



EASTER SUNDAY CELEBRATION

April 9, AD 2023

11 am



HE IS RISEN!

Assisting Pastors: Darin Travis and Scott Graham

*Borislava Iltcheva, violin
Gergana Iltcheva, violin
Grant Bedillion, viola*

*Joy Bedillion, cello
Blake Hanna, trumpet
Thomas Zirkle, timpani/percussion*

Steve Gustafson, organ and piano



GATHERING TO PRAISE

PRELUDE

“Easter Glory” arranged by James Curnow

WELCOME

*CALL TO WORSHIP

6th c. Easter Prayer

This is our happy morning!
With the ancient church, we speak Christ’s sorrow ended.
We hail his triumph now.

Refrain:

Welcome, happy morning!

Age to age shall say:

“Hell today is vanquished, Heaven is won today!”

Come then, true and faithful, now fulfill thy Word.
Tis thine own third morning; rise O buried Lord! (*Refrain*)

Lo! the dead is living, God forevermore!
Him, their true Creator, all his works adore! (*Refrain*)

*HYMN OF PRAISE

No. 217 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” EASTER HYMN

*BLESSING GOD

INFANT BAPTISM

Matthias Paul Underwood
Parents are Rachel and Colton Underwood
Sponsoring Elder is Ryan Dickerson

EASTER AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

from 1 Corinthians 15

**If Christ has not been raised,
Your faith is futile and you are still in your sins.
Those also who have fallen asleep in Christ have perished.
If in this life only we have hoped in Christ,
We are of all people most to be pitied.
But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead!
He is the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.
For as by a man came death,
By a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.
For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.
But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits,
Then at his coming those who belong to Christ.**

*GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children's Church.
You may place your prayer request and tithes in the baskets during the Offertory.*

CHORAL OFFERTORY

"I See, I Hear, I Know" by Craig Courtney

Now I see, O Lord, I see the light inside eternity,
The tree, the bloom, the feast inside the upper room,
A whippoorwill, a mourning dove,
The song of wind, the hymn of love have called my soul to see the light inside eternity.
Now I see, O Lord.

Now I hear, O Lord, I hear one tune to drive away all fear.
I hear the sound of life in sea and air and ground;
I hear a river running through the sky, while choirs of angels sing on high.
Be glad, my soul, and hear one tune to drive away all fear.
Now I hear, O Lord.

Now I know, O Lord, I know why ev'ry seed must die to grow.
I know the tree of life inside eternity.
I know the throne, I know the Lamb, the Christ, the Lord, the One, the great I AM.
I know, O Lord, I know why ev'ry seed must die to grow.
Now I know, O Lord.

*DOXOLOGY LANCASHIRE

**The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
The Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
Our Christ hath brought us over with hymns of victory.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

No. 227 "Thine Is the Glory" MACCABEUS

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

John 14: 1-7

"Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. And you know the way to where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him."

These are written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
And that by believing you may have life in his name.

SERMON

"The Place and the Way" Gerrit Dawson

PRAYER OF FREEING FAITH

Lord Jesus Christ, you are the Living One! You broke the power of sin and death, then claimed us as your own. We do not belong to ourselves! We were bought with a price, the price of your life. This morning we lay aside the illusion that we are our own. We accept your claim upon us. We receive your forgiveness of sins. We receive your new life in us. We desire to live for you and for your glory. Fill us with yourself as we partake of you through the bread and the cup.



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

TIME OF REFLECTION

*SONG OF RESPONSE

"In Christ Alone"



LORD'S SUPPER

SACRAMENT OF HOLY 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

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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

Communing in Christ

***This morning we will come forward to receive communion. Ushers will direct worshippers. You may partake of the bread and wine after returning to your seat.*

COMMUNION MEDITATION

CLOSING PASTORAL PRAYER



B E N E D I C T I O N

*BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

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

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

"Hallelujah!" No. 44 Chorus from *Messiah* by G. F. Handel
All are invited to join the choir in the Chancel Loft in singing the "Hallelujah" chorus.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Easter! 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.

Discover First Dinner, Sunday, April 23. Senior pastor Gerrit Dawson hosts a Discover First Dinner several times a year. This is an opportunity for you, in a smaller setting, to learn more about how you can be part of our mission and ministry. Please contact Emily Viguerie (emily@fpcbr.org or 225.333.9084) for more information.

Loving Our rEcess Families!! rEcess is Friday, April 14. Once a month, volunteers spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability while parents enjoy a night out. Contact Jess Concienne if you would like to participate in monthly rEcess (jess.concienne@gmail.com or 225.892.3212).

A Holy Week Prayer for the Heart. Does the cross seem more like a formula than an event? Explore Gerrit's collection of prayers and poems specifically gathered to help shake our indifference in his most recent article for desiringgod.org, "Break the Hardness in Me." Copies are available at the Connection Center.

Energizing Marriage Seminar. FPC will host Dee and Pete Adams leading a Created for Connection marriage seminar Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29. Past participants describe the weekend as "enlightening, encouraging, revealing, hopeful, powerful, safe, loving and renewing." Sign up at createdforconnectionbr.org. Visit fpcbr.org or scan the QR code to register. 50% discount to FPC church members. Just email jaci@fpcbr.org to let us know you're attending.



C4C Code

Church Office Closed Easter Monday. 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.

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.

FPC App. Sermon video, audio and transcripts, as well as lectures, ESV Bible, news, announcements . . . if it's on the website, it's on the app. Download from your favorite app store by searching FPCBR.

Meal Ministry Needs Volunteers. First Presbyterian's Meal Ministry provides meals and welcoming hospitality to those in need. A focus is placed on developing a sense of community among our members, guests and partner ministries as we live out our mission to go deeper in Christ and further into the world. Please contact Emily Viguerie to volunteer to prepare and deliver a meal (emily@fpcbr.org).

Sanctuary Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in memory of Norman Saurage III, Maude and Norman Saurage Sr., Alma Lee and Norman Saurage Jr., and Flora and Gustave Spaht by their children, grandchildren and great grandchildren.

*Scripture for Next Week: Romans 8: 37
Services are video recorded and livestreamed.
All songs used by permission:
CCLI license #207235.*



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | fpcbr.org