



# LOVED BEFORE YOU WERE MADE

ORDER OF WORSHIP  
September 17, AD 2023  
11 am



# GATHERING TO PRAISE

---

*Assisting Pastor: Colton Underwood*

## **Prelude**

Sonata No. 1 in F major by Georg Phillip Telemann

Rachel Ciraldo, flute

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**

No. 267 "Come Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

## **\*Blessing God**

## **\*Scriptural Call to Confession**

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Tender Father, thank you for your patience with me. You waited while I discovered that *me* as the driver of my life always gets lost. *Me* as the director of my life always goes bankrupt. *Me* as the one who alone decides what is good always leaves me feeling empty and awful. How late I am to see your mercy in Christ. I'm sorry I wasted so much time trying to be my own master. I know that Jesus as Lord leads me into truth and purpose. Restore me to you, gracious Father, that I might live, serve and love how you made me to be. 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

"When Speaking Has Ceased" by Craig Courtney

When speaking has ceased and the room has grown still,  
When solitude creeps over valley and hill,  
The Spirit of God finds a place to alight  
And puts our vain fears and our trembling to flight.  
O Spirit of God, fill the earth with your joy,  
Give voice to our song that our praise may employ  
Your wellspring of peace to fill ev'ry bare space  
With sweet notes of gladness and fair tones of grace.

When clamor and noise fill the world with their sounds,  
When harmony flees and loud tumult abounds,  
The Spirit of God is not driven away;  
He quiets our hearts and forever will stay.  
O Spirit of God, rising lighter than air,  
Lift high to the Lord all the weight of our prayer,  
No burden we carry is every unknown;  
No friend of the Spirit is ever alone.

*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. 462 “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

BRADBURY

### **Time with God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination

*Ephesians 1:11–14*

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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

“The Guarantee”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

---

### **Time of Reflection**

### **\*Hymn of Response**

No. 347 “Be Still, My Soul” (vs. 1 & 3)

FINLANDIA



## 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

“In the Garden” arranged by Brent Olstad



## BENEDICTION

---

#### \*Response

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

#### Postlude

*I. Vivace* from Sonata No. 1 in F major by Georg Phillip Telemann



## 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](http://fpcbr.org/connect).

**Prayer Requests.** We'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to [prayer@fpcbr.org](mailto:prayer@fpcbr.org), through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

**Parenting Small Group Begins Tonight.** Join Barat and Darin Travis for this 8-week small group centered on parenting. The group meets from 5–6.30 pm in the Reception Room. Childcare provided. RSVP to Barat at [barat.travis@cru.org](mailto:barat.travis@cru.org).

**Youth Group Tonight!** Middle school meets at the church from 5 to 7 pm. High school will meet at the Esch home (3405 Woodland Ridge Blvd.) from 5 to 7 pm.

**Become an International Friendship Partner.** 25 Baton Rouge internationals have requested a friendship partner! This is a great opportunity to make Jesus known to unreached people groups right here in our city. Learn more at the next IFP social on Friday, September 22 from 6 to 8 pm at LeeAnn and David Kozan's (3565 Cole Drive). More information and a partner signup form are available at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org).

**Become a McKinley Elementary Volunteer.** Stop by the Connection Center each Sunday in September to sign up for ministry opportunities at our adopted school, McKinley Elementary.

**There's Still Time to Join a Small Group!** Fall small groups come in all shapes and sizes. Many go deeper into Ephesians following the current sermon series. Connect with Kelly Wood ([kelly@fpcbr.org](mailto:kelly@fpcbr.org)) to participate.

**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](mailto:emily@fpcbr.org)).

**Staying in Touch with You.** Help us keep our membership database up to date. Please call Laura Shaw if you've moved, changed your email address or have a new phone number (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 and in loving memory of Gay and Dick Barnett, Alice and Nye Barnett, Frances and J.B. Meadors and Irene Bearden Meadors, parents and grandparents of Leah Edrington, by Leah and Billy Edrington.*

*Scripture for Next Week: Ephesians 1:15–23*

*Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

*All songs used by permission: CCLI license #207235.*

*Cover art created by Full of Eyes ([fullofeyes.com](http://fullofeyes.com)).*



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org)