



ORDER OF WORSHIP



JULY 30, AD 2023

10.30 AM





GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Gerrit Dawson

Prelude

“I Love You, Lord” with “O Lord Most Holy” arranged by Linda McKechnie
Katherine Tomeny, piano
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Psalm 65 and Psalm 84

Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.
O you who hears prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

When iniquities prevail against us, you atone for our transgressions.

Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!

We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

How lovely is your dwelling place, O LORD of hosts!

My soul longs, yes, faints for the courts of the LORD;

Let us sing for joy to the living God!

***Hymn of Praise**

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

MADRID

***Blessing God**

Scriptural Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

From Book of Common Prayer

Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

**Standing*

***Greeting and Announcements**

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

Minute for Mission

Dedication of McKinley Kindergarten Backpacks

Recognition of Kylie Altier of Buchanan Elementary, 2024 Louisiana Teacher of the Year

Offertory

“There Is a Balm in Gilead” arranged by William L. Dawson

Dedrian Hogan, conductor

There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,

There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.

Sometimes, I feel discouraged and think my works in vain,

But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.

If you cannot sing like angels, if you cannot preach like Paul,

You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, “He died for all.”

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

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrews 10:19–25

Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

All Scripture is breathed out by God, and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction and for training in righteousness.

So the person of God might be equipped for every good work.

Sermon

Alec Flynt

“The Open Secret to Growing in Christ”

We welcome to our pulpit this morning the Rev. Dr. Alec Flynt. Alec is senior pastor of Covenant Presbyterian Church of Mobile. He served at First Presbyterian Church in Baton Rouge as Associate Pastor from 2008 to 2013. His wife, Arden, has led women's retreats and studies for us. They have three children, Caleb, Elizabeth Gray and Lydia.



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

***Hymn of Response**

“In Christ Alone”

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

***Response**

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

Postlude

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” arranged by Coalter

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers serve to honor a departed loved one or celebrate with thanksgiving cherished people or events. If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday, please contact Kathy Mullins at 603.4735.

Scripture for Next Week: Psalm 73: 1-5, 13-26

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.

Crispy Fish in the Cool Air Today! Please join us for a fish fry in the Gym after worship today! Last minute registrations may be made using the QR code or you may pay at the door. Individuals: \$10. Families with two to four members: \$20. Families with five or more members: \$30.



QR Code

Want to Go to Israel? FPC is going to Israel May 2–11, 2024! Join Darin for an informational meeting today after the fish fry at 1 pm in EB 202!

Last Sunday: Officer Suggestions for the 2026 Class. The Officer Nominating Committee nominates elders and deacons by receiving suggested names of members from the congregation, prayerfully preparing a slate and presenting the slate at the annual October congregational meeting for election. Please be in prayer about who you might suggest. Please make your suggestions by July 31. Cards are available in the pew racks as well as online at fpcbr.org.

Three Services Resume Next Sunday. We return to our regular three worship services next week on August 6 (7.45 am, 9 am and 11 am). Sunday school resumes August 13.

Bridge Social, August 5. Katherine and Jade Tomeny invite all young adults (18-23) to a Bridge Sunday school social. Please join them Saturday, August 5 at 4 pm in their home (9924 Foster Road). RSVP to Katherine (ktomeny14@gmail.com).

Back to (Sunday) School Mingle Next Week. Looking for a new Sunday school class or wondering what's coming next in your favorite class? Join us for a Sunday school mingle in the Reception Room at 10.10 am Sunday, August 6. Classes resume on August 13.

Welcoming Daniel and Candace at the Mingle Next Sunday. Come say hello to our two new staff members on Sunday, August 6 at the Back to (Sunday) School Mingle. Candace Walker, Director of Childhood Ministry, and Daniel Croskrey, Director of Middle School Youth, will both be there to say hello. Come welcome them!

LSU Prayer Walk, August 12. International Friendship Partners invites you to a prayer walk across the LSU campus Saturday, August 12. Prayer guides will be available. Meet under the shady oaks in front of the LSU Union at 8.15 am.

Youth Group Today. Middle and high school students will combine for Sunday Youth Group today. We'll gather in the Gym at 5 pm.

Give Online. Visit fpcbr.org or go to the church app to make your gift online. You may also give through the U.S. mail. Email prayer@fpcbr.org if you have online giving questions.

New Crying Babies/Nursing Mother's Room. Our Bride's Room now doubles as a Crying Babies/Nursing Mother's room on Sunday mornings. This location, as well as the Parlor, are available with closed circuit TV simulcasting the 9 and 11 am services.

