

JONAH

SERMON SERIES

ORDER *of* WORSHIP

June 30, AD 2024

11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Scott Graham

Prelude

Borislava Iltcheva, violin

Gergana Iltcheva, violin

Aaron Farrell, viola

Susannah Knoll, cello

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Jonah 2

I called to the LORD out of my distress.

And he answered me! He heard my voice.

O LORD my God, you brought up my life from the pit,

When my life was fainting away, I remembered the LORD, and my prayer came to you.

Those who pay regard to vain idols forsake their hope of steadfast love.

But I with the voice of thanksgiving will make a sacrifice of praise to you;

What I have experienced, I will declare: "Salvation belongs to the LORD!"

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 58 "This Is My Father's World"

TERRA BEATA

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Dear Father, I heartily affirm with your Word, "You are gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love." I also confess that I too often want mercy in *my* case, but judgment for others. I confess that I have not rejoiced with those who rejoice. Nor wept with those who weep. I am guilty of envy. I have taken pleasure in the misfortunes of others, savoring their failures. I have resented those who bask in grace. But there is no life in such a mean outlook. It cuts me off from love. Forgive me. Cleanse me. Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, in others' lives as well as my own. For Jesus' sake, amen.

***Silent Confession**

**Standing*

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response

FINLANDIA

**Be still, my soul! the Lord is on thy side;
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to thy God to order and provide;
In every change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul! thy best, thy heavenly Friend
Thro' thorny ways leads to a joyful end.**

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Offertory

“There's a Wideness in God's Mercy” arranged by Christopher Phillips

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea.
There's a kindness in God's justice that is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner and more graces for the good.
There is mercy with the Savior, there is healing in his blood!
But we make God's love too narrow by false limits of our own,
And we magnify its strictness with a zeal God will not own.
For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind,
And the heart of the eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more simple, we should rest upon God's Word,
And our lives would be illumined by the presence of the Lord.

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. 61 “Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty”

HYFRYDOL

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Jonah 4:1-11

But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was angry. And he prayed to the LORD and said, “O LORD, is not this what I said when I was yet in my country? That is why I made haste to flee to Tarshish; for I knew that you are a gracious God and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love, and relenting from disaster. Therefore now, O LORD, please take my life from me, for it is better for me to die than to live.” And the LORD said, “Do you do well to be angry?”

Jonah went out of the city and sat to the east of the city and made a booth for himself there. He sat under it in the shade, till he should see what would become of the city. Now the LORD God appointed a plant and made it come up over Jonah, that it might be a shade over his head, to save him from his discomfort. So Jonah was exceedingly glad because of the plant. But when dawn came up the next day, God appointed a worm that attacked the plant, so that it withered. When the sun rose, God appointed a scorching east wind, and the sun beat down on the head of Jonah so that he was faint. And he asked that he might die and said, “It is better for me to die than to live.” But God said to Jonah, “Do you do well to be angry for the plant?” And he said, “Yes, I do well to be angry, angry enough to die.” And the LORD said, “You pity the plant, for which you did not labor, nor did you make it grow, which came into being in a night and perished in a night. And should not I pity Nineveh, that great city, in which there are more than 120,000 persons who do not know their right hand from their left, and also much cattle?”

For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction,

That through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures we might have hope.

Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

“Mad at God’s Grace”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 573 “God of Our Fathers” (vs. 1, 2 & 4)

NATIONAL HYMN

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

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 Dr. Lindley Spaht Dodson on the occasion of her birthday, June 30, by Susan & Frederic Billings.

Scripture for Next Week: Mark 2:1-12

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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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.

10.30 am Worship Next Sunday. Each Sunday in July, as well as August 4, we will gather and worship together for one 10.30 am service in the Sanctuary. There will be no Sunday school.

No Experience Necessary. Join us this Wednesday, July 3 in the Choir Room at 6.30 pm for an hour of casual, joy-filled rehearsal. No auditions or previous experience required. All ages are welcome. You can sing for just one Sunday or you can sing for the entire month of July. No long-term commitment required!

Officer Nominations for the 2027 Class. The Officer Nominating Committee nominates elders and deacons by receiving suggested names of members from the congregation, prayerfully preparing a slate, and presenting the slate at the annual October congregational meeting for election. Please pray about who you might suggest. Suggestion cards are in the pew racks or online (fpcbr.org) and are due July 31.

S.T.A.R.S. Sports Camp Needs Volunteers. July 1-3 are the dates of the annual S.T.A.R.S. soccer camp with Abounding Love Ministries. Consider volunteering to coach the children and share the gospel with Baton Rouge inner city kids. Contact Whitney Alexander to volunteer (225.810.2607).

Purple Cow Needs Donations. Donation bins are in the Gym ready for gently used clothes and house ware items for the Purple Cow, a ministry of the Christian Outreach Center.

July Women's Jonah Study. Women's Ministry will further explore the depths of God's mercy and grace at its summer Jonah Bible study. Ladies, see today's flyer for details.

Blood Drive July 21. Stop by the LifeShare mobile blood bank in the Convention St. parking lot between 9.30 am and 12.30 pm on Sunday, July 21 and help someone in need by donating blood.

You're Invited to a Pool Party! International Friendship Partners invites you to help welcome internationals to Baton Rouge this summer. Join us for a pool party Friday, July 26 from 6 to 8 pm at Garland and Billy Wilson's (2077 Ramsey Drive). There will be swimming, games, hot dogs and burgers and watermelon.

July Is McKinley School Supplies Month. We are helping the teachers and families of McKinley Elementary get ready for the 2024–2025 academic year by collecting supplies in July. Visit the Connection Center or fpcbr.org for further details and a list of needed items. A handy Amazon link to needed items is online at fpcbr.org.

College Scholarships Available! The FPC Women's Ministry College Scholarship Fund financial assistance to church members who anticipate having difficulty meeting the obligations of continued education. Applications are available at fpcbr.org and are due by July 15.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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