



BENEDICTION

*Song of Response

“All Must Be Well”

*Response

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Home Group Leader Training. Lent small group leader training is tonight at 5 pm in the Library. All interested in being a leader are welcome to attend.

Couples' Workshop, Next Weekend. Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center is offering a couples' workshop Friday, February 5 and Saturday, February 6 at The Chapel on Siegen. Please visit brchristiancounseling.com for more information.

Annual Meeting, Next Sunday, February 7 at 10.15 am. We'll hear great testimonies from youth, review our city ministries, hear a budget presentation and elect nominating committee members. This meeting takes the place of adult Sunday school.

Men's Ministry Skeet Shoot and Gumbo Competition, This Saturday. Join us February 6 for our second annual FPC Skeet Shoot and Cooking Competition. This year's location is on a beautiful 6,000 acre working sugar cane plantation in Morganza, LA. Prizes will be awarded for shooting and cooking abilities. \$25 per person. Further details and registration online at fpcbr.org. Rain date is Saturday, February 13.

Foto Sisters to Lead Worship in Two Weeks. The talented sisters we love so much will lead 9 am and 11 am worship on Sunday, February 14. It is always a pleasure to hear them share Christ through song.

Join In! Sunday School provides great opportunity for connection and growth in Christ in 2021! Topics include Romans, the Pauline epistles and getting the most out of your personal Bible study using inductive studying principles. Visit the Connection Center for details.

announcements continue on back panel . . .



ANNOUNCEMENTS

In Christ Alone: Daily Emails During Lent. Get ready for 40 days of focus on where true, vivid life can be found: in Christ alone. In addition to the printed book each of us will receive, you may sign up for the daily lesson by email. Text INCHRISTALONE to 42828 to register or visit fpcbr.org.

SIAC Seminary Grants. The Session Income Allocation Committee is accepting applications from February 15 to March 15 for financial grants for individuals interested in pursuing full time Christian ministry. Please contact Jaci if you have questions (jaci@fpcbr.org or 620.0221).

Need a Pastor After Hours? Please call the church office (387.0617) and press 5 to be connected to the pastor on call.

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.

Sanctuary Flowers: *The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Helen and John Waldie, parents of Joann Thurston, and Robert Moore Thurston, father of Scott Thurston, given by Joann and Scott Thurston.*

Scripture for Next Week: Luke 5: 27-32

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

January 31, AD 2021

9 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Jim Solomon

*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 57

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

My heart, O God, is steadfast, my heart is steadfast; I will sing and make music.

Awake, my soul! Awake, harp and lyre! I will awaken the dawn.

I will praise you, Lord, among the nations; I will sing of you among the peoples.

For great is your love, reaching to the heavens; your faithfulness reaches to the skies.

Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let your glory be over all the earth.

*Songs of Praise

“Rescuer”

“Revelation Song”

*Blessing God

*Song of Praise

“I Am a Child of God”

**Standing*



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*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.

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Luke 5: 17-26

On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.” And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?” When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts? Which is easier, to say, ‘Your sins are forgiven you,’ or to say, ‘Rise and walk’? But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.” And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen extraordinary things today.”

How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

Your Word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path (Psalm 119: 103, 105).

Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

“Pick Up Your Mat”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Song of Response

“Christ Is Risen”

Scriptural Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

We have lain paralyzed on our mats. Sometimes despondent and immobile. Sometimes passively carried along by the world. Sometimes vainly trying to drag ourselves from place to place. Now that we are here with you and with your people, we ask, Holy Spirit, that you give us faith. We would come before Jesus. We would receive forgiveness and healing in his name. We would rise in awe. We would go forth with your praise on our lips. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon



INTERCESSION

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer