



LOVED BEFORE YOU WERE MADE

ORDER OF WORSHIP
October 1, AD 2023
11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Whitney Alexander

Prelude

III. Rondo from Clarinet Concerto No. 3 by C. Stamitz

Victor Drescher, clarinet

Steve Gustafson, piano

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Ephesians 2

Once we were dead in the sins in which we walked.
We followed the course of this world, enslaved to desire.

But God, being rich in mercy, because of his great love,
Made us alive together in Christ. By grace we have been saved!

In the riches of his kindness, God raised us up with Jesus.
We are God's craftsmanship, created in Christ for good works.

These begin with the work of offering ourselves in worship.
In joy, through praise and prayer, we adorn our Savior and Lord.

***Hymn of Praise**

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

ST. COLUMBA

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Our Father, you love us so much. Your kindness toward us is too large to be measured. In Christ, you have raised us from death and reserved for us a seat at the family table when you call us home on the great day. We are ashamed to say that the old ways of disobedience called to us. We listened to the voice of the wind. We wandered back into the graveyards of our old lives. Forgive us. Holy Spirit, increase our faith. Remind us that we are no longer children of wrath. Make us ever more dependent upon the grace that satisfies and saves us. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Standing*

*Response

AZMON

**O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace.**

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Stewarding God's Grace

Offertory

"Give Glory!" by Gerrit Dawson

Music by Christopher Phillips

Give glory! God is one, God is three, is love from all eternity,
God is our dear Father.
In time to heal us from within, he took himself our bone and skin.

God is beloved Son.

Poured out now in hearts made well, in sons and daughters comes to dwell.

God is Holy Spirit.

To Father, Son and Spirit God, give glory, great glory!

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

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

***Hymn of Preparation**

No. 202 “Amazing Grace” (vs. 1, 3, 4 & 5)

AMAZING GRACE

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Ephesians 2:1-7

And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind. But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved— and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

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

“Interrupting the Dead”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Hymn of Response**

“Before the Throne of God Above”



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

Pastoral by Arthur Bliss



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

Homage a J.S. Bach by Bela Kovacs



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 fpibr.org/connect.

Prayer Requests. We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to prayer@fpibr.org, through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

Loving Our rEcess Families This Friday. On Friday, October 6, volunteers will spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability while parents enjoy a night out. Contact Jess Concienne if you would like to volunteer or participate in monthly rEcess (jess.concienne@gmail.com or 225.892.3212).

Men's Football Watch Party, Saturday, October 7. We're hosting a football watch party for the men on Saturday, October 7 at 10.30 am at Jake Wood's home (3626 Primrose St.). Contact Darin Travis (darin@fpibr.org) for details.

Youth Movie Night, Tuesday, October 10. Join us for dinner and a movie in the Terraced Garden on Tuesday, October 10 from 5 to 8 pm. Bring a picnic blanket or folding chair.

Stewarding God's Grace. Peter wrote, "As each has received a gift, use it to serve one another, as good stewards of God's varied grace." Our focus this fall is to celebrate the ways we are stewarding God's grace through our church. On November 12, we want to rededicate ourselves as a reply to Christ's beautiful grace. We'll make our financial commitments, and we'll also offer back the places where we are serving and where we might like to serve more in the future.

Need a Pastor After Hours? Would you like to reach a pastor after hours? Please call the church office (387.0617) and press 5 to be connected to the pastor on call.

Calling All Greeters! If you feel led to be a greeter at 9 or 11 worship, please contact Emily Viguerie (emily@fpibr.org)!

First Presbyterian Church and Social Media (Instagram, YouTube and Facebook). Sanctuary services are livestreamed on the web and we frequently post photos of members engaged in fellowship at our small groups, worship services and events. If you have any questions, contact Katie Robinson (katie@fpibr.org) or Jay High (jay@fpibr.org).

Staying in Touch with You. If you've moved, changed your email address or have a new phone number, we'd like to know about it. Help us keep our membership database updated. Please call Laura Shaw with your changes, 225.387.0617.

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 by Tricia and Donovan Davis.

Scripture for Next Week: Ephesians 2:8-13

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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