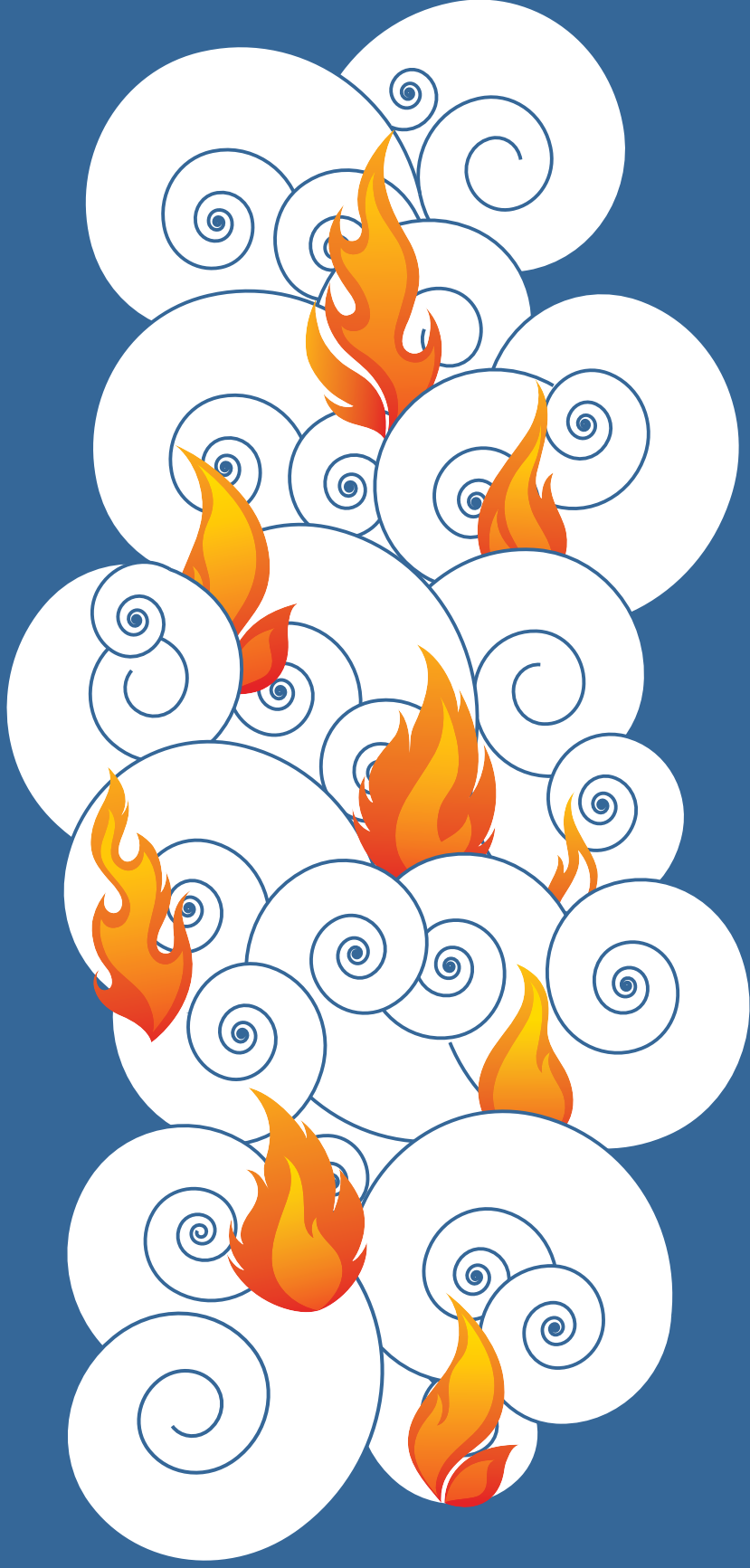


ORDER OF WORSHIP
July 26, AD 2026 11 am

WITH GOD IN THE WILDERNESS



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting Pastor: Darin Travis

Prelude

Affetuoso & Allegro from Fantasia No. 9 by Georg Philipp Telemann

Rachel Ciraldo, flute

Nick Ciraldo, classical guitar

***Welcome and Call to Worship**

From Psalm 95 & 106

Oh come, let us worship and bow down,
Let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts.
For our fathers despised the pleasant land and did not obey the voice of the LORD.

Save us, O LORD our God, from unbelieving hearts,
That we may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise!

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD!
Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

***Hymn of Praise**

“Trinity Song”

***Blessing God**

***Scriptural Call to Confession**

***Prayer of Confession**

Our God and Father, the Almighty, how is it that we have given in so easily to despair? How is it that we have seen your hand at work—in Scripture, in history, and in our very lives—and have still trembled at the prospect of giants? We confess that we have considered the way of faithfulness to be out of touch, impractical, and unrealistic. We’ve preferred our own grumbling to your mighty promises. Forgive us, O Lord, for our wandering hearts. Make us strong. Make us faithful. Amen.

***Silent Confession**

***Assurance of Pardon**

**Standing*

***Greeting and Announcements**

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

Offertory

“Out of My Bondage, Sorrow and Night” by William T. Sleeper

Out of my bondage, sorrow and night, Jesus, I come.
Jesus, I come into thy freedom, gladness and light.
Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of my sickness into thy health, out of want and into thy wealth.
Out of my sin and into thyself, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of my shameful failure and loss, Jesus I come.
Jesus, I come into the glorious gain of thy cross.
Jesus, I come to thee.
Out of earth’s sorrows into thy balm, out of life’s storms and into thy calm.
Out of despair to jubilant psalm, Jesus, I come to thee.

Out of the fear and dread of the tomb, Jesus, I come.
O, I come to thee, out of the depths of ruin untold,
Into the peace of thy sheltering fold.
Ever thy glorious face to behold, Jesus, I come to thee.

Please place your prayer requests and offerings in the plate as it is passed.

Prayer of Dedication

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

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***Song of Preparation**

“Come Ye Sinners”

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Numbers 13:1-2

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, “Send men to spy out the land of Canaan, which I am giving to the people of Israel. From each tribe of their fathers you shall send a man, every one a chief among them.”

Numbers 13:25-14:3

At the end of forty days they returned from spying out the land. And they came to Moses and Aaron and to all the congregation of the people of Israel in the wilderness of Paran, at Kadesh. They brought back word to them and to all the congregation, and showed them the fruit of the land. And they told him, “We came to the land to which you sent us. It flows with milk and honey, and this is its fruit. However, the people who dwell in the land are strong, and the cities are fortified and very large. And besides, we saw the descendants of Anak there. The Amalekites dwell in the land of the Negeb. The Hittites, the Jebusites, and the Amorites dwell in the hill country. And the Canaanites dwell by the sea, and along the Jordan.”

But Caleb quieted the people before Moses and said, “Let us go up at once and occupy it, for we are well able to overcome it.” Then the men who had gone up with him said, “We are not able to go up against the people, for they are stronger than we are.” So they brought to the people of Israel a bad report of the land that they had spied out, saying, “The land, through which we have gone to spy it out, is a land that devours its inhabitants, and all the people that we saw in it are of great height. And there we saw the Nephilim (the sons of Anak, who come from the Nephilim), and we seemed to ourselves like grasshoppers, and so we seemed to them.”

Then all the congregation raised a loud cry, and the people wept that night. And all the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron. The whole congregation said to them, “Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! Why is the Lord bringing us into this land, to fall by the sword? Our wives and our little ones will become a prey. Would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?”

Numbers 14:26-38

And the LORD spoke to Moses and to Aaron, saying, “How long shall this wicked congregation grumble against me? I have heard the grumbings of the people of Israel, which they grumble against me. Say to them, ‘As I live, declares the LORD, what you have said in my hearing I will do to you: your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness, and of all your number, listed in the census from twenty years old and upward, who have grumbled against me, not one shall come into the land where I swore that I would make you dwell, except Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun. But your little ones, who you said would become a prey, I will bring in, and they shall know the land that you have rejected. But as for you, your dead bodies shall fall in this wilderness. And your children shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years and shall suffer for your faithlessness, until the last of your dead bodies lies in the wilderness. According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, a year for each day, you shall bear your iniquity forty years, and you shall know my displeasure.’ I, the LORD, have spoken. Surely this will I do to all this wicked congregation who are gathered together against me: in this wilderness they shall come to a full end, and there they shall die.”

And the men whom Moses sent to spy out the land, who returned and made all the congregation grumble against him by bringing up a bad report about the land— the men who brought up a bad report of the land—died by plague before the LORD. Of those men who went to spy out the land, only Joshua the son of Nun and Caleb the son of Jephunneh remained alive.

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

Colton Underwood

“Giants in the Land”

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Song of Response

“You Are Holy (Prince of Peace)”

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

I. *Maestoso* from Serenade, op. 127 by Mauro Giuliani

Chapel and Sanctuary Flowers: Today’s flowers are given to the glory of God for our great staff and ministers at First Presbyterian Church who do so much for all of us, by Eugenie and Harry Burglass.

Scripture for Next Week: Numbers 21:4–9

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 or by filling out a card in the pew rack. Visitors are welcome and encouraged to scan the visitor form code on the "New Here?" cards.

Aloha Friends! The Prime Time Club (ages 60+) is having a Hawaiian Luau on Thursday, August 6 at 11.30 am in the Gym. Island-style food, tropical décor, and the St. Alban's Ukulele Orchestra! \$35 per person. Register on Church Center, fpcbr.org, or visit the Reception Room Sunday, July 19 and 26. Consider blessing someone else (a musician or another attendee) by purchasing an extra lunch. Registration closes Wednesday, July 29 at midnight.



Put On Your Blue Suede Shoes! Get ready to twist, jive, and rock around the clock at the Sock Hop! Children's Ministry invites our families to a fun-filled evening of music, dancing, games, and sweet treats. Dinner will be served, so come hungry and ready for a night of fellowship and family fun. Dress in your favorite 50s-inspired outfits. Our Sock Hop is Friday, August 7, 6–7.30 pm. Children 9 and younger are free, 10–17 are \$5, adults are \$10. Scan the code to register on Church Center or visit fpcbr.org.



Directory Drive Today! Let's build a photo directory full of faces while we wait for a new pastor! Stop by the Directory Help Desk in the Reception Room after worship. Volunteers are available to help get you connected to the online directory.



Officer Suggestions Now Being Accepted. The Officer Nominating Committee nominates elders and deacons by receiving suggested names of members from the congregation, prayerfully preparing a slate and presenting the slate at the annual October congregational meeting for election. Scan the code or use a card in the pew rack to suggest someone. Please turn in all suggestions by July 31.



Calling All Middle School Students! Join us for a fun-filled Game Night on Wednesday, July 29, at 6 pm at the church. Bring a friend and get ready for an evening of games, laughter, and fellowship. If you have any questions, contact Daniel (daniel@fpcbr.org).

Summer Combined Worship Continues. Each Sunday in July, as well as August 2, we will gather for one 10.30 am service in the Sanctuary. There will be no Sunday school.

A Partnership That Brings Hope. Open Air Ministries is an ecumenical ministry of Christians in Baton Rouge that grew out of the Community Outreach Program of the A.C. Lewis YMCA. The aim of this ministry is to provide both spiritual growth and development and practical needs for the homeless in and around downtown Baton Rouge. First Presbyterian is pleased to partner with Open Air Ministries.

"I Don't Need to Hear God Today." Gerrit Dawson's newest article, "I Don't Need to Hear God Today," is now live. Visit desiringgod.org to read the article.

