

WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

**Prelude** *Highland Cathedral*

Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb

Stanley Fontenot, piper

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Call to Worship**

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God;

**All: the skies proclaim the Creator's handiwork.**

One: They have no speech, they use no words,

**All: yet their witness goes out through all the earth.**

One: Let us join the chorus of creation; let us raise our voices in resounding praise.

**All: May the words of our mouths and the songs of our hearts be pleasing to the Lord!**

**Hymn #318** *In Christ There Is No East or West*

In Christ there is no east or west, in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord close-binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith, whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west; in him meet south and north.

All Christly souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

**Prayer of Confession**

**God of the Covenant, eighty years ago you called a congregation together to be your hands and feet in Pasadena. Through the years, you have us blessed us with your love and grace and given us faithful members and important work to do. We confess we have not always followed your example. We have not loved one another all the time, or always abided by your law and commandments. Though we have not always offered you our best, you have never wavered in your faithfulness to us. Strengthen us as witnesses to your love for all people. Renew us as ambassadors of your peace. Kindle within us the desire to serve with our hearts and our minds, with our energy and intelligence, with our creativity and our determination. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**New Testament Reading** Colossians 3:12-15

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful.

**Homily** "World Communion"

Rev. Dr. Fairfax Fair

### **Affirmation of Faith (from *A Brief Statement of Faith*)**

**We trust in God, whom Jesus called Abba, Father. We trust in Jesus Christ, fully human, fully God. We trust in God the Holy Spirit, everywhere the giver and renewer of life. The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church. The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture, engages us through the Word proclaimed, claims us in the waters of baptism, feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation, and calls women and men to all ministries of the church. In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace. In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!" With believers in every time and place, we rejoice that nothing in life or in death can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.**

**Offering** *O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing*

arr. Richard Walters

Marilyn Wilkins, soprano

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace.  
My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,  
To spread through all the earth abroad the honor of Thy name.  
To God all glory, praise and love be now and ever giv'n  
By saints below and saints above the church in earth and heav'n.

### **Holy Communion**

#### **Invitation to the Lord's Table**

#### **Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer**

#### **Words of Institution**

#### **After Communion Prayer**

#### **Hymn #649...*Amazing Grace***

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved.  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!  
Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come.  
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.  
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

#### **Benediction**

#### **Congregational Meeting**

#### **Postlude** *Scotland the Brave*

Anonymous

Stanley Fontenot, piper



## Remember in your thoughts and prayers:

**Health concerns:** Louis McCaleb; Donna Morrison; Bill McPhail; Jane Christopher; Imelda Carrillo and daughter Selena; Baywood Crossing residents and staff; Ronny Carter (Betty Pendleton's cousin); Tim Tovey (Joan Gibertini's son); Ron Grimes (Thelma Jean Paradysz's son-in-law); Mary Knapik; Joan Keith; Kevin Smith; Steve Dunn (Elois Murray's son); Linda Dupler; Laura Weigler.

**Loss of loved one:** Benny Sprague families (Ninness and Dahnke)

## Upcoming Events @ FPC - *more details at [fpcpasadena.org](http://fpcpasadena.org)*

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***In-Sanctuary Worship Next Sunday, October 11, 10:30 am.*** See Reopening Protocols below.

**Flu Shot Clinic Tomorrow, October 5, 1:30-3:30 pm under the porte-cochère** (*drive-thru in front of the church*). The clinic is provided by Walgreens Pharmacy and Nola Bray. Covid precautions will be taken. Drive through in front of the church. Everyone is welcome from ages 7 years and up. COST:

WITH INSURANCE: Bring your insurance card and cash to pay what insurance does not cover.

WITHOUT INSURANCE: Pay cash at time of Flu Clinic.

a. Age 7-64 or pregnant is \$40.99

b. Age 65 or greater is \$72.99

c. We may have vouchers available to cover your cost

**Today - October 4 at 10:00 am- Drive in Worship** - We will celebrate the 80th Anniversary of FPC and World Communion Sunday. We will also be receiving the Peace and Global Witness Offering.

**Called Congregational meeting after drive in worship TODAY, October 4,** to elect elders and deacons for the Class of 2023. Class of 2023 Deacons: Mark Clemmons, Claudia Kreitz, Linda Ross, Iliana Vela. Class of 2023 Elders: Nola Bray, Garland DeLoach, Frank Kucera, Lou Anne Sinor. Trustee Class of 2023: Lou Anne Sinor

***Brown Bag and Bible Wednesdays at 12:00 pm.*** Make your lunch, grab your Bible, and click the link for this Zoom meeting. If you are not on Fairfax's email list and want to be a part of the Bible study, please email Fairfax at [revfair@fpcpasadena.org](mailto:revfair@fpcpasadena.org) to add your name. If needed, contact the church office for Zoom link at [office@fpcpasadena.org](mailto:office@fpcpasadena.org).

***Deacons meet this Tuesday, October 6, at 6 pm via Zoom teleconference.*** An invitation will be sent to your email. Contact Donna Coe or Rhonda Haskins with questions.

***Gloria's Tamale Sale - \$10/dozen*** - Order chicken or pork tamales by Wednesday, October 7. Pickup Saturday, October 10, 10 am - Noon at the FPC front drive-thru. Call, text, or email Ruth Askine at 713-515-9248 or [ruthaskine@gmail.com](mailto:ruthaskine@gmail.com). The purchase of these tamales supports Gloria, a hardworking handicapped mom with three children.

**FPC Ministries and Groups Zoom Videoconference Meetings.** To schedule a Zoom videoconference meeting with your ministry or group, contact Barbara at [office@fpcpasadena.org](mailto:office@fpcpasadena.org).

## **Emergency Contact for each member needed for our church records.**

We are updating our records and want to have an emergency contact for everyone. Please contact the church at 281-991-8700 (*leave a message*) or email at [office@fpcpasadena.org](mailto:office@fpcpasadena.org) with your designated Emergency Contact. All information will be kept confidential. Thanks!

## **First Presbyterian Church of Pasadena Phase One Reopening Protocols**

For at least the next year, we anticipate our lives will be shaped by the timeline set by COVID-19. We face difficult choices between conflicting needs, wants, and imperatives. We anticipate that we will be continuously evaluating what worship and all other church functions look like.

Despite our best efforts to provide a safe worship experience, conditions may again require the closing of the building. The pastor, in consultation with church leaders, will use CDC, Harris County, and PCUSA guidelines and good judgment to determine how to promote safety in reopening FPCP while actively monitoring local transmission rates of COVID-19. To preserve the health of our members, if circumstances change and worshipping together is not wise, services will again be virtual only.

We recognize that some of our members have underlying health issues or risk factors. Their health and safety must be at the forefront of our considerations. Persons with a high morbidity risk from COVID-19 are urged to stay home and continue to worship virtually. We will nonetheless strive to promote safe, in-person worship experiences for all that do not discriminate against persons with disabilities or high-risk conditions.

### **Church Physical Set Up:**

- Doors will be left open so no one has to touch a door handle. This includes the designated entry door [the front door under the porte-cochere] and the doors into the sanctuary.
- No-Touch Hand Sanitizer dispensers will be installed in the Narthex.
- Offering plates will be placed by the baptismal font.
- Pews will be marked so people space themselves safely and avoid contact.
- Hymnals, Bibles, friendship folders, offering envelopes, Kleenex, etc. will be removed from pews.
- Signs will be posted that only one person at a time is to be in the restroom and additional signs will be posted to wipe handles touched with sanitizing wipes.
- The Church kitchen will remain closed.
- Signs encouraging hand washing and mandating face mask use (covering nose and mouth) will be posted in the Narthex.
- Signs encouraging social distancing will be posted in the narthex as well as the sanctuary.
- Sanitizing wipes will be available as needed.
- Gloves will be available in the Narthex and at the back of the church.
- One microphone per speaker will be set up.
- Camera will be set up to provide option of live streaming the service

### **Worship Procedures**

- Everyone in the building and on the church grounds must wear a cloth or medical mask. Members are strongly encouraged to bring their own. We may have some available, while supplies last. Individuals uncomfortable wearing a face mask or with a medical condition that makes wearing a mask problematic may continue to participate in our on-line services.
- Social distancing of a minimum of six feet must be observed at all times, with the exception of members who live in the same household.
- Non-contact infrared thermometers will be used to take temperatures upon entry. Anyone with a temperature of 100.2 and higher will not be allowed into the building.
- Names of worshipers will be recorded as they enter to keep track of who has been part of the worship experience in the event that they need to be contacted.
- Greeters will be asked to stand back a minimum of six feet and welcome folks verbally.
- Bulletins and announcements will continue to be available online for the live streamed service.
- Bulletins will not be distributed to participate in the service in the sanctuary. Information will be projected on the screens at the front of the sanctuary.
- We will present shortened services to minimize risk.

*Worship Procedures continued...*

- Live streaming on YouTube or recorded services will continue for those who are not comfortable returning to 'in-person' worship
- Soloist may sing from behind a three-sided plexiglass shield.
- There will be no congregational or choral singing. It has been determined that singing is among the riskier behaviors for spreading droplets/aerosols which can carry the virus a significant distance and remain suspended in the air.
- Worshipers will leave by row, as directed.

**Other Changes to Normal Practices**

- Online (ZOOM) continues for Brown Bag, Session and ministry meetings, PW, Book Group, Wonderful Wednesday, etc.
- Office open by appointment. As on Sundays, masks required for staff and visitors.
- Forego November celebration of communion.
- Use of building by outside groups remains suspended.
- Congregants who are sick or who have had close contact with a person who has tested positive for COVID-19 are to stay home.
- Local health officials will be contacted if a person diagnosed with COVID-19 has been in the church and this information also will be communicated with members so they are aware of potential exposure. The Clerk of Session, with the assistance of the church office, will be responsible to make the communications.

**DISCONTINUE:**

- Children's Sermon
- Passing the Peace, hugs, handshakes, elbow bumps, etc.
- Physical use of Bibles and Hymnals
- Nursery
- Coffee
- Use of water fountains