## Fort Worth Presbyterian Church



October 15, 2023

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to all who will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers a welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.



To learn more about us, use this QR code



If you are visiting, please register here.

The front of the bulletin and the color of the minister's stole is currently green as this is the time in the Christian Year known as ordinary time or the Sundays after Pentecost. Green represents life and growth in Christ.

"The dependence on God for real spiritual kingdom growth makes us desperate (in a good way) for God to act, and gives us confidence He will."

Unknown

Please turn off or silence all communication devices.

For Free Wi-Fi, go to Settings on your device and select network 'FWPCA'

Courtesy walker and wheelchair are available at the main entrance.

Hearing Assistive Devices (FM Receivers) are at the back sound booth.

† Congregation standing

# Order of the Worship of God

— October 15, 2023 —

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost

Welcome & Announcements

Prepare our Hearts for Worship

#### **ENTERING GOD'S PRESENCE**

The Gospel Greeting

Rev. Keith Berger

Pastor: Grace and peace to you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus

Christ!

People: Amen!

† The Call to Worship

Pastor: Praise the LORD! Praise God in His sanctuary; praise Him in His

mighty heaven.

People: Praise Him for His mighty deeds; praise Him according to His

excellent greatness!

Pastor: Let everything that has breath praise the LORD! Praise the LORD!

Psalm 150:1,2&6

## † Hymn of Praise

#### HOW GREAT THOU ART

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed.

Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee: How great Thou art, how great Thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur, and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; (Chorus)

And when I think that God His Son not sparing, Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, He bled and died to take away my sin. (Chorus)

When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great Thou art. (Chorus)
Words by Stuart K. Hine, 1949; alt.

† Invocation

† A Psalm Reading

Psalm 133

Pastor: Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

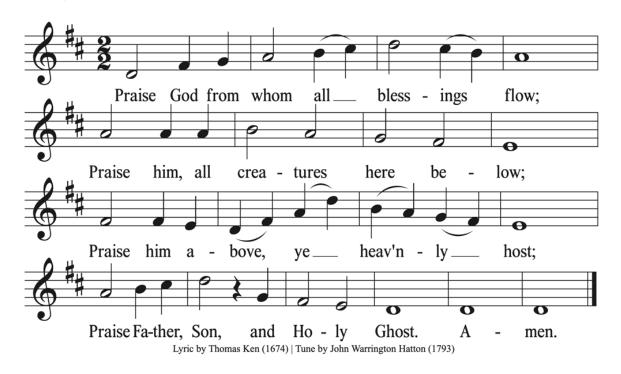
People: It is like the precious oil on the head, running down on the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down on the collar of his robes!

Pastor: It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion!

All: For there the LORD has commanded the blessing, life forevermore.

## † Doxology

**DUKE STREET** 



Confession of Sin

Steve Fults

Elder: Let us now confess our sins together:

People: O Lord, who has mercy on all, help us to hate, fight, and repent

of our sins. For this we pray that You would graciously kindle in us the fire of Your Holy Spirit that we may love and adore

You above all. Amen.

An Adapted Prayer of Ambrose, Bishop of Milan, A. D. 339

Silent Confession

Song of Confession

#### LORD HAVE MERCY (FOR WHAT WE HAVE DONE)



CCLI Song # 7136067 Aaron Keyes | James Tealy | Matt Boswell | Matt Papa
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## † Assurance of Pardon

Elder: There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ

Jesus.

All: Amen!

† The Greeting of Peace

Elder: The peace of Christ be with you!

People: And also with you!

At this time, please greet those around you with the peace of Christ.

## † Song of Renewal

#### IT WAS FINISHED UPON THAT CROSS

How I love the voice of Jesus
On the Cross of Calvary
He declares His work is finished
He has spoken this hope to me
Though the sun had ceased its shining
Though the war appeared as lost
Christ had triumphed over evil
It was finished upon that Cross

Now the curse it has been broken
Jesus paid the price for me
Full the pardon He has offered
Great the welcome that I receive
Boldly I approach my Father
Clothed in Jesus' righteousness
There is no more guilt to carry

It was finished upon that Cross

Death was once my great opponent Fear once had a hold on me But the Son who died to save us Rose that we would be free indeed

Death was once my great opponent
Fear once had a hold on me
But the Son who died to save us
Rose that we would be free indeed
Yes He rose that we would be free indeed
Free from ev'ry plan of darkness
Free to live and free to love
Death is dead and Christ is risen
It was finished upon that Cross

Onward to eternal glory
To my Saviour and my God
I rejoice in Jesus' victory
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross
It was finished upon that Cross
CCLI Song # 7171907

Jonny Robinson | Nigel Hendroff | Rich Thompson © 2021 SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)

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## COMMITTING TO GOD'S KINGDOM

The Sacrament of Baptism

Ford Michael Foley

Parents: Mike and Betsey Foley

Prayer of Intercession

(followed by a time of silent prayer)

Common Prayer

Elder: Let us now join our voices praying:

All: Lord, we pray that Your grace may always follow us and lead

us, so that we may continually live for Your honor through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the

Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Morning Offering & KIWI Release

Children Pre-K through 2nd grade can now be dismissed for KIWI (Kids In Worship Instruction).

Teachers will meet the children in the foyer to take them to class.

After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they may come directly to you, or you may meet them at the back of the auditorium.

QR Code for online giving



## LISTENING TO GOD'S WORD

#### The Reading of the Word

Mark 4:26-29

And he said, "The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. [27] He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. [28] The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. [29] But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

#### The Sermon

Pastor KeithBerger Reformed University Fellowship

Sure Growth

#### Discussion Questions:

- 1) Where are the places you have seen God bring specific kingdom growth in your life and people around you? How did it happen?
- 2) Where are the places you have labored and longed for Kingdom growth that have not appeared? Where do you go with your disappointment and desperation?
- 3) How does labor for the kingdom of God bring humility and confidence?

#### FEASTING AT GOD'S TABLE

#### The Celebration of Communion

### The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is good, right, and our delight that we should at all times and in all

places give thanks to You, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all

the company of Heaven we praise and magnify Your glorious name

evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Consecration

Words of Institution

The Confession

Pastor: Christ our Passover was sacrificed for us!

People: Hallelujah!

Pastor: Let us proclaim the mystery of the Faith:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again. Hallelujah!

Pastor: And now our Holy Master, that with boldness and without

condemnation, we dare to call upon You, the Heavenly God, as our

Father, and say:

All: Our Father, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your

kingdom come, Your will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day, our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we

forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into

temptation, but deliver us from evil; for Yours is the Kingdom

and the Power, and the Glory forever. Amen.

Pastor: The holy gifts of God for the holy people of God. Take them in

remembrance that Christ died for you and feed on him in your hearts

by faith and with thanksgiving. Let us now partake of the feast!

(Clear cups are wine and purple cups are grape juice, Gluten/Dairy free wafers are individually wrapped)

Statements for Communion:

"The body of Christ for you."

"The blood of Christ for you."

"You have new life in Christ."

"You have full forgiveness in Christ."

#### **Understanding Holy Communion**

"For Christ our Passover has also been sacrificed for us, therefore, let us celebrate the feast." – 1 Corinthians 5:7-8

Because we believe the Table belongs to the Lord, it is vital that you come this morning on His terms:

- 1. You must be in communion with Jesus Christ by faith and repentance, trusting Him alone for your salvation.
  - 1 Corinthians 11:27-29
- 2. You must be in communion with your brothers and sisters in Christ. *Matthew 5:23-24; Ephesians 4:1-6*
- 3. You must be in communion with the church (any Bible-believing church) as a baptized member in good standing.
  - Matthew 18:15-18; Hebrews 13:17
- 4. Because we seriously heed Scripture's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:28-29, we invite children who are ready to make a public profession of saving faith to complete the Communicants Class materials available at the book table, arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become regular "communicants" at the Lord's Table. Contact Rebecca York at rebecca@fortworthpca.org.

"But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup." — 1 Corinthians 11:28-29

## Prayers for Those Not Communing

For those searching for truth: Lord Jesus, You claim to be the way, the truth and the life. If what You claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who You are. Give me the ability to follow You no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for You that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that You promise. Amen.

For those who desire to profess faith in Christ: Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through You, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank You for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that You have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

A prayer for those struggling against sin: Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in You the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on You, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that You have set before me, looking only to You, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith: Lord Jesus, thank You for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow You as one of Your disciples. Amen.

#### Communion Song

My Worth is Not in What I Own

My worth is not in what I own
Not in the strength of flesh and bone
But in the costly wounds of love at the cross
My worth is not in skill or name
In win or lose in pride or shame
But in the blood of Christ that flowed at the cross

Chorus

I rejoice in my Redeemer

Greatest treasure Wellspring of my soul

I will trust in Him no other

My soul is satisfied in Him alone

As summer flowers we fade and die

Fame youth and beauty hurry by

But life eternal calls to us at the cross

I will not boast in wealth or might

Or human wisdom's fleeting light

But I will boast in knowing Christ at the cross *Chorus* 

Two wonders here that I confess
My worth and my unworthiness
My value fixed my ransom paid at the cross *Chorus* 

CCLI Song # 7024758

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#### GOING OUT WITH GOD'S BLESSING

## † Song of Sending

WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION

Chorus

We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more

We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up *Chorus* 

In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long
Oh God of Jacob be my strength *Chorus* 

Every vow we've broken and betrayed You are the faithful one And from the garden to the grave Bind us together bring shalom *Chorus* 

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## † The Sending

Pastor: As we now go into the world:

All: May our eyes be fixed on Christ.

Pastor: When we struggle, fear, or fail:

All: May we cast ourselves on the cross of Christ.

Pastor: As we encounter neighbors and co-workers:

All: May we speak and show Christ, for His name's sake.

## † The Blessing

Pastor: May the LORD bless you and keep you; may the LORD make His

face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; may the LORD lift

up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

#### Deacon of the Day

Dowell Stackpole- October 15 Johnny Tassin- October 22 Andy Warren- October 29

#### Save the Date

Tues, Nov 7 – Men's Beer & Brat Night Sat, Nov 18, 6 pm – Skye Peterson in concert

#### Information & Events

**Visitors**: Pick up visitor information at the visitor kiosk in the Fellowship Hall immediately following morning worship.

**Jeremiah Scripture Journals** are available on the fellowship hall table for highlighting and note taking during this sermon series for \$4. Use the QR code to purchase with credit card or cash is accepted.

**FWPC Choir:** Join us in the FWPC choirs for Thursday night rehearsals starting on October 26th at 7 PM. We welcome both adults and teens (ages 13+) to be part of the FWPC Choir. We are also excited to introduce a new FWPC Children's Choir for Kindergarten-5th graders, and a nursery for preschoolers. Our choirs will perform for the annual Lessons and Carols service in December. Scan the QR code to complete an interest form, email justin@fortworthpca.org with questions

Crates for Ukraine 3.0: The MTW Lviv Team, led by Doug and Masha Shepherd, aims to provide personal and humanitarian aid from the hands of churches in the U.S. to churches and displaced communities in Ukraine. FWPC has been a long-time supporter of the Shepherds, and they tell us they are receiving more requests for aid now than at any other time since the war began. This fall, The Fort youth will pack crates as their Thanksgiving service project. In order for them to order supplies to fill these crates, we need your monetary donations! The number and types of crates (basic care, basic meds, or wound care) we can send to Ukraine depend upon your giving. Please donate at continuetogive.com/fwpcu by Sunday, October 29.

#### New Christian Formation Classes

Starting next Sunday, October 22 at 9:00 a.m.

#### **ADULTS**

Corporate Worship: The Liturgy and Story of Scripture will be led by Brandon Eggar and Justin Pierce in the Lecture Hall, October 22-December 17. This class will focus on how worship is a reenactment and participation in the grand story of Christ and how that story shapes us as the people of God.

#### **CHILDREN**

5th-6th Graders (GAP) – Room 209 New City Catechism with Jeff & Amy Thom

3rd-4th Graders – Room 208 Loving God as He Saves the World and Forms the Church (Gospels-Acts) with Candace Hilton

1st-2nd Graders – Room 210 Listening to Jesus (Gospels) with Laura and Kristina Keffer

Pre-K and Kindergarten – Room 211 Show Me Jesus with Beth Stackpole and Judy Judd

Preschool (3's & 4's) – Room 111 Children's Catechism & The Biggest Story Bible Storybook with Carol Fitzgerald

Toddlers – Room 112 Children's Catechism & The Beginner's Gospel Story Bible with Kay Keffer

Infants – Room 110 Nursery







Sundays, 9:00 am, Aug 20-Dec 17 – Christian Formation Classes High School - Room 204 | Middle School - Room 203

Wednesdays, 7:00 pm, Sept 6-Nov 15\* – The Fort Youth Group food, fun, large group lesson, small group discussion

Fri-Sat, October 20-21 – Roctober VIII at Camp Copass in Denton North Texas Presbytery's All-Youth Fall Retreat

\*Wednesday, October 25, 6:30-9:00 pm - Youth Halloween Party Thom Home - 4201 Shannon Drive, Ft. Worth 76116

Friday, December 15 – Youth Christmas Party

Details: fortworthpca.org/youth | Questions? thefort@fortworthpca.org | @ @thefort\_fwpc



#### Fort Worth Presbyterian Church

By God's grace and all for his glory, Fort Worth Presbyterian Church exists to gather for biblically saturated worship, grow together in the life of the gospel, and go out to bear witness to the reign of Christ in all things.

#### **SESSION (ELDERS)**

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David Welch 817-938-0833
Scott Zink 817-395-8376
Ben Dyess Elder Emeritus
John Weiser Elder Emeritus

For Pastoral Care Appointment: 817-731-3300 Prayer Requests: prayer@fortworthpca.org

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