



LOVED BEFORE YOU WERE MADE

ORDER OF WORSHIP
August 20, AD 2023
11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Darin Travis

Prelude

“O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing” arranged by Richard A. Nichola
Rachel Reese-Kollmeyer, violin
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From 1 John

Come and see what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God;

And so we are.

Beloved, we are God’s children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared;

But we know that when Jesus, the Son of God, appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is.

And everyone who thus hopes in Jesus purifies himself as Jesus is pure.

Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God.

Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. In this the love of God is revealed among us.

That God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 92 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

BEECHER

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Before there was time, you loved us. Before you said, “Let there be light,” you adopted us and called us your sons and daughters. You made Jesus, your beloved son, our elder brother and gave us your complete blessing through him. But we have denied you and chosen to live as orphans. Forgive us, Father, for foolishly thinking that the system of this world would treat us better and give us more than you have. We come running home. Set us apart. Root us in the grace that is found only in the fullness of Christ. For in him we are blameless before you and truly blessed. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

**Standing*

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response

SAGINA

**And can it be that I should gain an interest in the Savior's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain?
For me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be that thou, my God shouldst die for me?
Amazing love! how can it be that thou, my God, shouldst die for me?**

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Minute for Mission

KidsHope USA

Offertory

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul" by Philip W.J. Stopford

Jesus, lover of my soul, let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll, while the tempest still is high;
Hide me, O my Savior, hide, till the storm of life be past;
Safe into the haven guide, O receive my soul at last!

Other refuge have I none; hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Ah! Leave me not alone, still support and comfort me,
All my trust on thee is stayed, all my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head with the shadow of thy wing.

Thou, O Christ, art all I want; more than all in thee I find.
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint, heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name; I am all unrighteousness.
False and full of sin I am; thou art full of truth and grace.

Precious grace on thee is found, grace to cover all my sin.
Let the healing streams abound; make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art; freely let me take of thee.
Spring thou up within my heart. Rise, to all eternity. Amen.

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

*Response Doxology

REGENT SQUARE

**Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son
Laud and honor to the Spirit, ever three and ever one,
One in might and one in glory while unending ages run.**

*Prayer of Dedication



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

No. 212 “O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus” (vs. 1, 2 & 5)

BUNESSAN

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Ephesians 1:3–6

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has [graced] us in the Beloved.

Speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Christ, our head.

He makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.

Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

“Loved Before the World was Made”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 233 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

HYFRYDOL



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

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.

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

II. *Melodia* from Sei Pezzi (Six Pieces) by Ottorino Respighi



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

IX. *Allegro ma non troppo* from Nine Pieces for Violin and Piano by Amanda Maiers



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Missions Conference Next Weekend! We are privileged to have two speakers for our Global Missions Conference: Gabriel de Guia of EPC World Outreach, and our longtime beloved global missions partner, Peter Kiwanuka.



Conference
QR Code

Missions Conference Schedule:

Friday: International Friendship Partners Game Night, 6–8 pm in the Gym.

Saturday: Brunch with Gabriel, 10 am–1 pm at the Kozans'. Dinner with Peter, 5.30–8 pm at the Fabrés' (RSVP for the dinner at fpcbr.org).

Sunday: Worship at 7.45, 9 and 11 am. Gabriel de Guia will preach at 9 and 11 am. Adult Sunday school with Gabriel at 10.10 am in the Sanctuary. Special Children's Sunday school with Peter at 10.10 am in the Basement.

Become a KidsHope USA Mentor. A mentor spends one hour a week talking, reading, playing and listening to a child at Gardere Community Christian School. Each mentor receives training, support and prayer. Contact Annette Lamond (annette@fpcbr.org) to find out more.

Men's Gathering This Wednesday. It's time to gather for a Men's Ministry fall kickoff! Chris Bruno of Restoration Project in Fort Collins, Colorado will be our speaker. Join us for BBQ, drinks and discussion at Calvin Fabrés' home from 6 to 8 pm!

30s and 40s Women's Social This Thursday. Our next social is Thursday, August 24. We'll gather from 6.30 to 8.30 pm at Kristen Carney's (3235 Fritchie Dr.). RSVP to Jaime Carnaggio (jaime@fpcbr.org).

Worship with Abounding Love, September 3. Members of Abounding Love Ministries will join us for a special, combined worship service Sunday, September 3 at 11 am. Pastor Adraine White will deliver the message, their worship team will join ours and we'll have communion together.

Ecclesiastes: Life Under the Sun Women's Study. Is there anything new under the sun? Join Women's Ministry for the richness of Ecclesiastes. There are various meeting days and times that all begin the week of August 28. Please visit fpcbr.org for details.

Faith Driven Entrepreneurs Baton Rouge Conference, September 13. Calling all business owners, entrepreneurs, and C-level executives to join us for this year's conference to foster spiritual growth while equipping us to extend our influence beyond spreadsheets. Details and registration are online at fpcbr.org.

Women's Ministry Circle Books at the Connection Center. Circles begin meeting in September. This year's book is available at the Connection Center and is free. Details on meeting days and times are online at fpcbr.org.

Volunteers Needed. Volunteers are needed for the So Loved nursery, Children's Church and Kingdom Kids Sunday school. Please contact Candace Walker for more information (candace@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 Nora Will Diehl and Joan Diehl Smith, grandmother and mother of Cathy Pugsley, by Catherine, Cathy and David Pugsley.

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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