

# GOLDEN THREADS

TRACING THE TAPESTRY OF SCRIPTURE



ORDER *of* WORSHIP

March 30, AD 2025 | 11 am

Fourth Sunday of Lent



# GATHERING TO PRAISE

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*Assisting Pastor: Darin Travis*

## **Prelude**

Aaron Farrell, violin  
Gergana Ilcheva, violin  
Grant Bedillion, viola  
Joy Bedillion, cello

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

*From Ezekiel 36*

Hear the mighty promises of the LORD I AM: I will sprinkle clean water on you,  
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.

**I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you.**

I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

**And I will put my Spirit within you and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

You shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers. You shall be my people,  
and I will be your God.

**Because the LORD has undertaken to make us his own, ransomed, freed, restored and forgiven, we rise to worship in spirit and in truth.**

## **\*Hymn of Praise**

No. 9 "Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him"

AUSTRIAN HYMN

## **\*Blessing God**

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

## **\*Prayer of Confession**

Oh my Father, I need a new lease on the terms of my life! I have tried living only for my every want. I have tried being good enough in myself. I have tried proving my value to you. Even when others have rewarded me, awarded me, applauded me, thanked me, I know inside I am not enough. I cannot pay the rent. I cannot make a worthy return. Only you can make a new arrangement. Change my heart. Cleanse me. Purify me. Create in me the will and way to love you and others truly. Write your law in my heart and put me on the path of life, through Jesus my Savior.

## **\*Silent Confession**

*\*Standing*

## **\*Assurance of Pardon**

## **\*Response**

**Who is like the Lord, our God? Strong to save, faithful in love?  
My debt is paid and the victory won, the Lord is my salvation!**

## **\*Greeting and Announcements**

*Children ages three through kindergarten are invited to Children's Church.*

## **Minute for Mission**

Kevin Hoy, Smiles Foundation

## **Offertory**

“Spirit Divine” by Nancy Ruth Durance

Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key that will unclasp and set me free.  
Silently I will wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mind, that I may read more of thy love in word and deed.  
What shall I fear when thou dost lead? Only for light from thee, I plead.  
Silently, I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my way that I may bring trophies of grace to Christ, my King;  
Echoed in love, thy Word shall outring, sweet as the note that angels sing.  
Silently, I wait for thee, ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

*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. 2 “Come Thou Fount of Ev’ry Blessing”

NETTLETON

## Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

*Jeremiah 31:31-34*

“Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

*Jeremiah 32:38-41*

And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. I will give them one heart and one way, that they may fear me forever, for their own good and the good of their children after them. I will make with them an everlasting covenant, that I will not turn away from doing good to them. And I will put the fear of me in their hearts, that they may not turn from me. I will rejoice in doing them good, and I will plant them in this land in faithfulness, with all my heart and all my soul.

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 4: My God!”



## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

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### Time of Reflection

#### \*Hymn of Response

No. 379 “Take My Life and Let It Be” (vv. 1, 5 & 6)

HENDON

### 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

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#### \*Response

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

### Postlude



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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**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.

**Palm Sunday Festival: Register by April 4!** 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 ends at midnight Friday, April 4. \$20 per crawfish plate and \$10 per hot dog plate.

**"Behold the Lamb!" Maundy Thursday Service.** An immersive worship experience on Thursday, April 17 at 7 pm. 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.

**Festive Easter Sunday Worship.** Join us April 20 at 6.30 am in the Terraced Garden (breakfast to follow), or in the Sanctuary at 9 am or 11 am. Feel free to bring flowers to adorn the cross on North Blvd. There will be Sunday school for all ages.

**Lenten Noon Services.** Join us this Wednesday at noon for our brief Lenten service in Dunham Chapel. Invite a coworker to join you. We will not meet for mid-week worship on Wednesday, April 16.

**Donkey Tales: April 6.** Joyful Noise invites you to a hee-hawing good time on Sunday, April 6 at 6 pm in the Gym. Join Tex and her friends to see how God creatively communicates with us. A BBQ meal will be served afterwards. Please use the code to let us know you're joining us for the BBQ.

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

**Blessing Jamie Pitts' New Home.** Our Habitat for Humanity homeowner has officially purchased her new home! Let bless Jamie by stocking her shelves with non-perishable food and supplies. Drop off donations at the Connection Center through Palm Sunday. Suggestions: cleansers, laundry detergent, cereal, grits, paper products, cooking oil, pasta, rice, dried spices, etc.

**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](http://fpcbr.org) or the church app).

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*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 Harvard Bardwell and Scott Wheaton by Dadie and Princeton Bardwell.*

*Scripture for Next Week: Proverbs 9:10-11; I Peter 1:13-21*

*Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.*

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DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD  
763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | [fpcbr.org](http://fpcbr.org)