

# BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



ORDER OF WORSHIP

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NOVEMBER 17, AD 2024  
11 am



# GATHERING TO PRAISE

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*Assisting with Worship: Daniel Croskrey*

## **Prelude**

*Berceuse* from Dolly Suite, op. 56 by Gabriel Fauré

Rachel Ciraldo, flute

Nick Ciraldo, classical guitar

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

*From Luke 12, Revelation 16 & 17*

Stay dressed for action and keep your lamps burning and be like those who are waiting for their master to come home, so that they may open the door to him at once when he comes and knocks.

**Blessed are those servants whom the master finds awake when he comes.**

Truly, I say to you, the master will dress himself for service and have them recline at table, and he will come and serve them.

**If he comes in the second watch, or in the third, and finds them awake, blessed are those servants!**

But know this, that if the master of the house had known at what hour the thief was coming, he would not have left his house to be broken into.

**We must be ready, for Jesus the Son of Man is coming at an hour we do not expect.**

**Blessed are those who are called, chosen and faithful!**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

No. 345 "Blessed Assurance"

ASSURANCE

## **\*Blessing God**

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

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

**O most holy and mighty God, true and righteous judge, you have revealed to us that a day of final judgment is coming. We tremble at the thought of that day for we know ourselves to be sinners. But far be it from us to be counted among those who are unprepared because our hearts are hard. Spirit of God, keep us alert and help us to repent that we might give glory to the one seated on the throne and to the victorious Lamb in whom we are called, chosen and faithful. 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 ages three through kindergarten are invited to Children’s Church.*

**Offertory**

“At the Name of Jesus” by Caroline M. Noel  
Sung to “Cranham” by G. Holst

*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**

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**\*Hymn of Preparation**

No. 241 “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

REGENT SQUARE

**Time with God’s Word**

Prayer for Illumination  
*Revelation 16:4–16*

The third angel poured out his bowl into the rivers and the springs of water, and they became blood. And I heard the angel in charge of the waters say,

“Just are you, O Holy One, who is and who was,  
for you brought these judgments.  
For they have shed the blood of saints and prophets,  
and you have given them blood to drink.  
It is what they deserve!”

And I heard the altar saying,

“Yes, Lord God the Almighty,  
true and just are your judgments!”

The fourth angel poured out his bowl on the sun, and it was allowed to scorch people with fire. They were scorched by the fierce heat, and they cursed the name of God who had power over these plagues. They did not repent and give him glory.

The fifth angel poured out his bowl on the throne of the beast, and its kingdom was plunged into darkness. People gnawed their tongues in anguish and cursed the God of heaven for their pain and sores. They did not repent of their deeds.

The sixth angel poured out his bowl on the great river Euphrates, and its water was dried up, to prepare the way for the kings from the east. And I saw, coming out of the mouth of the dragon and out of the mouth of the beast and out of the mouth of the false prophet, three unclean spirits like frogs. For they are demonic spirits, performing signs, who go abroad to the kings of the whole world, to assemble them for battle on the great day of God the Almighty. (“Behold, I am coming like a thief! Blessed is the one who stays awake, keeping his garments on, that he may not go about naked and be seen exposed!”) And they assembled them at the place that in Hebrew is called Armageddon.

#### *Revelation 17:3–6*

And he carried me away in the Spirit into a wilderness, and I saw a woman sitting on a scarlet beast that was full of blasphemous names, and it had seven heads and ten horns. The woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet, and adorned with gold and jewels and pearls, holding in her hand a golden cup full of abominations and the impurities of her sexual immorality. And on her forehead was written a name of mystery: “Babylon the great, mother of prostitutes and of earth’s abominations.” And I saw the woman, drunk with the blood of the saints, the blood of the martyrs of Jesus. When I saw her, I marveled greatly.

#### *Revelation 17:12–14*

And the ten horns that you saw are ten kings who have not yet received royal power, but they are to receive authority as kings for one hour, together with the beast. These are of one mind, and they hand over their power and authority to the beast. They will make war on the Lamb, and the Lamb will conquer them, for he is Lord of lords and King of kings, and those with him are called and chosen and faithful.”

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**

Darin Travis

“Where Is the Hope?”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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### **Time of Reflection**

### **\*Hymn of Response**

No. 304 “Lift High the Cross” (vv. 1, 2 & 5)

CRUCIFER



## 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

Chanson de nuit, op. 15, by Edward Elgar



## BENEDICTION

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#### \*Response

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

#### Postlude

Duet in G Major, by Georg Philip Telemann



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**Welcome!** We're so glad you could join us today. Each week we seek to press deeper into Christ and then follow his lead to go further into the world with his love. As part of that mission, we'd love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to [prayer@fpcbr.org](mailto:prayer@fpcbr.org), through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

**It's Not 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), by using the QR code, or by emailing Courtney Hilton ([courtney@fpcbr.org](mailto:courtney@fpcbr.org)).



**Bethany Centre Art Show This Friday.** Join us for the Bethany Centre Art Show on Friday, November 22 from 6 to 9 pm at City Farm (1800 City Farm Drive). Proceeds from the art show will be used to equip the Bethany Centre's new high school science and computer labs with Starlink internet and other day-to-day operating expenses.

**Get Your Angel!** Help us bless the children of incarcerated parents by providing a Christmas present or help with gift delivery. Visit Ryan Castle at the Connection Center or contact him ([ryanecastle@gmail.com](mailto:ryanecastle@gmail.com) or 225.773.4769) for details.

**Prime Time Club Christmas Luncheon.** The Prime Time Club invites all 60+ year olds to its Christmas lunch at Mike Anderson's Side Porch on Tuesday, December 10 at 11.30 am. Please visit [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org) to register by November 26. The cost is \$25 per person.

**Christmas Poinsettia Orders.** 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)).

**Daily Advent Readings Start December 1.** Advent daily readings flyers will be available on Sunday, December 1, the first Sunday of Advent. Weekly emails will also be sent with that week's readings and passages.

**Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day!** 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.

**FPC App.** Sermon video, sermon audio, sermon transcripts, lectures, ESV Bible, news, announcements . . . if it's on the website, it's on the app. Download from your favorite app store by searching FPCBR.

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*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 Eugenie "Mimi" Wilson Alsobrook and Joe Gibson by Eugenie and Harry Burglass.*

*Scripture for Next Week: Revelation 18*

*Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

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