

GOLDEN THREADS

TRACING THE TAPESTRY OF SCRIPTURE



ORDER *of* WORSHIP

March 23, AD 2025 | 11 am

Third Sunday of Lent



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Scott Graham

Prelude

“Amazing Grace” arranged by C. Kimberling and N. Ciraldo

“Primrose” arranged by C. Kimberling

Rachel Ciraldo, flute

Nick Ciraldo, classical guitar

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Revelation 11, 21 & Psalm 84

The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,
And he shall reign forever and ever.

For the first heaven and the first earth shall pass away.

And the new Jerusalem, the holy city, shall come down from heaven prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And God, himself, will dwell with us.

**And we shall be his people. Blessed are those who dwell in the house of the LORD,
ever singing his praise!**

***Hymn of Praise**

No. 52 “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (vv. 1–4 & 6)

ST. ANNE

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

From Psalm 84

How lovely is the place you choose to dwell, O LORD of hosts. It's so safe and secure. Even little sparrows build their nests there. It's a place full of blessings and singing. Why then have we set up filthy, tattered tents in the bleak, dangerous wilderness outside the walls of your kingdom? In our sin, we have chosen famine over feast. Cleanse our hearts, Holy Spirit, and make straight in them the highway that leads to Zion, that place where the LORD, our God, dwells—that home for which our souls most deeply long. For we had rather be doorkeepers in your house, O God, than dwell in the tents of wickedness. Amen.

***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

"I Will Bring You Home" by Michael Card

Though you are homeless, though you're alone, I will be your home.
Whatever's the matter, whatever's been done, I will be your home.

I will be your home, I will be your home.
In this fearful, fallen place I will be your home.

When time reaches fullness, when I move my hand, I will bring you home.
Home to your place in a beautiful land. I will bring you home.

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. 382 “Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Zechariah 2:10–11

Sing and rejoice, O daughter of Zion, for behold, I come and I will dwell in your midst, declares the LORD. And many nations shall join themselves to the LORD in that day, and shall be my people. And I will dwell in your midst, and you shall know that the LORD of hosts has sent me to you.

Ephesians 3:14–21

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

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

“Golden Threads, Part 3: Living Right Here”



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

HYFRYDOL

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

II. *Allegro* from Cavatina d’Ernani (based on Verdi’s *Ernani*) by Luigi Legnani

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.

The Chapel and Sanctuary flowers serve to honor a departed loved one or celebrate with thanksgiving cherished people or events. If you would like to donate flowers for a particular Sunday, please contact Kathy Mullins at 603.4735.

Scripture for Next Week: Jeremiah 31:31–34

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

Men's Skeet Shoot Is This Saturday! This year's skeet shoot will be back in Saint Francisville on Saturday, March 29. Shooters and non-shooters are welcome. Visit fpcbr.org for details and registration.

Youth Fellowship Night. All 6th through 12th graders are welcome Wednesday, March 26 from 6 to 8 pm as we take a short break from our Wednesday study to enjoy a meal and games together! Plenty of food, drinks and desserts will be provided. Games will include, but are not excluded to basketball, pickleball, board games, Mario Kart, gaga ball, and much more! We can't wait to see you there!

Romania Trip Meeting. The Romania mission trip with the Smiles Foundation is May 22–31, 2025. All who are interested in learning more are invited to attend an informational meeting at 10.15 am in the Chapel on Sunday, March 30.

Lenten Noon Services. Join us for a special Lent service this Wednesday at noon when we will incorporate experiential prayer into worship. Invite a coworker to join you. We will not meet for mid-week worship on Wednesday, April 16.

Egg Hunt Details. It's time to drop off eggs for our Palm Sunday Egg Hunt on April 13! Drop your donated plastic-filled eggs into one of the designated baskets by Sunday, April 6 (No nuts, peanut butter, or chocolate). Please donate one dozen eggs per child.

April 13. Palm Procession. Crawfish Boil. Egg Hunt. Save the date for Palm Sunday festivities. It all kicks off at 10 am with a procession around North Blvd. followed by worship then a crawfish boil and children's activities. Crawfish boil registration goes live next week.

April 17, "Behold the Lamb!" at 7 pm. An immersive 4D worship experience. Join us as we relive the story of our salvation and the passion of Jesus through music, drama, sights, sounds and touch. A new take on Holy Thursday.

April 20, Easter Sunday. 6.30 am sunrise service in the Terraced Garden with breakfast to follow. Festival Easter worship at 9 and 11 am in the Sanctuary. Feel free to bring flowers to adorn the cross on North Blvd. There will be Sunday school for all ages.

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.

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

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).



DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD

763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | fpcbr.org