

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 *I Danced in the Morning* J. Wayne Kerr

INTROIT *I Love the Lord*
African-American spiritual

I love the Lord, who heard my cry Long as I live and troubles rise,
And pitied every groan. I’ll hasten to God’s throne.

†CALL TO WORSHIP

I love the Lord, because God has heard my voice.
Therefore I will call on You as long as I live.

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to God in the presence of all the people.

I will offer a thanksgiving sacrifice and call upon the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to God in the presence of all the people, in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your midst, O Jerusalem. Praise the Lord!

Psalm 116

†OPENING HYMN, No. 111

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing! GELOBT SEI GOTT

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasure we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

(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.)

ANTHEM *Easter Affirmation* Harriet Willoughby
The Children’s Choir; Raynelle Stanage, conductor
The Youth Bell Choir

Christians, welcome Easter day! Christ has died! Christ has risen!
Christ our Lord rose from the grave! Christ will come again!
Join together to proclaim: Alleluia! Amen!

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Betty Henderson

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Georgiann Elizabeth Halla
daughter of Jimmie Halla
William Harper Martin
son of Abby Kemper Martin and Terry Martin

†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.

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 Bldg.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 133
Pew Bible, page 543; large print, page 706
(Bibles are located in the racks beneath the pews.)

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 20:19-31
Pew Bible, page 108; large print, page 141
This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Peace Be With You*
Rev. Sarah Cooper Searight

RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD

†HYMN, No. 399 *We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight*
DUNLAP’S CREEK

RECOGNITION OF SENIORS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERING
Offertory *These Things Did Thomas Count as Real* PROSPECT
Text by Thomas Troeger
The Sanctuary Choir

These things did Thomas count as real: His reasoned certainties denied
The warmth of blood, the chill of steel, That one could live when one had died,
The grain of wood, the heft of stone, Until his fingers read like braille
The last frail twitch of flesh and bone. The markings of the spear and nail.
The vision of his skeptic mind May we, O God, by grace believe
Was keen enough to make him blind And thus the risen Christ receive,
To any unexpected act Whose raw imprinted palms reached out
Too large for his small world of fact. And beckoned Thomas from his doubt.

†Doxology, No. 592 OLD HUNDREDTH

†Prayer of Dedication

†HYMN, No. 425 *Lord of Light, Your Name Outshining*
ABBOT’S LEIGH

†CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

†RESPONSE *Go with Us, Lord* TALLIS’ CANON
The Sanctuary Choir

Go with us, Lord, and guide the way That in Your Spirit strong and true
Through this and every coming day, Our lives may be our gift to You.

†POSTLUDE *Improvisation on an Easter Hymn* Hollice S. Watson

† Worshipers standing if able.

The flowers today are given to the glory of God
and in honor of Bill Broyles,
with heartfelt gratitude by his family.

Elder Reader: David Oliver

Ushers: David Hiller, Doug Caulkins, Eric Gnnann, Zama Dexter, Jean Mendenhall,
Lisa Schrott

Extended Session: Sabra Bushnell

Worship Center Leaders: Anna Gnnann, Gene Hodgson

Acolytes: Camille Tharpe, Kate Tharpe

THE CHURCH TRIUMPHANT

Leland Graves McCullough, Jr.—May 1, 2011

*We express sincere sympathy to Johnette McCullough 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@wspump.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
Rob Ajluni	Children	robajluni@hotmail.com
George Fritze	Evangelism	kinggpf@yahoo.com
Bruce Henderson	Worship	bhenderson@highlandclinic.com
Elton Richey	Communications	ebrlaw@bellsouth.net
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

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.

TODAY IS SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY and we are honoring those from our congregation who will be graduating this year: Jay Meyers, Bowen McCulloch, Andrew Mayfield, Katie Frierson, Bennett Updegraff, Katelyn Williams, Oliver Ameen.

THE ARTWORK on the cover of the bulletin is a 17th century, oil on canvas called *The Incredulity of Saint Thomas* painted by the Italian artist, Michelangelo Merisi da Caravaggio.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN
SHREVEPORT

A Service for the Worship of God
Eleven O'Clock
May 8, 2011
Third Sunday of Easter



The Incredulity of Saint Thomas

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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