

PREPARING TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

CHIMES

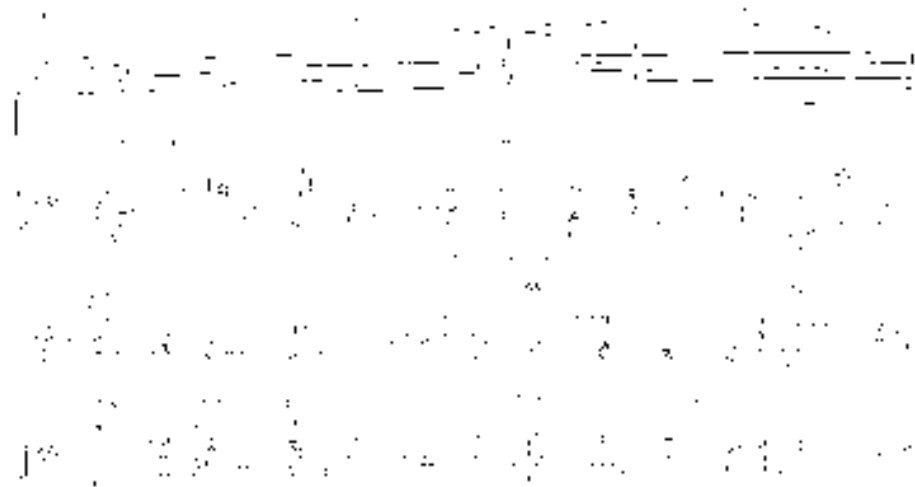
(The congregation is asked to pray for the blessing of God upon this service.)

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 *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* Paul Manz

INTROIT *Bless the Lord* Taizé chant

(Sung three times: first by the choir, then second and third with the congregation joining.)



†CALL TO WORSHIP

Hear, O Israel: the Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your might.

-Deuteronomy 6:4-5

†OPENING HYMN, No. 482 *Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty*
LOBE DEN HERREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O Lord,
when we have been willing to be entertained
but not changed;
when we have allowed our insights
to harden into clichés;
when we have spoken
only to consolidate our own position;
when we have called on you
only to hear the sound of our own voices;
when our celebrations have left others
with nothing to enjoy.

(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.

Set us free from the prison of grudging hearts,
mean desires,
resentful spirits.

Give us the courage to act with justice
and generosity,
and draw us into your love
that does not calculate or keep score
but welcomes all.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

†LENTEN ACT OF PRAISE, No. 84 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

In the cross of Christ I glory, All the light of sacred story
Towering o'er the wrecks of time; Gathers round its head sublime.

†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

A TIME WITH CHILDREN Cathie Dodson

Children, ages 2-3 yrs. who will be going to Extended Session and children, ages 4-first grade who will be in 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 Ephesians 5:8-14
Pew Bible, page 183; large print, page 237
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 58:1-9
Pew Bible, page 647; large print, 841
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Getting Our Priorities Straight: Having it Our Way*
Rev. Sarah Cooper-Searight

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

†AFFIRMATION OF FAITH - *from* Colossians 1:15-20

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

†HYMN, No. 400 *When We Are Living* SOMOS DEL SEÑOR

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING
Offertory *Create in Me a Clean Heart* Jeff Reeves
Amy Davis, Kristen DiNinno, and André Chiang

Create in me a clean heart, Create in me a clean heart,
Make my spirit right and true. Give me strength to trust and obey.
Guide me with your wisdom, Lord, Call me with your voice of love
As I seek to follow you. To the light of your perfect way.
God of creation and Lord of my life, Restore in me your joy, the gift of life anew;
Show me how I can be And then shall my mouth sing songs of praise,
More like you in all that I do, For all that comes from you.
In word and thought and deed.

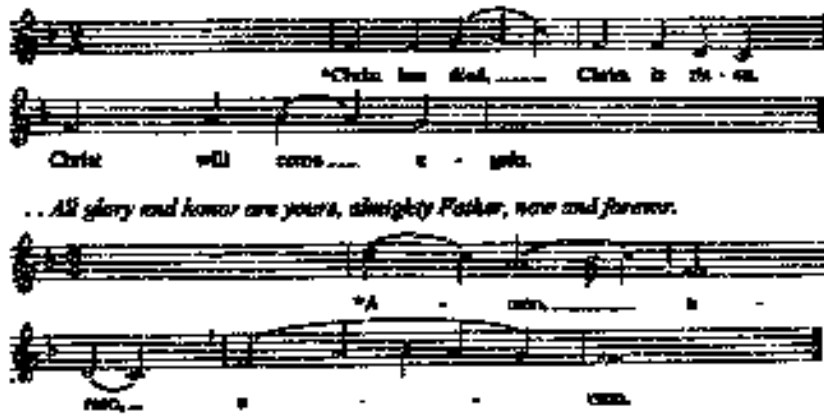
†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise. . .



Great to the mystery of faith:



The Lord's Prayer
Communion of the People
Prayer after Communion

†HYMN, No. 391 *Take My Life* HENDON

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE *Bless the Lord* Taizé chant
The Sanctuary Choir

Bless the Lord, my soul, Bless the Lord, my soul,
And bless God's holy name. Who leads me into life.

†POSTLUDE *Fantasia in C Major* J. S. Bach

† Worshipers standing if able.

Elder Reader: Elton Richey
Ushers: Neil Erwin (captain), Glenda Erwin, Harriet Daggett, John Guth, Denise Hiller, Margaret Schuetze, Paul Schuetze, Carol Shockey, Terrell Sugar
Extended Session: Patricia Porter
Worship Center Leader: Lindsey Wells Peery

The flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in loving memory of Mary and Dan Blanchard
By Zama Dexter, Mary Anne Selber, and Will Blanchard.

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.

WORSHIP NOTES

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.

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@wpsump.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



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SHREVEPORT

A Service for the Worship of God
Eleven O'Clock
April 3, 2011
Fourth Sunday in Lent

"At it's core, worship is an experience that transforms the heart..Worship is right harmony, all sounds of discord gone, all injustice banished. Every act of worship, no matter how private or public, how discreet or elaborate, enacts God's dream for the world. By learning to look for it, by opening ourselves to sensing the awe and wonder if the dance of worship, we might glimpse the ripples of God."

Diana Butler Bass,
Christianity for the Rest of Us

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Let us worship God.