

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



ORDER OF WORSHIP

September 15, AD 2024
11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Colton Underwood

Prelude

“Immortal, Invisible” arranged by Michael Burkhardt

Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Revelation 4

In his vision, John saw the very throne of heaven. Angelic beings offered ceaseless worship.

Day and night they never cease to say, “Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!”

And when some give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, others fall down before him and cast their crowns before the throne, saying, **“Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.”**

Today we are invited to add our voices to the angels around the throne, as we rise to worship the living and true triune God!

Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 25 “Immortal, Invisible”

ST. DENIO

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Glorious and Almighty God, the vision of your beauty and majesty overwhelms us. We confess that our eyes too often look toward worthless or trivial distractions, and our ears fail to hear the call to worship from the amazing creatures around your throne. Every good and perfect gift in our lives comes from you. Scrub our hearts to ensure that nothing—including ourselves—is trying to rule where you alone belong.

***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

"Sanctus" from *Requiem* by Gabriel Fauré

Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Hosanna in the highest!

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**

No. 262 "Holy, Holy, Holy"

NICAEA

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Revelation 4

After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say,

“Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty,
who was and is and is to come!”

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

“Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power,
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created.”

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

Scott Graham

“Love Roller Coaster”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 61 “Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty”

HYFRYDOL



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

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

“Holy, Holy (Adoration Antiphon)” arranged by Fred Bock



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee” arranged by Paul Manz

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 Will Dixon by Shea & Tim Firnberg and Sharon Dixon.

*Scripture for Next Week: Revelation 5:1–14
Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

CCLI license #207235



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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@fpibr.org, through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

Celebrate & Connect. InterVarsity is involved with over 250 student across 8 campuses. FPC is excited to celebrate what God has done and share how you can connect with this exciting, multicultural student ministry partner. Please join us for a celebration and update today at 5 pm in the Reception Room. RSVP at fpibr.org.

Ladies' Night of Testimony & Fellowship September 19. Join Women's Ministry on Thursday, September 19 in the home of Chelsea Smith as some of our beloved sisters-in-Christ share the ways the Lord has worked personally and powerfully in their lives. Those sharing are Bonnie Adams, Kate Castle, Lisa Head, Nicolette Shafto and Kaci Treadaway. The price increases from \$15 to \$20 at midnight Sunday, September 15. Please register by Wednesday, September 18 at fpibr.org.



One More Habitat Build Weekend! Building skills are welcome but not necessary to volunteer at our 8th(!) Habitat for Humanity build. Visit fpibr.org to sign up. You can also help with food by contacting Emily Viguerie (emily@fpibr.org). Our last build weekend is September 26–28.

DivorceCare® Starts September 22. A 13-week support program for those who are separated or divorced begins Sunday, September 22. Meetings are 5 to 7 pm at the church. Space is limited so please contact Laura Shaw soon to reserve a spot (laura@fpibr.org).

Men's Ministry BBQ, September 26. Join us for fellowship and ribs hot off the grill on Thursday, September 26, 6 pm at Calvin Fabr s. Please RSVP to Blake Fowler (blake@fpibr.org).

Communion Training, September 29. Each year, Gerrit offers a Communion training class for elementary-age children. Kindergartners through 5th graders and their parents are invited Sunday, September 29 at 10.10 am in Dunham Chapel.

Experiential Prayer in Two Weeks. We will have several stations set up for active and experiential prayer covering topics such as the upcoming elections, mission opportunities and healing for our city and nation. You can arrive and stay for any length of time you have available. Join us Sunday, September 29 from 6 to 7 pm in Dunham Chapel.

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.

Reclaiming the Heart of Communion. Gerrit's latest article on DesiringGod.org is now live. Printed copies are available at the Connection Center.

For the Young at Heart. Join us for fun & fellowship at the first luncheon of the Prime Time Club, a social group of First Presbyterian Church for those young at heart (AKA: 60 and older). We meet on Thursday, October 3 at 11.30 am in the Reception Room. RSVP to Laura (laura@fpibr.org or 225.387.0617).

