

ORDER of WORSHIP
January 12, AD 2025
Epiphany Sunday
11 am

EARLY STORIES

LATE PARABLES





GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting with Worship: Jamy Comeaux

Prelude

“Oh, That I Had a Thousand Voices” arranged by Paul Manz
Steve Gustafson, organ

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Hebrews 4

Beloved Church, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus,
the Son of God.

Let us hold fast our confession!

For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses,
But one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.

Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace,
That we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 76 “O for a Thousand Tongues” (vv. 1–3 & 5)

AZMON

***Blessing God**



ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

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|--|--------------------------------|
| Calling of Officers | Hank Mills |
| Introduction to Church Offices | Gerrit Dawson |
| Questions to the Candidates | Gerrit Dawson and Jamy Comeaux |
| Question to the Congregation | Hank Mills |
| Prayer of Ordination and Installation | Gerrit Dawson |
| Declaration of Ordination and Installation | Gerrit Dawson |

***Greeting and Announcements**

Children ages three through kindergarten are invited to Children’s Church.

Offertory

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” arranged by Dan Forrest

I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to follow Jesus.
God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my life is Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all; the night and day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God: shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus.
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.
In him there is no darkness at all; the night and day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God: shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I’m looking for the coming of Christ; I want to be with Jesus.
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.
In him there is no darkness at all; the night and day are both alike.
The Lamb is the light of the city of God: shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

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. 334 “Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

ARISE

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written,

“Man shall not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,”

and

“On their hands they will bear you up,
lest you strike your foot against a stone.”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.’” Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

“You shall worship the Lord your God
and him only shall you serve.”

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

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

“Never Would I Ever: The Temptation of Jesus”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

No. 419 “Abide with Me” (vv. 1, 3 & 5)

EVENTIDE

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

“Lead On, O King Eternal” arranged by Gilbert Martin

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 Mr. and Mrs. Frank L. Norwood Jr. and Larry Charles Musgrove Sr. by Chrystal Norwood Musgrove and family.

Scripture for Next Week: Luke 4:16–30

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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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.

Enlarge Your Vision: Mission Conference January 24-26. Over the course of the weekend, we'll have an International Friendship Partners Game Night, a brunch, a dinner, a single 10.30 am worship service then . . . a very special reception for Whitney Alexander's last Sunday before his retirement. Further details in today's insert and below.

International Friendship Partners Game Night. Join us Friday, January 24 at 5.30 pm in the Gym as we fellowship with internationals. There will be plenty of games, food and fun for the whole family. We are especially excited to welcome back chalk artist Ben Glenn after many years!

Global Missions Brunch and Dinner, Saturday, January 25. Come have brunch with missionary Browning Wood at the Kozans' on Saturday, January 25 at 10 am. Then at 5.30 pm, missionaries to Lebanon, Elizabeth and Greg Mook, will speak at a dinner hosted by Melissa and Calvin Fabré. Both are free but registration is requested for the dinner (fpcbr.org).

January 26 10.30 am Worship and Reception for the Alexanders. Help us celebrate Whitney Alexander's quarter century of ministry at First Presbyterian. Whitney will preach on the enduring legacy of mission at our single 10.30 am service. And following worship, we'll have a reception honoring him and Phyllis as we say farewell.

Blood Drive, February 2. You have the most precious resource of all: the ability to save a life by donating blood! First Presbyterian is hosting a blood drive on Sunday, February 2 from 9.30 am to 12.30 pm! Stop by the LifeShare blood mobile before or after worship and help share this invaluable gift with someone in need.

Discover First Dinner February 2. This is an opportunity for you, in a smaller setting, to learn more about how you can be part of our mission and ministry. If you are interested in attending or would like more information, please contact Emily Viguerie (emily@fpcbr.org).

Jeffrey Marx to Speak at Men's Event on February 4. Pulitzer Prize winning author Jeffrey Marx will be at First Presbyterian to talk about his classic *Season of Life: A Football Star, a Boy, a Journey to Manhood*. Marx is an in-demand speaker and we are fortunate to have him here in Baton Rouge! This is a great event to bring your son, your father, or your friend from work. Dinner and door prizes will be involved. \$20 per person until January 26. Price increases to \$25 on January 27. Register online at fpcbr.org.

MDO Registration. Church member priority registration for the Mother's Day Out 2025–2026 school year is Monday, January 27. Contact Whitney Weiner at mdo@fpcbr.org or 225.620.0245 for more information.

Additional Parking at Old Governor's Mansion. The Old Governor's Mansion parking lot across North Blvd. is available for overflow parking to First Presbyterian Church worshippers.



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

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