COME ANDSEE! ASKING JESUS IN JOHN'S GOSPEL

- 1A

ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 12, 2023 11 am





GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Gerrit Dawson

Prelude

"All Creatures of Our God and King" by James Curnow Blake Hanna, trumpet Steve Gustafson, organ

*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 36 and John 8

How precious is your steadfast love, O God! The children of mankind take refuge in the shadow of your wings.

They feast on the abundance of your house, **And you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

For with you is the fountain of life; **In your light do we see light.**

Jesus, light of the world, shine on us, shine through our worship. You are the first and the last, the Alpha and the Omega, the great I am. You alone are worthy of all praise and glory.

*Hymn of Praise

No. 231 "Jesus Shall Reign"

DUKE STREET

*Blessing God

Infant Baptism

Charlotte Marie Barr Parents are Adelaide and Andrew Barr Siblings are James and Claudius Sponsoring Elder is Jamy Comeaux

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, And born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, And is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, The holy catholic Church, The communion of saints, The forgiveness of sins, The resurrection of the body, And the life everlasting. Amen.

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Minute for Misson Kevin Hoy, director of Smiles Foundation

Offertory

"Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery" by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Michael Bleecker

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry in the dawning of the King, He the theme of heaven's praises robed in frail humanity. In our longing in our darkness, now the light of life has come, Look to Christ who condescended took on flesh to ransom us.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, he the perfect Son of Man, In his living in his suff'ring never trace nor stain of sin. See the true and better Adam come to save the hell-bound man; Christ the great and sure fulfillment of the law in him we stand.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, Christ the Lord upon the tree, In the stead of ruined sinners, hangs the Lamb in victory. See the price of our redemption, see the Father's plan unfold; Bringing many sons to glory, grace unmeasured, love untold.

Come behold the wondrous myst'ry, slain by death the God of life, But no grave could e'er restrain him, praise the Lord, he is alive! What a foretaste of deliv'rance, how unwavering our hope. Christ in power resurrected, as we will be when he comes.

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

*Response Doxology

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

OLD HUNDREDTH



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

No. 276 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

REGENT SQUARE

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

John 8: 12

Again Jesus spoke to them, saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 8: 46-59

"Which one of you convicts me of sin? If I tell the truth, why do you not believe me? Whoever is of God hears the words of God. The reason why you do not hear them is that you are not of God."

The Jews answered him, "Are we not right in saying that you are a Samaritan and have a demon?" Jesus answered, "I do not have a demon, but I honor my Father, and you dishonor me. Yet I do not seek my own glory; there is One who seeks it, and he is the judge. Truly, truly, I say to you, if anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." The Jews said to him, "Now we know that you have a demon! Abraham died, as did the prophets, yet you say, 'If anyone keeps my word, he will never taste death.' Are you greater than our father Abraham, who died? And the prophets died! Who do you make yourself out to be?" Jesus answered, "If I glorify myself, my glory is nothing. It is my Father who glorifies me, of whom you say, 'He is our God.' But you have not known him. I know him. If I were to say that I do not know him, I would be a liar like you, but I do know him and I keep his word. Your father Abraham rejoiced that he would see my day. He saw it and was glad." So the Jews said to him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have you seen Abraham?" Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I am." So they picked up stones to throw at him, but Jesus hid himself and went out of the temple.

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 Colton Underwood "The Costly Truth"



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Hymn of Response** No. 382 "God of Grace and God of Glory"

CWM RHONDDA

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

"Trumpet Overture" from The Indian Queen by Henry Purcell

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers serve to honor a departed loved one or celebrate with thanksgiving cherished people or events. If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday, please contact Kathy Mullins at 603.4735.

Scripture for Next Week: John 11: 1-17

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*.

Palm Sunday Festival and Crawfish Boil. Join us for our Palm Sunday festival on April 2! The congregation will process around North Boulevard promptly at 10 am followed by a combined worship celebration in the Sanctuary. There will be a crawfish boil lunch after worship with fun activities for the children. Casual dress is encouraged. Overflow parking will be available in the Old Governor's Mansion lot on North Blvd. Register by scanning the QR code or visit *fpcbr.org.* Price increases Monday, March 27.

Lenten Noon Services. Each Wednesday of Lent we gather for a brief service at noon in Dunham Chapel. Invite a coworker to join you.

Gardere School Art Gallery Walk. Join us Sunday, March 19 for our Gardere School Gallery Walk. Our beloved Gardere students will share over 100 pieces of their finest work. The Gallery Walk will be held in the Reception Room and up for display throughout the day. Light snacks and beverages will be provided. Come give a warm welcome to the students and their families.

Become a Faith & Finances Ally. The Christian Outreach Center is looking for allies for students attending its Faith & Finances classes. You'll develop and maintain a meaningful relationship with a small group of participants as they learn to use their financial resources in God's Kingdom. Contact Monique Howe (377.8582 or *monique@christianoutreachbr.com*).

Manners of the Heart Celebrates Two Decades! This important ministry, with offices in our church, teaches the Biblical value of respect in schools across our parish and nation. On Thursday, March 23, Manners will celebrate its 20th anniversary with a gala reception at the Manship Theatre. A live demonstration by Gardere Community Christian School will highlight how Manners works in a classroom. More information at *mannersoftheheart.org*.

Gardening with God. Join us for a special morning on March 24 from 9 to 10.30 am with Kathleen Pourciau, where she will teach us some gardening basics as well as share her personal connection with God in gardening. Please RSVP to Emily (*emily@fpcbr.org*).

Colombia Mission Update. Come and hear from Brian Miller on the ministry in Colombia at the Cagley home on Saturday, March 25 at 6 pm. Please RSVP to Valerie Gastinel (225.241.1386).

A Theology of the Body: March 31 at Christ Covenant. Rev. Sam Allberry is the best selling author of *Is God Anti-Gay*? Sam is a same-sex attracted, celibate, Christian pastor. His seminar takes a deep look at what it means that we are embodied creatures and how God's design for sexuality works out in daily life. Offered by our sister church, Christ Covenant on Lee Drive, the seminar is Friday evening March 31 at 7pm and Saturday, April 1 at 9:30 am.

Prayer Time. Join us at 10.10 am each Sunday for additional prayer in the Prayer Room. During the Lenten season, Scott Graham will welcome you and pray with you.

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).

