



# COME AND SEE!

ASKING JESUS IN  
JOHN'S GOSPEL

ORDER OF WORSHIP

March 19, 2023  
11 am





# GATHERING TO PRAISE

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*Assisting with Worship: Jamy Comeaux*

## **Prelude**

“Jerusalem” by Charles Perry  
Steve Gustafson, organ

## **\*Welcome and Call to Worship**

*From John 11*

How well we know the complaint of Martha and Mary, “Lord if you had been here!”  
**So often, it seems you delay. You wait while we languish. Our prayers seem unheeded.**

Our hearts cry out, “Why did you let this happen?”  
**Yet we know the real question is “What have you done about all this?”**

So with Martha and Mary, we listen to your reply, “I am the resurrection and the life, the one who believes in me, though he dies, yet shall he live. Do you believe this?”  
**And amidst the tumult of the world, we come in faith to worship, to say, as Martha did, “Yes, Lord, I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who has come into the world to save the lost.” In this hope, we rise to worship Christ Jesus the living Lord.**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

No. 52 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (vs. 1-3, 5, 6)

ST. ANNE

## **\*Blessing God**

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

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

*Based on Advent Lyrics, 9th c.*

**Gracious Lord Jesus, creator of the world, builder of the House of God, help the heart-sore. Have mercy on your servants. Think on our sorrows: how we stumble on, weak at heart, wandering hopelessly. The house of our lives is in ruins. Yet you are the great Craftsman. You restore what is broken. You straighten out the twists of our transgressions. You rebuild what seemed beyond repair. Blessed and glorious are you, who mounted the cross we built in order to rebuild your world.**

## **\*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 Kindergarten and younger may go to Children's Church.*

## Offertory

"Lord of the Small" by Dan Forrest

Praise to the Lord of the small, broken things,  
Who sees the poor sparrow that cannot take wing,  
Who loves the lame child, and the wretch in the street,  
Who comforts their sorrows and washes their feet.

Praise to the Lord of the faint and afraid,  
Who girds them with courage and lends them his aid;  
He pours out his Spirit on vessels so weak,  
That the timid can serve and the silent can speak.

Praise to the Lord of the frail and the ill,  
Who heals their afflictions or carries them till  
They leave this tired frame and to paradise fly,  
To never be sick and never to die.

Praise him, O praise him, all ye who yet live,  
Who've been given so much and can so little give,  
Our frail, lisping praise God will never despise:  
He sees his dear children through mercy-filled eyes.

*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

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### \*Hymn of Preparation

No. 347 “Be Still, My Soul”

FINLANDIA

### Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

*John 11: 1-7; 11b-15; 17-27*

Now a certain man was ill, Lazarus of Bethany, the village of Mary and her sister Martha. It was Mary who anointed the Lord with ointment and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was ill. So the sisters sent to him, saying, “Lord, he whom you love is ill.” But when Jesus heard it he said, “This illness does not lead to death. It is for the glory of God, so that the Son of God may be glorified through it.”

Now Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus. So, when he heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was. Then after this he said to the disciples, “Let us go to Judea again . . . Our friend Lazarus has fallen asleep, but I go to awaken him.” The disciples said to him, “Lord, if he has fallen asleep, he will recover.” Now Jesus had spoken of his death, but they thought that he meant taking rest in sleep. Then Jesus told them plainly, “Lazarus has died, and for your sake I am glad that I was not there, so that you may believe. But let us go to him.”

Now when Jesus came, he found that Lazarus had already been in the tomb four days. Bethany was near Jerusalem, about two miles off, and many of the Jews had come to Martha and Mary to console them concerning their brother. So when Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, but Mary remained seated in the house. Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. But even now I know that whatever you ask from God, God will give you.” Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life. Whoever believes in me, though he die, yet shall he live, and everyone who lives and believes in me shall never die. Do you believe this?” She said to him, “Yes, Lord; I believe that you are the Christ, the Son of God, who is coming into the world.”

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

Gerrit Dawson

“Lord, If You Had Been Here”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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### Time of Reflection

### \*Hymn of Response

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”



## LORD'S SUPPER

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### 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

#### 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

“Rhosymedre” by Ralph Vaughn Williams



## BENEDICTION

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#### \*Response

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

#### Postlude

“Toccata in Seven” by John Rutter

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*Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Bart Bennett by Ruth Anne, Claire, Adriane and Sarah.*

*Scripture for Next Week: John 11: 28-44  
Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.  
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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**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).

**Gardere School Art Gallery Walk Today.** Our beloved Gardere students will share over 100 pieces of their finest work. The Gallery Walk is in the Reception Room and up for display throughout the day. Come give a warm welcome to the students and their families.

**Palm Sunday Festival and Crawfish Boil in Two Weeks!** 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](http://fpcbr.org). Price increases Monday, March 27.



Crawfish Code

**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](http://mannersoftheheart.org).

**Gardening with God.** Women's Ministry invites all ladies to a special morning on March 24 from 9 to 10.30 am with Kathleen Pourciau. Kathleen will teach us some gardening basics as well as share her personal connection with God in gardening. Please RSVP to Emily ([emily@fpcbr.org](mailto:emily@fpcbr.org)).

**Colombia Mission Update.** Come 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). Brian will speak again Sunday, March 26 in the Journeys Sunday school class (SB 220) at 10.10 am.

**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 7 pm 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.

**Maundy Thursday Service of Shadows.** On Holy Thursday, April 6 at 7 pm, we will move through the passion story with a feast of visual, musical and spoken offerings. We'll be stopping along the way to the cross to ponder six magnificent paintings, vividly displayed on our high definition screens. We'll have communion, extinguish candles and conclude quietly at the garden tomb.

**Easter Sunday Worship.** We gather around the empty tomb in the Terraced Garden April 9 for a brief sunrise service at 6.30 am followed by breakfast. We will also have two festive worship services in the Sanctuary at 9 am and 11 am. If rain, the sunrise service will meet in Dunham Chapel. Sunday school classes will meet as usual. Don't forget to bring fresh flowers to decorate our Easter cross which will be on North Blvd.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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