



ORDER *of* WORSHIP

April 16, AD 2023

11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting with Worship: Jamy Comeaux

Prelude

“The Trumpet Shall Sound” by G. F. Handel
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Psalm 22

I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will praise you: You who fear the LORD, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him, and stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he has not despised or abhorred the affliction of the afflicted,
He has not hidden his face from us, but has heard when we cried to him.

The afflicted shall eat and be satisfied;
Those who seek him shall praise the LORD!

All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before you.
For kingship belongs to the LORD, and he rules over the nations.

All who go down to the dust shall bow before him, even the one who could not keep himself alive.
It shall be told of the Lord to the coming generation; we shall proclaim his righteousness to a people yet unborn, that he has done it.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 58 “This Is My Father's World”

TERRA BEATA

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Lord Jesus Christ, forgive us for neglecting so great a salvation. Too often we have lived without hope. We have believed that this world is all. Too often we have lived without faith. We doubt that you are in control. We act as if you will not act to save. Too often we have lived without love. We have placed ourselves first. So we have but little life and but little fruit. Forgive our foolishness. Restore to us the vision of your wonderful salvation that we might live as those with faith, hope and love. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response

LANCASHIRE

**Now let the heav'ns be joyful! Let earth her song begin!
The world resound in triumph and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend;
For Christ the Lord hath risen, our Joy that hath no end.**

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Offertory

"I Can See (On the Emmaus Road)" by Gloria Gaither and David Meece
Christopher Phillips, baritone

All at once he walked beside me, like he'd been there all along
Not a stranger, but a Father who can sense when something's wrong.
He answered all my questions and understood my fears
That somehow vanished now that he was here.

Can't you see who walks with you? Can't you hear who speaks your name?
Can't you feel something stirring in your heart?
How his words ring strong and true, like a once familiar strain,
Can the paths we follow from now on be the same?

I couldn't bear for him to leave me, so I begged him please stay
Spend the evening a few moments before he went his way,
Then like a host he stood and blessed me, broke the bread and poured the wine,
Then I knew there was something I recognized.

Yes! I can see who walks with me. I can hear who speaks my name.
I can feel something stirring in my heart.
How his words ring strong and true, like a once familiar strain,
And I know I'll never be the same. I can see!

And from that moment in time I felt the emptiness subside
And all the wonder of creation shining through
And for the first time in my life I really looked into his eyes
And saw eternity and suddenly I knew

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

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

*Prayer of Dedication



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

No. 225 “Worship Christ the Risen King” (vs. 1, 2, 4)

REGENT SQUARE

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Romans 8: 35-37

Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

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

Gerrit Dawson

“Sermons I Wish I’d Preached: James Stewart’s *God and the Fact of Suffering*”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 92 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

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

“This Joyful Eastertide” by Michael Burkhardt

Prayer Time: Join us at 10.10 am each Sunday for additional prayer in the Prayer Room (just to the left of the elevator in the Sanctuary building). One or more pastors/elders, along with others willing to intercede on your behalf, will welcome you.

Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Donald Cunningham by his grandchildren, Mary Michael and Robert McDuff.

Scripture for Next Week: John 20: 19-23

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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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.

Discover First Dinner, Next 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. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Emily Viguerie (emily@fpcbr.org or 225.333.9084).

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

International Friendship Partners Games Galore. Save the date for IFP's Games Galore on Friday, April 28th, 6-8 pm in the Gym. It'll be fun for the whole family with an evening of games and community building with our international friends.

Wanna Race? The Running Rev. Is Back! Pastor Albert White invites us to a community 5k race (and 1 mile fun walk) on Saturday, April 29 at 8am, Monte Sano Park on Plank Road. More details at www.aboundinginhim.org. We can unite in Christ through running together!

Joyfully Racing Toward Jesus. Joyful Noise and JAM present “The Amazing Grace Race,” a play where racing contestants try to cross the Great Divide. Join us on April 30 at 5 pm as Rich Man, Muscle Man, Church Lady and Beautiful Woman learn that they cannot make it on their own assets or skills. Reception to follow.

Lake Forest Ranch. Kids age 7-12 are eligible to join us at LFR in Macon, MS, July 17-21. LFR's mission is building relationships for eternal impact. Please register by June 30. For more information, please contact Karah Guillory, karah@fpcbr.org.

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

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).

Related Media in the FPC Church App. The FPC church app now automatically feeds related media to the ESV Bible feature. For example, do you want to dig deep into Psalm 107? After reading the passage in the Bible feature, click one of the sermons related to Psalm 107. Search FPCBR in your favorite app store to download the app.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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