

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



ORDER OF WORSHIP

NOVEMBER 3, AD 2024
All Saints Sunday
11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Colton Underwood

Prelude

“Rhosymedre” by Ralph Vaughan Williams
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From 1 Peter and Revelation 13

All those whose names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life prepare yourselves and set your hope fully on the grace that will be brought to you at the revelation of Jesus Christ.

Let us be obedient children, holy in all our conduct for our God is holy.

You have been ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers.

We have been ransomed with the precious blood of Christ, the Lamb who was slain.

Jesus, the Lamb, was foreknown before the foundation of the world but was made manifest in the last times for your sake. Through him you believe in God.

We place our faith and hope in God who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory. We rejoice that our names are written in the Lamb’s Book of Life. Let us worship and bow down!

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 276 “Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation”

REGENT SQUARE

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

We have been tempted to marvel at the evil powers of this world. For they loom large and fill so much space. The dark places of the earth are full of the habitations of cruelty. We feel the gravitational pull of despair and wonder “Who can fight against such evil?” But you have made it plain in your Word that the boundaries of any evil, power or authority are set and held by your sovereignty. Forgive us for considering surrender. Forgive us for doubting that you are God and King. Give us ears to hear your encouraging call to endure. Increase our faith! We know that you are working salvation in the midst of the earth. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Standing*

*Response

**Who is like the Lord, our God? Strong to save, faithful in love?
My debt is paid and the victory won. The Lord is my salvation!**

*Greeting and Announcements

Children ages three through kindergarten are invited to Children's Church.

Offertory

"O Jesus, I Have Promised" by John Carter

O Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me, my Master and my Friend;
I shall not fear the battle if thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway if thou wilt be my guide.

O let me feel thee near me! The world is ever near;
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear;
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
But Jesus, draw thou nearer, and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear thee speaking in accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will;
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen, thou guardian of my soul.

O Jesus, thou hast promised to all who follow thee,
That where thou art in glory there shall thy servant be;
And Jesus, I have promised to serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow, my Master and my Friend.

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

No. 89 "Our Great Savior" (vv. 1, 2 & 5)

HYFRYDOL

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Revelation 13:6–8, 10, 11a, 16–18

[The beast] opened its mouth to utter blasphemies against God, blaspheming his name and his dwelling, that is, those who dwell in heaven. Also it was allowed to make war on the saints and to conquer them. And authority was given it over every tribe and people and language and nation, and all who dwell on earth will worship it, everyone whose name has not been written before the foundation of the world in the book of life of the Lamb who was slain. . . . Here is a call for the endurance and faith of the saints.

Then I saw another beast rising out of the earth. . . it causes all, both small and great, both rich and poor, both free and slave, to be marked on the right hand or the forehead, so that no one can buy or sell unless he has the mark, that is, the name of the beast or the number of its name. This calls for wisdom: let the one who has understanding calculate the number of the beast, for it is the number of a man, and his number is 666.

Revelation 14:6–7, 9–10, 12–13

Then I saw another angel flying directly overhead, with an eternal gospel to proclaim to those who dwell on earth, to every nation and tribe and language and people. And he said with a loud voice, "Fear God and give him glory, because the hour of his judgment has come, and worship him who made heaven and earth, the sea and the springs of water."

And another angel, a third, followed them, saying with a loud voice, "If anyone worships the beast and its image and receives a mark on his forehead or on his hand, he also will drink the wine of God's wrath, poured full strength into the cup of his anger, and he will be tormented with fire and sulfur in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb. . . ."

Here is a call for the endurance of the saints, those who keep the commandments of God and their faith in Jesus. And I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on." "Blessed indeed," says the Spirit, "that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!"

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy,

And blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it for the time is near.

Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

"The Gospel in a War Zone"



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 546 "For All the Saints" (vv. 1, 4–6)

SINE NOMINE



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

Please come forward to receive communion.

Communion Meditation

Five Variations on "Sine Nomine" by Richard Proulx



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

Voluntary on "St. Ann" by Charles Callahan



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! We're so glad you could join us today. Each week we seek to press deeper into Christ and then follow his lead to go further into the world with his love. As part of that mission, 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.

Angels Are Here! Help us bless the children of incarcerated parents this Christmas. Volunteers are needed to provide a Christmas present for children or to help with gift delivery. Visit Ryan Castle at the Connection Center or contact him (ryanecastle@gmail.com or 225.773.4769) for details.

GriefShare® Starts This Thursday. A new GriefShare® group is forming on Thursday evenings, 6.30-8.15, beginning November 7. Pat Canfield and Jim Carver will facilitate this group that will meet at the church. Space is limited. Email Scott Graham (scott@fpcbr.org) or Laura Shaw (laura@fpcbr.org) if interested.

Stewarding God's Grace Next Sunday. On November 10, we want to rededicate ourselves as a reply to Christ's beautiful grace. We'll make our financial commitments, and we'll also offer places where we might like to serve. Estimate of Giving cards are in the pew racks, can be emailed to Courtney (courtney@fpcbr.org) or made online at fpcbr.org.

Service of Healing and Hope Next Sunday. Join us Sunday, November 10 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary as we pray for those who have lost children.

Purple Cow "Christmas That Cares" Open House Thursday, November 14. Stop by the Purple Cow on Perkins and Acadian between 4 and 6 pm to greet Gerrit and the Board. Donate new or gently-used Christmas decorations, household items or clothing, find some great deals and get the season started. The Purple Cow proceeds power the great ministry of the Christian Outreach Center.

30s & 40s Women's Social, November 14. Join us for fun at our 30s and 40s Friendsgiving Social at Elizabeth Fourrier's home (1525 Cameron Ave) on November 14 from 6 to 8 pm. Thanksgiving inspired appetizers provided. Feel free to bring any other beverage of your choice.

November 16 Habitat for Humanity Paint Day. The Habitat team needs painters to help caulk and paint Jamie Pitt's home on Saturday, November 16 from 8 to 2 pm. Her address is 1874 Fountain Avenue (Gardere area). Contact Whitney for more information (225.810.2607).

Live Nativity Cast Members Needed. On Friday, December 6, downtown Baton Rouge will be alive with our traditional Live Nativity as part of the Festival of Lights. With no speaking required and just one night of rehearsal on Thursday, December 5, you can be a part of the Live Nativity and share the gospel story. For more information or to volunteer, contact Lauren Honea (lauren@fpcbr.org).

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 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Dean Glisson & Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Wesley McLean by Linda and Mike Glisson and family.

Scripture for Next Week: Revelation 15:1-8
Sanctuary services are video recorded
and livestreamed.
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