

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD’S WORD

CHIMES

(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

God of power, may the boldness of your Spirit transform us, the gentleness of your Spirit lead us, and the gifts of your Spirit be our goal and our strength. Amen.

PRELUDE *Chorale and Variation on ‘Vater Unser’*
Felix Mendelssohn

INTROIT *Jubilate Deo* (Be Joyful in the Lord) Michael Praetorius
The Sanctuary Choir
Jubilate Deo, alleluia!

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Let all who are faithful offer their prayers to God.
God preserve us from trouble and surround us with your steadfast love.
Shout for joy for happy are those who find God’s love.
Let us worship God whose strength meets us here.

†OPENING HYMN, No. 466 *O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing*
AZMON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy,
You sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost.
We confess that we have strayed from you
and turned aside from your way.
We are misled by pride, for we see ourselves pure
when we are stained, and great when we are small.
We have failed in love, neglected justice, and ignored your truth.
Have mercy, O God, and forgive our sin.
Return us to the paths of righteousness
through Jesus Christ, our Savior.**

(Continue your personal prayer of confession in silence)

KYRIE ELEISON, No. 572 Congregation and Choir

**Lord, have mercy upon us;
Christ, have mercy upon us;
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†ACT OF PRAISE *Gloria Patri* MEINEKE

**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.**

†PASSING OF THE PEACE

Stand, as you are able, and greet one another saying: **“The peace of Christ be with you.”** Respond by saying: **“And also with you.”**
(Children are invited to come forward now for A Time with Children.)

THE WORD

ANTHEM *The Rainbow Valentine* Suzanne H. Paterson
The Children’s Choirs - Raynelle Stanage, conductor

Away, ‘way back in the long ago, The passengers complained.
Noah built an ark of wood. Then the Lord looked down from heaven on high
‘Cause ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago, And the sun came out to play.
God told him that he should! And ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago,
Then he loaded the animals two by two, The raindrops ran away.
And the rains came tumbling down. Away, ‘way back in the long ago,
And ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago, Noah looked around for land.
The whole world simply drowned! And ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago,
But God sent a rainbow, A mountain top looked grand!
The colors of his love divine. Then the animals danced out two by two
Yes, God sent a rainbow, And the dry land felt so good,
A rainbow valentine. That ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago,
Away, ‘way back in the long ago, They parked that ark of wood!
Forty days and nights it rained. A rainbow gift for me and you,
And ‘way, ‘way back in the long ago, A rainbow valentine!

A TIME WITH CHILDREN Betty Henderson

Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4–first grade who will be in the The Worship Center, may exit at this time through the right front door, where they will be escorted to the CE Building.

Leader: As you depart from us now, the children of God say:

Children: God be with you as you stay.

Congregation: God be with you as you go.

**We are marching in the light of God,
we are marching in the light of God.**

**We are marching, marching,
we are marching in the light of God.**

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Nehemiah 2:11-20
Pew Bible, page 410; large print, page 533
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Matthew 4:1-11
Pew Bible, page 3; large print, page 3
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Now We Have Come to Our Kingdom*
Rev. Dr. Robert Shelton

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

†HYMN, No. 452 *O Day of God, Draw Nigh* ST. MICHAEL

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING

Offertory *Our Heavenly Father* Jean Sibelius
Kristen DiNinno, mezzo-soprano

Our heavenly Father, who in love abideth, Forgive our debts as others we forgive.
We worship Thee, we praise thy holy name. Thou ledest not thy children in temptation;
Teach us thy children evermore to love thee; Deliver us from evil and all sin.
Thy will be done in earth as heaven today. Thine is the kingdom, thine the power and glory,
O give us grace to meet the coming morrow, World without end forevermore, amen.

†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

†Prayer of Dedication

†HYMN, No. 420 *God of Grace and God of Glory*
CWM RHONDDA

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE *Amen* African-American spiritual
The Sanctuary Choir

†POSTLUDE *Toccata on ‘Vater Unser’* Felix Mendelssohn

† Worshipers standing if able.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Clarence Frierson
by his family.

Elder Reader: Brett McCulloch
Ushers: Anne Jenkins (captain), Oliver Jenkins, Marilyn Gallagher, Neil Erwin,
Glenda Erwin
Extended Session: Brantley Hodges
Worship Center Leaders: Anna Gnann, Sharon Cage
Acolytes: Carl Hodgson, Emma Day Grantham

WORSHIP NOTES

THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

James D. Cawthon—February 21, 2011

We express sincere sympathy to Nita and family in the death of her husband, and we rejoice with them in the assurance of resurrection.

Ministers: All Members of the Congregation

Session Ministry Moderators:

John Frierson	Administration	johnfrierson60@yahoo.com
John Guth	Church Facilities	johnguth@bellsouth.net
Rick LaBorde	Outreach	claborde@wpspump.com
David Oliver	Stewardship	dmo@rcco.com
Lynn Chance	Congregational Life	LWChance@att.net
Robert Folsom	Adult	robertfolsom@lendersoption.net
David Butterfield	Youth	david@msrlaw.com
Anna Gnann	Children	annagnann@yahoo.com
George Fritze	Evangelism	kinggpf@yahoo.com
Bruce Henderson	Worship	bhenderson@highlandclinic.com
Lisa Schrott	Communications	lschro@lsuhsc.edu
Julie Blewer	Staff Committee	jblewer@djslawfirm.com

Church Staff:

Pendleton B. Peery	Pastor
Bryan L. McDowell	Associate Pastor
Sarah Cooper Searight	Associate Pastor
Hollice S. Watson	Organist/Choir Director
Lindsey Wells Peery	Director of Children's Ministries
Cindy K. Natale	Director, First Presbyterian Day School
Rebecca L. Mayfield	PCHAS Director, Child and Family Program
Ginger Collier	Communications Director
Peggy E. Sartin	Administrative Coordinator
Susan B. Whaley	Church Secretary
Lona L. Lockard	Staff Secretary
George L. Beaner III	Maintenance Coordinator
Jeff A. McKenzie	Sexton
Sherry L. Odom	Housekeeper
Lillie M. Sutton	Housekeeper

WE WELCOME FRIENDS AND VISITORS. This church is for anyone who wants to be counted as a disciple of Jesus Christ, and who wants to be included in its worship and work. Thank you for signing your name and address on the attendance pad. There is an information center with material about our church and Presbyterianism in the foyer of the Jordan Street entrance to the sanctuary.

CHILDCARE IS PROVIDED FOR PRESCHOOL CHILDREN by Sitters' Registry and church volunteers. Nursery: Room CE-106; Extended Session during 11:00 a.m. worship for ages 2 yrs.—3 yrs.: Room CE-105 and The Worship Center for ages 4 yrs.—first grade: Room CE-113.

CHILDREN ARE WELCOME IN WORSHIP! Bibles are available for use during worship; they are found at the end of every pew. We also provide **Worship Bags** designed for children elementary age and younger. The worship bags can be found in the narthex and at the front entrances to the sanctuary. Please return them after the service.

WE WELCOME Rev. Dr. Robert M. Shelton to our worship service this morning. Dr. Shelton received his Th.M. (1959) and Ph.D. (1965) from Princeton Theological Seminary, and joined the faculty of Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in 1971. Prior to his appointment, he taught at Memphis Theological Seminary and pastored churches in Tennessee and New Jersey. At Austin, Dr. Shelton taught preaching and was named the Jean Brown Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics in 1982. He served as academic dean for fourteen years before he was elected President of Austin Seminary in 1997, and served until his retirement in 2002. The chapel at Austin which sits on a hill at the center of the campus was named the Shelton Chapel in honor of Dr. Shelton, who himself was the center and heart of the Seminary for many years. Since retirement in 2002, Dr. Shelton has served as interim pastor for churches in Texas and our own First Presbyterian from December 2006 until November 2007.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SHREVEPORT

A Service for the Worship of God
Eleven O'Clock
February 27, 2011
Eight Sunday in Ordinary Time



Then they said, "Let us start building!"
So they committed themselves to the
common good.

- Nehemiah 2:18

Our Mission

Responding to God's grace and building upon the strength of our Reformed tradition, we, the members of First Presbyterian Church, seek to: Proclaim joyfully the Good News, revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ; live as a welcoming and nurturing community of faith through worship, prayer, study and fellowship; and serve others - at home and beyond our community with love, compassion, respect, justice and mercy, in the name of Jesus Christ and after His example. May God empower us by the Holy Spirit to fulfill our call to be God's people.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us worship God.