

GENESIS STORIES FROM THE START

ORDER OF WORSHIP JUNE 4, AD 2023 11 AM



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Scott Graham

Prelude

"Dawn" by Dario Marianelli Steve Gustafson, piano

*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Psalm 56 & Hebrews 11

When we are afraid, we put our trust in you, O God.

In God, whose word we praise, in God we trust; we shall not be afraid. What can flesh do to us?

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. This we know, that God is for us. In the LORD, whose word we praise, in God we trust; we shall not be afraid. What can man do to us?

By faith Abel brought God a better offering than Cain did. By faith he was commended as righteous.

And through his faith, though he died, Abel still speaks.

Let us perform our vows to God; let us render thank offerings to him.

For he has delivered our souls from death and our feet from falling, that we may walk before God in the light of life.

*Hymn of Praise

No. 8 "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

LOBE DEN HERREN

*Blessing God

*Scriptural Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession

O Lord, in every way you gave us the very best. But we brought you our leftovers, the dregs, and called them an offering. We were not motivated to do any more than that. Our affections for you were cold. Even worse, we foolishly turned our backs and showed our bellies to the predatory gaze of the evil one. We did not resist. And in many ways, sin ruled over us. Have mercy on us, O Savior. Holy Spirit strengthen our faith. Renew our minds. We present ourselves to you, O God, as living sacrifices. Through the saving work of Jesus whose blood speaks a better word than the blood of Abel, make us holy and acceptable in your sight. Amen.

*Silent Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

*Response ALL TO CHRIST

Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe; Sin had left a crimson stain—he washed it white as snow.

*Greeting and Announcements

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

Offertory

"Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God" by Carl F. Mueller

Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy Holy Spirit. Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

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!

*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

Genesis 4: 1-16

Now Adam knew Eve his wife, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have gotten a man with the help of the LORD." And again, she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a worker of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the LORD an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel also brought of the firstborn of his flock and of their fat portions. And the LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his face fell. The LORD said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your face fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is contrary to you, but you must rule over it."

Cain spoke to Abel his brother. And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel and killed him. Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the LORD said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood is crying to me from the ground. And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you work the ground, it shall no longer yield to you its strength. You shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the LORD, "My punishment is greater than I can bear. Behold, you have driven me today away from the ground, and from your face I shall be hidden. I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and whoever finds me will kill me." Then the LORD said to him, "Not so! If anyone kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold." And the LORD put a mark on Cain, lest any who found him should attack him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the LORD and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

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

Gerrit Dawson "Battling Brothers"



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 364 "My Jesus, I Love Thee" (vs. 1-3)



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

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.

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

"Prelude, Fugue and Variation, Op. 18" by César Franck



BENEDICTION

*Response

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

Postlude

"Duetto" from Songs Without Words by Felix Mendelssohn



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.

Faith Driven Entrepreneurs Small Group. Faith Driven Entrepreneurs is a group of faith driven business owners and entrepreneurs seeking to establish a supportive community with other business leaders. Our next meeting is Friday, June 9 at 7.30 am at the City Club. Please contact Mike Morris if you have questions (*mike@southcoastagency.com*).

Come Meet Candace! Please welcome Candace Walker, our new Director of Childhood Ministry, after worship today. You'll find her loving on the children and families in the So Loved hall all morning.

MDO Teacher. Are you, or someone you know, interested in loving and teaching our 2-year-olds at Mother's Day Out this year? If so, please contact Whitney Weiner (*mdo@fpcbr.org* or 225.205.5053).

Vacation Bible School Starts in Two Weeks! Jerusalem Marketplace VBS engages all senses and transports your child to a different time and a fresh experience. Children entering kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to participate. Adults and youth are invited to volunteer as leaders and helpers. Please visit *fpcbr.org/vbs* for details and registration. VBS dates are June 19-23.



VBS QR Code

College Scholarships Available! The FPC Women's Ministry College Scholarship Fund offers financial assistance to church members who anticipate having difficulty meeting the obligations of continued education. Applications are available at *fpcbr.org* and are due by June 15.

Lake Forest Ranch Camp. Kids age 7-12 are eligible to join us at LFR in Macon, MS, July 17-21. LFR's mission is building relationships for eternal impact. Please register by June 15 online at *fpcbr.org*.



LFR QR Code

Home for the Summer? We have a new Sunday school class for college students; the Bridge. Join us at 10.10 am in room EB 301.

Women's Summer Luncheon: June 29. The Women's Ministry "So, I've Got a Question . . . Counseling Edition" summer luncheon is Thursday, June 29 at 11 am. Join us for a time of fellowship and thoughtful discussion led by Sherry Kadair, Director of the Baton Rouge Christian Counseling Center, along with Kaci Treadaway, Dr. John Otzenberger, Joel Gilbert and Stacy House. Details online at *fpcbr.org*.

Baptism Today. Congratulations to the Pourciau family! Willem Wayne Pourciau was baptized at the 7.45 am service today.

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 in memory of Sue & Bill Edrington and Mary & Emmett Edrington by Susie & Buzzy Heroman, Leah & Billy Edrington and Lynn & Mark Edwards.

Scripture for Next Week: Genesis 6: 5-8
Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed
All songs used by permission:

CCLI license #207235.