

BEHIND THE CURTAIN

The Book of Revelation



ORDER OF WORSHIP

SEPTEMBER 29, AD 2024
11 am



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Darin Travis

Prelude

“The Church’s One Foundation” arranged by Steven Scott

Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea.

The nations rage, the kingdoms totter; he utters his voice, the earth melts.

Yet the LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Come, behold the works of the LORD, he makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

“Be still, and know that I am God. I will be exalted among the nations, I will be exalted in the earth!” The LORD of hosts is with us, the God of Jacob is our refuge.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 10 “O Worship the King”

LYONS

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Gracious Father, the old prayer admits, “We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.” We know it is still true. We see it all the more as the restraints around us are loosened. We do not reign in our appetites. We do not curb our tempers or our language. We indulge our dreams of glory. We follow our greed for more. We overlook your little ones, because all we think about is our wants and problems. What a disordered mess we are! Forgive us. Restore us. Renew us by your Holy Spirit through the atonement of Jesus. 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.

Minute for Mission

Dorothy Wallis, founder and CEO of Caring to Love Ministries

Offertory

"Be Gone, Unbelief" by Wesley D. Peters

Be gone, unbelief, my Savior is near,
And for my relief will surely appear;
By prayer let me wrestle, and he will perform,
With Christ in the vessel, I smile at the storm.

Though dark be my way since he is my guide,
'Tis mine to obey, 'tis his to provide;
Though cisterns be broken, and creatures all fail,
The Word he has spoken shall surely prevail.

How bitter his death, no heart can conceive,
He drew his last breath, that sinners might live!
His way was far rougher, and darker than mine;
This, Jesus did suffer with sorrow divine.

Since all that I meet shall work for my gain,
The bitter is sweet, the rough places plain;
Though painful at present, will cease before long,
And then, Oh! how blessed, the conqueror's song!

Please place your prayer requests and offerings in the plate as it is passed.

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

No. 26 "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

EIN' FESTE BURG

Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Revelation 6

Now I watched when the Lamb opened one of the seven seals, and I heard one of the four living creatures say with a voice like thunder, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a white horse! And its rider had a bow, and a crown was given to him, and he came out conquering, and to conquer.

When he opened the second seal, I heard the second living creature say, "Come!" And out came another horse, bright red. Its rider was permitted to take peace from the earth, so that people should slay one another, and he was given a great sword.

When he opened the third seal, I heard the third living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a black horse! And its rider had a pair of scales in his hand. And I heard what seemed to be a voice in the midst of the four living creatures, saying, "A quart of wheat for a denarius, and three quarts of barley for a denarius, and do not harm the oil and wine!"

When he opened the fourth seal, I heard the voice of the fourth living creature say, "Come!" And I looked, and behold, a pale horse! And its rider's name was Death, and Hades followed him. And they were given authority over a fourth of the earth, to kill with sword and with famine and with pestilence and by wild beasts of the earth.

When he opened the fifth seal, I saw under the altar the souls of those who had been slain for the word of God and for the witness they had borne. They cried out with a loud voice, "O Sovereign Lord, holy and true, how long before you will judge and avenge our blood on those who dwell on the earth?" Then they were each given a white robe and told to rest a little longer, until the number of their fellow servants and their brothers should be complete, who were to be killed as they themselves had been.

When he opened the sixth seal, I looked, and behold, there was a great earthquake, and the sun became black as sackcloth, the full moon became like blood, and the stars of the sky fell to the earth as the fig tree sheds its winter fruit when shaken by a gale. The sky vanished like a scroll that is being rolled up, and every mountain and island was removed from its place. Then the kings of the earth and the great ones and the generals and the rich and the powerful, and everyone, slave and free, hid themselves in the caves and among the rocks of the mountains, calling to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us from the face of him who is seated on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb, for the great day of their wrath has come, and who can stand?"

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

"The Price of the Fight"



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 493 “It Is Well with My Soul” (vv. 1, 3 & 4)

VILLE DU HAVRE

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

“Jubilate” by Roy Douglas



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

Experiential Prayer Tonight. 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 tonight from 6 to 7 pm in Dunham Chapel.

Prime Time Club This Thursday. Join us for fun and 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 Thursday, October 3 at 11.30 am in the Reception Room. RSVP to Laura (laura@fpcbr.org or 225.387.0617).

Loving Our rEcess Families! Once a month volunteers spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability while parents enjoy a night out. Our next rEcess is Friday, October 4. Contact Jess Concienne if you would like to participate (jess.concienne@gmail.com or 225.892.3212).

Youth Movie Night, October 10th. All youth are invited to join us for dinner and a movie in the Terraced Garden on Thursday, October 10 from 5 to 9 pm. Bring a picnic blanket or folding chair!

First Baptist Celebrates 150 Years! Congratulations to our neighbor, First Baptist Church, celebrating their 150 year anniversary today. Our bells will join in chiming with other downtown churches today at noon.

Become a McKinley Elementary Volunteer. Stop by the Connection Center to sign up for ministry opportunities at our adopted school, McKinley Elementary.

Kids Hope USA Needs Mentors. A mentor spends one hour a week talking, reading, playing and listening to a child at Gardere Community Christian School. Each mentor receives training, support and prayer. Contact Annette Lamond (annette@fpcbr.org) to find out more.

Ways to Give. We are grateful you choose to be a part of God's economy with us. Gifts to First Presbyterian may be made via US Mail (763 North Blvd., 70802) or electronically (fpcbr.org or the church app).

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 Mary Ogle by Pat Canfield, Brittany & Jamy Comeaux and family.

Scripture for Next Week: Revelation 7:9-17

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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