of Faith**
The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name; thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



BENEDICTION

***Response**

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

Postlude

“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” arranged by David Lowe



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome. We are glad you're here. If you are visiting with us, please use the Connect Card in our church app (FPCBR in the App Store) or online at fpibr.org/connect.

Prayer Requests. We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be emailed (prayer@fpibr.org), sent through Facebook Live or by using the church app.

Congregational Meeting. The session calls for a congregational meeting to be held during 9 and 11 am worship Sunday, January 17 to vote on electing Darin Travis as Associate Pastor for Discipleship, Men's Ministry and Young Adults.

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! Also, relief items continue to be collected in the gym. Immediately needed items: contractor bags, buckets and cleaning supplies (Fabuloso and bleach).

Why Do We Mask? At First, we insist on masks at our gatherings. Is it inconvenient? Yes! Is their effectiveness debatable? Yes! But . . . 1) It's the law, 2) We respect the medical minds in our own congregation and 3) *We love one another.* We have members who are at risk, fellow worshipers who, for safety concerns, would not come if we wore no masks. Scripture (1 Cor. 8) clearly calls on those who have more freedom to inconvenience themselves for those who have less. So, please, wear a mask inside and do it for love's sake.

Give Online. Visit fpibr.org or go to the church app to make your gift online. You may also give through the U.S. mail. Email prayer@fpibr.org if you have online giving questions.

Assistance for the Hard of Hearing. We are pleased to offer headphones to assist the hard of hearing during our Sanctuary services. Headsets and packs are available to check out at the Connection Center.

Scripture for Next Week: Isaiah 6

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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ORDER of WORSHIP

January 3, AD 2021
11 am
Epiphany Sunday



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD
763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802
225.387.0617 | fpibr.org



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Gerrit Dawson

Prelude

“For Unto Us a Child Is Born” arranged by Bill Wolaver
Steve Gustafson, piano

*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Jonah 2, the prophet’s prayer from the great fish

I called out to the LORD, out of my distress, and he answered me.
Out of the belly of Sheol I cried, and you heard my voice.

When I was fainting away, I remembered the LORD,
And my prayer came to you, into your holy temple.

I went down to the land whose bars closed upon me forever,
Yet you brought up my life from the pit, O LORD my God.

So I with the voice of thanksgiving will sacrifice to you; what I have vowed I will pay:
Salvation belongs to the LORD! Salvation belongs to the LORD!

*Hymn of Praise

“All Creatures of Our God and King” (vs. 1-3, 5)

LAAST UNS ERFREUEN

*Blessing God

Scriptural Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful LORD, you said, “Go!” and I went—the other way! You gave me clear direction in your Word. I disobeyed. You gave me a mission, a life of purpose. I ran away. I wanted *my* life *my* way. I am still running. I try to close my ears to your voice. I keep the music loud. I major in trivia. I sleepwalk through life. I am so tired from running. So lonely without you. So hopeless and helpless. Catch me in my tracks, dear LORD! Outrun me. Lay hold of me and bring me back home to you in forgiveness and mercy.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Standing

*Response

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.**

*Greeting and Announcements

*Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children’s Church.
Please place your offering in the baskets as you exit worship today.*

Anthem

“Be Thou My Vision” arranged by Alice Parker

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord.
Thou my great Father; I thy true son
Thou in me dwelling and I one with thee one.

Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

“We Three Kings” (vs. 1-2, 5)

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Jonah 1: 1-17

Now the word of the LORD came to Jonah the son of Amittai, saying, “Arise, go to Nineveh, that great city, and call out against it, for their evil has come up before me.” But Jonah rose to flee to Tarshish from the presence of the LORD. He went down to Joppa and found a ship

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going to Tarshish. So he paid the fare and went down into it, to go with them to Tarshish, away from the presence of the LORD.

But the LORD hurled a great wind upon the sea, and there was a mighty tempest on the sea, so that the ship threatened to break up. Then the mariners were afraid, and each cried out to his god. And they hurled the cargo that was in the ship into the sea to lighten it for them. But Jonah had gone down into the inner part of the ship and had lain down and was fast asleep. So the captain came and said to him, “What do you mean, you sleeper? Arise, call out to your god! Perhaps the god will give a thought to us, that we may not perish.”

And they said to one another, “Come, let us cast lots, that we may know on whose account this evil has come upon us.” So they cast lots, and the lot fell on Jonah. Then they said to him, “Tell us on whose account this evil has come upon us. What is your occupation? And where do you come from? What is your country? And of what people are you?” And he said to them, “I am a Hebrew, and I fear the LORD, the God of heaven, who made the sea and the dry land.” Then the men were exceedingly afraid and said to him, “What is this that you have done!” For the men knew that he was fleeing from the presence of the LORD, because he had told them.

Then they said to him, “What shall we do to you, that the sea may quiet down for us?” For the sea grew more and more tempestuous. He said to them, “Pick me up and hurl me into the sea; then the sea will quiet down for you, for I know it is because of me that this great tempest has come upon you.” Nevertheless, the men rowed hard to get back to dry land, but they could not, for the sea grew more and more tempestuous against them. Therefore they called out to the LORD, “O LORD, let us not perish for this man’s life, and lay not on us innocent blood, for you, O LORD, have done as it pleased you.” So they picked up Jonah and hurled him into the sea, and the sea ceased from its raging. Then the men feared the LORD exceedingly, and they offered a sacrifice to the LORD and made vows.

And the LORD appointed a great fish to swallow up Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

Sermon

Noah Pourciau
“Into the Storm”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

“As with Gladness Men of Old”

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