

Choral Communion Meditation

“Shall We Gather at the River”

Setting by John Carter

Shall we gather at the river, where bright angel feet have trod;
With its crystal tide forever flowing by the throne of God?
Yes, we'll gather at the river, the beautiful river,
Gather with the saints at the river that flows by the throne of God.

Ere we reach the shining river, lay we ev'ry burden down;
Grace our spirits will deliver, and provide a robe and crown.

Deep river, my home is over Jordan,
Deep river, I want to cross over into campground.

Soon we'll reach the shining river, soon our pilgrimage will cease;
Soon our happy hearts will quiver with the melody of peace.



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

“Jubilate” by Roy Douglas



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.

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.

Workers Needed! Final Build Dates! FPC is hosting its seventh(!) Habitat for Humanity build. Remaining build dates are Oct. 28-30. Please register online (fpcbr.org) to volunteer as a worker or help with food.

Women's Stay-Treat October 23. What was the role of the high priest under the Old Covenant and what did this priestly work accomplish? Join Women's Ministry for a stay-treat on the significance of the priesthood of Christ. One day only: 8.30 am – 1 pm. Please register by Wednesday, October 20 at fpcbr.org. Contact Jaime if you require childcare (jaime@fpcbr.org).

Blood Drive Next Sunday. Helping others just feels good. We will have the LifeShare blood mobile on campus in the Convention Street parking lot on Sunday, October 24 from 8 am until 1 pm. Please stop by anytime to donate blood. While walk ups are welcome, we ask that you please sign up on the church website. Save a life! Donate blood!

announcements continue on back panel . . .



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ladies Social October 28. Women's Ministry is having a 60s+ Ladies Social Thursday, October 28 at the home of Jane Kirkpatrick (262 S. Lakeshore Dr.). Come & go anytime between 11 am-1 pm for food & fellowship. Assortment of salads & sweets from Bergeron's. Contact jaime@fpcbr.org to RSVP. Feel free to bring a friend or someone you know who may be interested in connecting with others, even if they aren't in this specific age range!

Reformation Sunday October 31. Wear your plaids, your kilts and your tweeds as we celebrate the Scottish roots of our Presbyterian faith on Reformation Sunday, October 31 with the bagpipers on North Blvd. starting at 10 am. We'll also have our fall congregational meeting to vote on the slate of new elders and deacons. All are invited to enjoy brunch after worship (love offering will be taken). Jim and James Hogg will once again be playing music; activities and games will be offered for the children. If you haven't told us before, contact Jaci Gaspard to have your clan's tartan represented at the Kirkin' service (620.0221).

Congregational Meeting and Election of Officers in Two Weeks. The session has called a congregational meeting during our combined service on October 31 for the purpose of electing new elders and deacons. The officer nominating committee will place into nomination: **Elders:** Will Adams, Gerry Arnold, Chuck Barber, Cheryl Broadnax, Ross Henry, Pat Kerr, Jason Lewis, Kevin McCarter, Jerry Stovall and Suzie Thompson. **Deacons:** Ryan Castle, Blake Fowler, Ryn Jones, Sherry Kadair, Annie Kelly, Rachel Reese-Kollmeyer, Ainsley Lewis (1 year), Cheryl Lott, Pat O'Donoghue, Jeff Swarner and Milt Westmoreland.

Parents' Night Out November 7. An evening of fellowship, bowling, trivia, food and fun at Red Stick Social Sunday, November 7 from 5 to 8 pm. To sweeten the deal, we're providing childcare as well. Drop your kids off and enjoy a break before the week begins! Further details and registration online at fpcbr.org. \$15 per person or \$25 per couple.

Almost Time! Commitment Sunday is November 14 for both our 2022 annual giving and the Building Up Campaign. That will be a joyful service of dedication! Soon you will receive one pledge card for both commitments. Of course, you don't need to wait: You can always make your pledges online at the Building Up tab, or email Carol Pruitt (carol@fpcbr.org) with your commitment.

Loving Our rEcess Families, Friday, November 5. Once a month volunteers spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability while parents enjoy a night out. We need prayer for this vulnerable group and hands on volunteers. Contact Jess Conciene if you would like to participate in monthly rEcess (jess.conciene@gmail.com or 225.892.3212).

Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: *The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Kay Curry, beloved mother and grandmother, given by Mary, Ryan, David, Luke and Mary Claire Dickerson.*

Scripture for Next Week: *I Thessalonians 4: 1-12*

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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



ORDER of WORSHIP

October 17, AD 2021

11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Jim Solomon

Prelude

“Festive Alleluia” by Dan Miller
Steve Gustafson, organ

*Welcome and Call to Worship

Based on 1 Thessalonians 5

You are all children of the light.
We are not of the darkness.

As children of the day, let us put on the breastplate of faith and love.
Filled with the hope of salvation, let us praise God.

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.
He died for us so that whether we live or die, we might always be with him.

Let us now lift our voices in worship and open our arms in fellowship,
Let us encourage one another and build one another up in Christ.

*Hymn of Praise

No. 108 “Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

MADRID

*Blessing God

Scriptural Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

From The Worship Sourcebook, 2nd ed.

Wondrous God, who sets suns and moons above us, mountains and valleys beneath us, and friends and strangers among us: how often have we tried to hide from your presence, how seldom have we looked for your creating face and your fashioning hand! Lord, have mercy upon us. Wondrous God, who took upon yourself flesh of our flesh in Jesus our brother and being found in human form made the ultimate disclosure of yourself in the face of Jesus Christ: how often we have forgotten you, how seldom have we really loved and followed you! Christ, have mercy upon us. Wondrous God, who pours out freely the Holy Spirit: how often have we ignored your promptings, how seldom have we asked for your help or accepted your gifts! Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Silent Confession

*Standing

Assurance of Pardon

*Response

GREATOREX

**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.**

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Offertory

“Aria” by Charles Callahan

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

*Response Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

**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

“O Church Arise”

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

1 Thessalonians 3: 6-13

But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you—for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith?

Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you,

so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

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

Whitney Alexander
“Overjoyed by Good News”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 347 “Be Still, My Soul”

FINLANDIA



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.*