

ORDER of WORSHIP  
February 23, AD 2025  
11 am

# EARLY STORIES

## LATE PARABLES





# GATHERING TO PRAISE

---

*Assisting Pastor: Colton Underwood*

## **Prelude**

Blake Hanna, trumpet  
Steve Gustafson, piano

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

*From Psalm 104*

Bless the LORD, O my soul!  
O LORD my God, you are very great!

**You are clothed with splendor and majesty,  
Covering yourself with light as with a garment,  
Stretching out the heavens like a tent.**

You set the earth on its foundations,  
So that it should never be moved.

**You cause the grass to grow for the livestock  
And plants for man to cultivate,  
That he may bring forth food from the earth.**

You made the moon to mark the seasons;  
The sun knows its time for setting.  
You make darkness, and it is night,  
Sunrise, and it is light.

**O LORD, how manifold are your works!  
In wisdom have you made them all!  
So in this glad hour, we worship you.**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

No. 59 "I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

## **\*Blessing God**

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

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Eternal God, from your abounding love, you brought forth our world. You created place and time and set us in it. We keep time as your world turns every day. We mark the years as we wind around the sun. Clocks are everywhere. Yet we do not know the meaning of the hour. Calendars are everywhere. Yet we do not know where we are in history. We know time is short, yet we waste our days. We feel the clock ticking, but neglect eternity. Forgive us. Ground us. Orient us to your mighty deeds and eternal promises, through Jesus our Lord.

## **\*Silent Confession**

## **\*Assurance of Pardon**

## **\*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**

"In His Hands" by Tim Osiek

He's got the whole world, the whole world in his hands.  
He's got the whole world, all people, all lands in his hands.  
In time of doubt and fear, remember, God is near,  
With calm assurance that is here, in his hands.

He's got the sun and moon in his hands.  
He's got the wind and rain at his command.  
When it's more than you can bear, know God's strong arm is there,  
With all the power, love and care in his hands.

Gentle power, loving strength, always holding me.  
Healing touch, tender care and amazing grace.  
What do I have to fear when he holds me near,  
And I'm safely here in his hands!

He's got you and me in his hands.  
He's got all of us as only he can, in his hands.  
In the darkness I can see God reaching out to me  
To know forever I will be, in his hands.

*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

“My Times Are in Thy Hand”

ST. THOMAS

### Time with God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

*Ecclesiastes 3:1*

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven. . .

*Psalm 31:14–15a*

But I trust in you, O LORD;  
I say, “You are my God.”  
My times are in your hand.

*1 Corinthians 11:25–26*

In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

*Ephesians 5:15–16*

Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.

The secret things belong to the LORD our God.  
**But what has been revealed belongs to us, and to our children forever.**  
**That we may do all the words of this law.**

### Sermon

Gerrit Dawson

“What Time Is It?”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

---

### Time of Reflection

#### \*Hymn of Response

No. 347 "Be Still, My Soul"

FINLANDIA

### 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

---

*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 memory of our father Mack Gregorie Sr. by Ann K. Gregorie and Nancy Sue Gregorie Burton*

*Scripture for Next Week: Matthew 20:1-16*

*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@fpcbr.org](mailto:prayer@fpcbr.org), through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

**GriefShare® Group Starts Today.** A new GriefShare® group begins today at 4 pm. Text Scott Graham to participate (412.480.4108). There is still time to sign up.

**Lent Guides Are Here!** This year's Lent guide, *Golden Threads: Tracing the Tapestry of Scripture*, is now available. Be sure to grab a copy for you and for a friend. Information about subscribing to the daily emails and podcasts can be found under the Resources tab at [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org).

**Lent Community Groups Begin in Two Weeks: Sign Up Today!** Community Groups for *Golden Threads: Tracing the Tapestry of Scripture* are forming now. Contact Blake Fowler to be a member or leader of a group ([blake@fpcbr.org](mailto:blake@fpcbr.org)). Groups begin meeting the week of March 5.

**Ash Wednesday Noon Service, March 5.** The season of Lent begins with a traditional service at noon in the Sanctuary followed by lunch in the Reception Room. Please email Emily ([emily@fpcbr.org](mailto:emily@fpcbr.org)) to RSVP. Wednesday noon services will continue throughout Lent in Dunham Chapel without lunch.

**March 2: Boys Hike & Girls Movie Night.** On Sunday, March 2 at 12.30 pm, middle and high school boys and their fathers are invited to a hike at Clark's Creek. Lunch is provided. RSVP to Colton ([colton@fpcbr.org](mailto:colton@fpcbr.org)). Later at 5.30 pm, middle and high school girls are invited to watch "Wicked" at Jessica Saffell's home (7622 Lane's End). Please RSVP to Jessica ([jessica@fpcbr.org](mailto:jessica@fpcbr.org)).

**Offices Closed for Mardi Gras, March 3 & 4.** Would you like to reach a pastor after hours? Please call the church office (387.0617) and press 5 to be connected to the pastor on call.

**Loving Our rEcess Families on March 7!** Once a month volunteers spend a few hours playing with the children of families affected by disability while parents enjoy a night out. We need prayer for this vulnerable group and hands on volunteers. Contact Jess Conciennie if you would like to participate in monthly rEcess ([jess.conciennie@gmail.com](mailto:jess.conciennie@gmail.com) or 225.892.3212).

**Colombia Mission Trip Informational Meeting.** The Colombia trip dates are July 19-24. All interested in learning more are invited to attend an informational meeting at 10.15 am in the Chapel on Sunday, March 9.

**Accessing the Church Portals.** FPC has a Member Portal and an Online Giving Portal. Click the link at the top right corner of the church homepage to set up your portal credentials. Contact Laura Shaw ([laura@fpcbr.org](mailto:laura@fpcbr.org)) if you have questions about setting up your account.

**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 online ([fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org) or the church app) or via US Mail (763 North Blvd., 70802).

**Staying in Touch with You.** If you've moved, changed your email address or have a new phone number, we'd like to know about it. Help us keep our membership database updated. Please call us with your changes, 225.387.0617.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org)