

# BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



## ORDER OF WORSHIP

---

December 1, AD 2024  
First Sunday of Advent  
9 am



## GATHERING TO PRAISE

---

*Assisting Pastor: Colton Underwood*

### **Welcome**

#### **\*Call to Worship**

*From Luke 21*

Jesus said, “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity . . .

**People fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world.**

For even the powers of the heavens will be shaken.

**And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.**

Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

**Our redemption draws near, let us worship God with one heart and mind!**

#### **\*Songs of Praise**

“Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

“Hail the Blest Morn”

#### **\*Blessing God**

#### **Lighting of the Advent Candle**

The Candle of Hope will be lit by Andrew, Alexandra, Ozzy and Bodhi McCall.

#### **\*Song of Praise**

“What Child Is This?”

*\*Standing*

## \*Greeting and Announcements

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



## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

---

### **Time with God's Word**

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

*Revelation 20:1-2, 4b-5, 12, 15*

Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, holding in his hand the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain. And he seized the dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years . . .

Also I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for the testimony of Jesus and for the word of God, and those who had not worshiped the beast or its image and had not received its mark on their foreheads or their hands. They came to life and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. The rest of the dead did not come to life until the thousand years were ended. This is the first resurrection.

And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Then another book was opened, which is the book of life. And the dead were judged by what was written in the books, according to what they had done. . . . And if anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy,  
**And blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it  
for the time is near.**

### **Sermon**

Gerrit Dawson

“Warned to Flee from the Wrath”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

---

### **Time of Reflection**

### **Scriptural Call to Confession**

### **Prayer of Confession**

**O God, in the midst of the Christmas pressures, forgive us for being deceived about what matters. We have lost the way to Bethlehem. We have gone so far down wrong roads that it is hard to turn back. Our hearts have hardened. Our minds have shrunk. Save us before it is too late! Lighten our darkness. Guide our steps. Illumine our minds to see the real Jesus. Soften our hearts and make them pliable in your loving, shaping hands, in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **Silent Confession**

### **Assurance of Pardon**



## LORD'S SUPPER

---

### **We Are Welcomed to the Table**

### **We Give Thanks for Jesus' Mighty Acts**

### **We Hear the Words Jesus Said at Supper**

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

## **We Commune with Jesus**

*Please bring your prayer requests and offerings forward during communion.*

### **\*Songs of Response**

“Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery”

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”



## **BENEDICTION**

.....

### **\*Response**

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



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

.....

**Live Nativity This Friday.** Baby Jesus, Mary, Joseph, angels, wise men and shepherds will re-enact Jesus’ birth. Join us Friday, December 6 at 5.30 and 6.30 pm in the Terraced Garden.

**“Dancing Day” Next Sunday!** On Sunday, December 8, the choir, orchestra and dancers will perform “Dancing Day”, a Christmas cantata. This celebration of the royal wedding between Jesus and his bride includes original music by Chris Phillips inspired by J. S. Bach and Chris Tomlin. Join us at either the 9 or 11 am service. The Chapel Communion service will not meet. Join us for a special gathering between services in the Reception Room when the children’s choir will lead us in carols.

**Downtown Pilgrimage Next Sunday.** The annual Downtown Pilgrimage is the evening of Sunday, December 8. The Pilgrimage begins at Mt. Zion at 5.30 pm and arrives at FPC at approximately 6.30 pm.

**Advent Mid-Week Worship Starts This Wednesday.** Join us for mid-week Advent worship in Dunham Chapel on Wednesday, December 4, 11 & 18 at noon. Our scriptural focus will be on Matthew 25 as Jesus gives three memorable teachings on his second coming, a fitting focus for Advent. Join us for a time of quiet joy with our family of faith!



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

---

**Women's Advent Brunch.** Please join us for the Women's Ministry Advent Brunch Saturday, December 14 at 11 am at the home of Tricia Davis. Join us for food, fellowship and a special devotion led by Lindsay Stratman. Registration is available at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org). \$10 per person.



**Christmas Bags for Malachi Dads.** Items are being collected for Christmas bags to be distributed to the Malachi Dads (prisoners) at Hunt and Angola Penitentiaries. Please drop off donations at the Connection Center: soap, antiperspirant, toothpaste/toothbrush, shampoo, lotion, body wash, socks or baby powder. Cash donations also accepted. Please donate by Sunday, December 15.

**Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due Soon.** Help decorate the Chapel and Sanctuary by purchasing a poinsettia in memory or celebration of a loved one. The cost is \$35 per plant. Order deadline is Wednesday, December 11. Order forms are at the Connection Center or online ([fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org)).

**International Friendship Partners Ladies' Tea.** International Friendship Partners invites all ladies to a Christmas tea at 10.30 am on Saturday, December 21 at the Wilsons' (2007 Ramsey Drive). Let's celebrate the peace and joy of Christmas time with our international friends. Let us know if you are coming by emailing Lee Ann Kozan ([leeannkozan@gmail.com](mailto:leeannkozan@gmail.com)).

**"The Mirror that Mends."** Gerrit's latest article for [desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org) looks at three ways our encounter with Scripture becomes a transforming mirror. Copies are of the article available at the Connection Center or can be read online at [desiringgod.org](http://desiringgod.org).

**It's Never Too Late!** There's still time to rededicate your gifts and talents in reply to God's beautiful grace. Estimate of Giving cards are available in the pews, online at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org), or you may email Courtney Hilton ([courtney@fpcbr.org](mailto:courtney@fpcbr.org)).

---

*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.*

*Scripture for Next Week: Revelation 19:6-16  
Sanctuary services are video recorded  
and livestreamed.*

CCLI license #207235



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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