



LOVED BEFORE YOU WERE MADE

ORDER OF WORSHIP
September 24, AD 2023
9 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Whitney Alexander

***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.

***Songs of Praise**

"Rejoice"

"Jesus the Mighty One"

***Blessing God**

***Song of Praise**

"Like Incense"



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

***Greeting and Announcements**

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

Minute for Mission

Dorothy Wallis, Caring to Love Ministries

Time with God's Word

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Ephesians 1:15–23

For this reason, because I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him, having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe, according to the working of his great might that he worked in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. And he put all things under his feet and gave him as head over all things to the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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 Right Thing to Pray”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Offertory and Song of Response**

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

Please place your offering and prayer requests in the baskets.

Scriptural Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

As those blessed by you in every way, our God and Father, we are ashamed to say that we have not lived like your sons and daughters. We have squandered the riches of our glorious inheritance. Rather than adorning you with greater glory, we have adorned ourselves with fool's gold. You sealed us with the Holy Spirit, marked us as your own and made us lambs of your flock. But we jumped the fences of your green pastures. We blindly ran to and fro lost in the wilderness and the weakness of our own strength. Have mercy on us. Give us the Spirit of wisdom. Open the eyes of our hearts. Cause us to live in the hope and power of the Risen Christ. He is our all in all. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon



INTERCESSION

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

***Song of Response**

“All I Have Is Christ”

***Response**

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

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 Mr. and Mrs. Henry G. McKowen II, Mr. and Mrs. Alex C. McKowen Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Frank Woodford, Jolie Thuneman Peel and Jolie Berry by Jeanie McKowen Thuneman, Wayne McKowen, Ann McKowen Gerald and Allie McKowen.

Scripture for Next Week: Ephesians 2:1-7

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.

Prayer Requests. 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.

Caring to Love Ministries. Caring to Love offers compassionate, life-affirming choices to women. Further information about the ministry and its annual Celebrate Life Banquet and Gala is available this morning in the Reception Room.

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.

The Great Transit of Mercy: Union with Christ in His Descent and Ascent. Gerrit has contributed this chapter to a book published in honor of his theology professor, Dr. Douglas Kelly. Copies available in the Connection Center.

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. More information and a partner signup form are available at fpcbr.org.

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

Youth Movie Night. 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.

Loving Our rEcess Families, October 6. Once a month volunteers 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 participate (jess.concienne@gmail.com or 225.892.3212).



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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