



ORDER OF WORSHIP

**April 23, AD 2023
11 am**



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Whitney Alexander

Prelude

Rachel Ciraldo, flute
Nicholas Ciraldo, classical guitar

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Isaiah 44 & John 7

Thus says the LORD who made you, who formed you from the womb: Do not be afraid!
For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground;
**You have poured your Spirit upon your children and blessed us. We shall spring up
among the grass like willows by flowing streams.**

Hear the voice of Jesus say, "All you who are thirsty, come to me and drink."
We believe into Jesus and receive his gift of living water.

Sing, O heavens, for the LORD has done it; shout, O depths of the earth; break forth into
singing, O mountains, O forest, and every tree in it!
The LORD has redeemed us. We will glorify him today.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 267 "Come, Thou Almighty King"

ITALIAN HYMN

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Blessed Holy Spirit, you are the Comforter. You lead us into all truth. You take the things of Jesus and give them to us. You enable us to understand the Word. You pray within us, directing us toward the Father. Your presence in our hearts is the guarantee of all that is to come. But how often we have ignored your gentle voice. How we have grieved you by our actions! We have tried to quench your heavenly flame by our sin, our inattention, our indifference, our distractions. Forgive us. Fan into flame once more the faith you created in us, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Standing*

***Response**

GREATOREX

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
And to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.**

***Greeting and Announcements**

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

Offertory

“Holy Spirit, Living Breath of God” by Stuart Townend

Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breathe new life into my willing soul.
Let the presence of the risen Lord, come renew my heart and make me whole.
Cause your Word to come alive in me, give me faith for what I cannot see;
Give me passion your purity, Holy Spirit, breathe new life in me.

Holy Spirit, come abide within, may your joy be seen in all I do.
Love enough to cover every sin, in each thought and deed and attitude.
Kindness to the greatest and the least, gentleness that sows the path of peace,
Turn my strivings into works of grace; breath of God, show Christ in all I do.

Holy Spirit from creation's birth, giving life to all that God has made,
Show your power once again on earth, cause your Church to hunger for your ways.
Let the fragrance of our prayers arise, lead us on the road of sacrifice
That in unity the face of Christ may be clear for all the world to see.

Holy Spirit, living breath of God, breath new life into my willing soul.

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**

“Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

John 20: 19-23

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld.”

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

“Presence, Peace and Power”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Hymn of Response**

“O Church Arise”



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



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Discover First Dinner Today at 4 pm. Discover First Dinners are an opportunity for you, in a smaller setting, to learn more about how you can be part of our mission and ministry. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Emily Viguerie (emily@fpcbr.org or 225.333.9084).

20s and 30s Ladies' Social This Tuesday. Join us for our next social Tuesday, April 25 from 6 pm to 8 pm at the home of Bonnie Kate Zoghbi where we will have food, fun and fellowship. Please bring a desert or a beverage of your choice! RSVP to Jaime Carnaggio (jaimc@fpcbr.org). We look forward to having you!

Energizing Marriage Seminar This Friday. FPC will host Dee and Pete Adams leading a Created for Connection marriage seminar Friday, April 28 and Saturday, April 29. Past participants describe the weekend as "enlightening, encouraging, revealing, hopeful, powerful, safe, loving and renewing." Sign up at createdforconnectionbr.org. Visit fpcbr.org or scan the QR code to register. 50% discount to FPC church members. Just email jaci@fpcbr.org to let us know you're attending.



C4C Code

International Friendship Partners Game Night. Join us for IFP's Game Night Friday, April 28, 6-8 pm in the Gym. It'll be fun for the whole family with an evening of games and community building with our international friends.

Wanna Race This Saturday? The Running Rev. Is Back! Pastor Albert White invites us to a community 5k race (and 1 mile fun walk) Saturday, April 29 at 8 am, Monte Sano Park on Plank Road. More details at www.aboundinginhim.org. We can unite in Christ through running together!

Next Sunday: Joyfully Racing Toward Jesus. Joyful Noise and JAM present "The Amazing Grace Race," a play where racing contestants try to cross the Great Divide. Join us on April 30 at 5 pm as Rich Man, Muscle Man, Church Lady and Beautiful Woman learn that they cannot make it on their own assets or skills. Reception to follow.

Purple Cow Receptacles Have Arrived at FPC. Now is a great time to donate furniture, clothing and housewares to the Purple Cow. Purple receptacles are available for donations in the Gym.

Lake Forest Ranch. Kids age 7-12 are eligible to join us at LFR in Macon, MS, July 16-20. LFR's mission is building relationships for eternal impact. Please register by June 15 online at fpcbr.org.

Confirmation Celebration, May 7. Our 6th grade students prepare all year to make their public profession of faith at a special worship service. On Sunday, May 7 at 4 pm in the Sanctuary, they will profess Christ and be confirmed as active members of our church. Come support them at this celebratory service! A reception follows.

Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in grateful appreciation for the ministry of Rhonda and Gerrit Dawson given by Dadie and Princeton Bardwell.

Scripture for Next Week: John 21: 15-19

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

All songs used by permission: CCLI license #207235.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | fpcbr.org