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ORDER OF WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 16, 2025 | 8:15 AM



FPC HOUSTON

A MEDITATION BEFORE WORSHIP

As we gather in this space set apart to glorify God, let us take a moment to reflect on the power and necessity of forgiveness. Consider any hurt you carry and think of it as a stone in your heart. Invite in compassion and let go of resentment.

Think of someone you need to forgive or seek forgiveness from. Hold them in your heart and silently offer grace. Remember, forgiveness is a gift to yourself. Choose to forgive. Choose to heal.

As we prepare for worship, may our hearts be open to love and understanding.

PRELUDE | *Be Still and Know* | Arr. Lloyd Larson

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

Jon Crantz, Pastor of Community Life

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather today to celebrate the deep, deep love of Jesus, a love that surrounds us like an ocean.

His love is vast and unending, reaching into the depths of our hearts.

In times of joy and in times of sorrow, His love remains our anchor.

We come to be renewed by His grace and to share that love with one another.

Let us open our hearts to the depth of His mercy and the breadth of His compassion.

Together, we worship the one who offers forgiveness and calls us to forgive.

Come, let us worship in the fullness of His love.

Let us worship the Lord!

GATHERING HYMN | *O The Deep Deep Love Of Jesus* | EBENEZER

1 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast, un³ - mea - sured,
2 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus— spread his praise from
3 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, love of ev - ery

bound - less, free! Roll - ing as a might - y o - cean
shore to shore! How he loves us, ev - er loves us,
love the best! 'Tis an o - cean vast of bless - ing,

in its³ full - ness o - ver me! Un - der - neath me,
chang - es nev - er, nev - er - more! How he watch - es
'tis a ha - ven sweet of rest! Oh, the deep, deep

all a - round me, is the cur - rent of thy love—lead - ing on - ward,
o'er his loved ones, died to call them all his own; how for them he's
love of Je - sus— 'tis a heaven of heavens to me; and it lifts me

lead - ing home - ward, to thy glo - rious rest a - bove!
in - ter - ced - ing, watch - ing o'er them from the throne!
up to glo - ry, for it lifts me up to thee!

The prelude offers the opportunity to transition. We set aside our cares and set our hearts toward worshipping God.

Please stand

We proclaim the reason we have gathered.

In John's Gospel, water symbolizes salvation and new life, both refreshing and cleansing. Our opening hymn connects this with the vastness of Jesus' love. Love, like an ocean current, is boundless and freely carries us to eternal rest. Just as ocean waters spread, so should our praise of Jesus' saving death (st. 2). His love surpasses all others, his blessings are oceanic, and his rest is sweet and everlasting (st. 3). The sturdy Welsh tune EBENEZER, though in a minor key, should be sung vigorously, reflecting the text's message

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION

Keith Hickey, Elder

As God's chosen people, we are called to live in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Yet, we often fall short of this calling. Let us come before God in humility, acknowledging our need for forgiveness and grace, beginning with a moment for silent reflection.

A Moment of Silence

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, we confess that we have not always clothed ourselves in compassion and kindness. We have held onto grievances and failed to forgive as You have forgiven us. Help us to bear with one another and to put on love, that we may live in perfect unity. Cleanse our hearts and renew our spirits, that we may reflect Your love in our lives. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the good news! In Christ, we are forgiven and made new.

Thanks be to God for His mercy and grace!

As we forgive others, we are reminded of the love that binds us together in perfect unity.

By God's renewing grace, we will live in compassion and kindness, reflecting the love of Christ in all we do. Amen.

Please stand

RESPONDING WITH ASSURANCE | *He Will Hold Me Fast*



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;
3. For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in his ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.
Jus - tice has been sat - is - fied. He will hold me fast.



I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His prom - is - es shall last;
Raised with Him to end - less life, He will hold me fast.



For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast. ____
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast. ____
'Till our faith is turned to sight when He comes at last! ____



He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;



For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.

Please be seated

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Keith Hickey

Because we have been reconciled to God and one another, we use this moment to bless one another with God's peace.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Heidelberg Catechism - Lord's Day 1

What is your only comfort in life and in death?

That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

SONG OF AFFIRMATION | Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me



1. What gift of grace is Je - sus my re - deem - er There is no more for hea - ven now to
2. The night is dark but I am not for - sak - en For by my side the Sav - iour he will
3. No fate I dread I know I am for - giv - en The fu - ture sure the price it has been
4. With ev - ery breath I long to fol - low Je - sus For he has said that he will bring me



give He is my joy my right - eous - ness and free - dom My stead - fast
stay I la - bor on in weak - ness and re - joic - ing For in my
paid For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my par - don And he was
home And day by day I know he will re - new me Un - til I



love my deep and bound - less peace To this I hold my hope is on - ly
need his pow - er is dis - played To this I hold my Shep - herd will de -
raised to o - ver - throw the grave To this I hold my sin has been de -
stand with joy be - fore the throne To this I hold my hope is on - ly



Je - sus For my life is whol - ly bound to his _____ Oh how
fend_ me Through the deep - est val - ley he will lead _____ Oh the
feat - ed Je - sus now and ev - er is my plea _____ Oh the
Je - sus All the glo - ry ev - er - more to him _____ When the



strange and di - vine I can sing all is mine Yet not I but through Christ in me
night has been won and I shall o - ver - come Yet not I but through Christ in me
chains are re - leased I can sing I am free Yet not I but through Christ in me
race is com - plete still my lips shall re - peat Yet not I but through Christ in me

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Please be seated

MESSAGE | Forgive One Another (Colossians 3:12-14)

Courtney McLaughlin,
Pastor of Equipping

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD | *Goodness Of God*

1. I love You, Lord. Oh, Your mercy never fails me.
All my days, I've been held in Your hands.
From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

(chorus) All my life, You have been faithful.
All my life, You have been so, so good.
With every breath that I am able,
I will sing of the goodness of God.

2. I love Your voice. You have led me through the fire.
In darkest night, You are close like no other.
I've known You as a father, I've known You as a friend.
I have lived in the goodness of God. (chorus)

(bridge) Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.
With my life laid down, I'm surrendered now. I give You everything.
Your goodness is running after, it's running after me.

SENDING

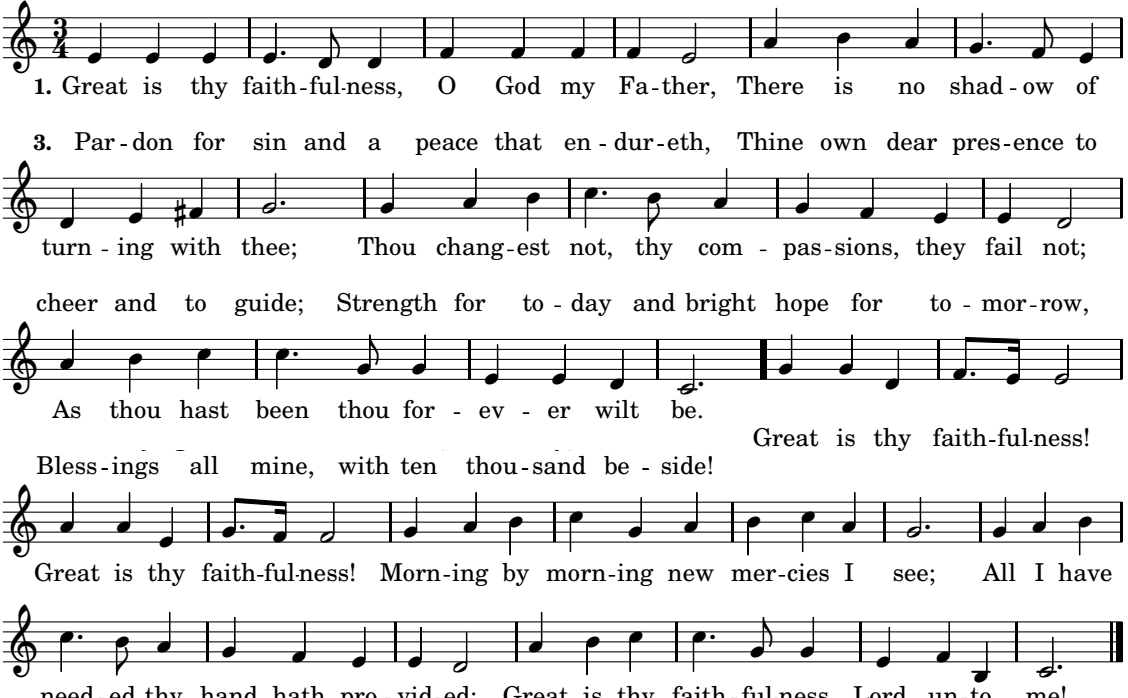
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Jon Crantz

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come; thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. AMEN.

Please stand

SENDING HYMN | *Great is Thy Faithfulness* | FAITHFULNESS



1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, There is no shad-ow of
3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, Thine own dear pres-ence to
turn - ing with thee; Thou chang-est not, thy com - pas-sions, they fail not;
cheer and to guide; Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor-row,
As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness!
Bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be - side!
Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have
need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed; Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

BENEDICTION

Jon Crantz

POSTLUDE | *Ubi Caritas et Amor* | Gerald Near

(Where dwelleth charity and love, there God is found)

He Will Hold Me Fast © 2013 Getty Music Publishing; Matthew Merker Music
Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me © 2018 CityAlight Music; Farren Love And War Publishing; Integrity's Alleluia! Music
Goodness Of God © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon; SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; Bethel Music Publishing

MUSICIANS

Dan Wagner (Conductor & Director of Worship), Jeong-Suk Bae (Organist & Accompanist),
Owen Teixeira (Djembe), Curtis A. Bronzan (Guitar), Cassie Bronzan (Vocals), and Kellan Dunlap (Keyboard & Vocals)

FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today to the glory of God and in memory of May Bell Smith Sterling and Virgil and Maybell Harris by Julie and Victor Harris, their children and grandchildren.

NEW COVENANT PARTNERS

Please welcome our new Covenant Partners who joined FPC on February 2, 2025.

Kevin Berry

James Carr

Chad Hammond

Cindy Quackenbush

Kristen Berry

Luisa Carr

Erin Hermes

Cathrine Welch

Dan Boltz

Ryan Dickey

Michael Hermes

Tami Boltz

Tenley Dickey

Ashley Kennedy

Caring Ministry Updates

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the following individuals:

Lynn Smith for the loss of her father, **Brooks Simmons Boyd**, on Tuesday, January 28, 2025. Condolences to his family.

Angel Bales for the loss of her dear friend, **Dr. Wanda Lou Shields**, on Saturday February 8, 2025.

Upcoming Memorial Service

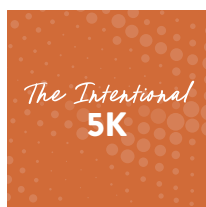
Brooks Simmons Boyd: Tues | Feb 18 | 11 AM | Sanctuary

Missions Update

Today in Worship: Main Street Ministries

Today in worship, we are pleased to welcome **Deysi Crespo, Executive Director, Main Street Ministries (MSM)**. MSM, a plant of FPC Houston and a long-time priority partner is dedicated to helping individuals and families facing poverty, homelessness, and other struggles build stable, meaningful lives through love, faith, and support. They offer an array of programs and workshops focused on securing housing, achieving financial stability, and moving toward sustainable independence. As a result of your generosity, Main Street Ministries received \$95K per year in financial support in 2024, in addition to donated rent and maintenance costs of approximately \$370K annually. Nearly half a million Houstonians live in poverty. Your commitment to *Flourish the City* allows MSM to help those they touch build bridges out of poverty.

Cultivating Community



Intentional 5K: Log Your Invite

Have you invited a colleague to coffee, encouraged a pew mate to join you in Sunday School, or simply invited another parent to join your family at the park? We want to know! Log your invite at a poster stand in the Narthex or Palm Court or online at fpchouston.org/intentional5k.

PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Curtis A. Bronzan, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Jon Crantz, Pastor of Community Life

Rev. Dr. Courtney McLaughlin, Pastor of Equipping

Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Paulpeter, Pastor of Outreach

Rev. Jeanmarie Tade, Pastor of Caring



There are many ways for you to gather, grow in community, and serve here at FPC. We invite you to join us for these upcoming events. View additional opportunities at fpchouston.org/events.

Men's Breakfast

Wed | Feb 19 | 7:30 AM | Fellowship Hall

The FPC Men's Ministry aims to equip men to live the Christian life, devotedly following Jesus, and exhibiting servant leadership in their home, work, and community. Start your day connecting with men of all ages over breakfast, scheduled before the workday. Our topic this quarter is "Sent-Ones, Entrepreneurs, and Hearing a Call."

Mobilizing Medicine & Missions (M3) Conference

Fri-Sat | Feb 21-22 | Lakewood Church

The Mobilizing Medicine and Missions (M3) Conference brings together healthcare professionals and others with a heart for missions for two days of fellowship, worship, and inspirational messages from medical professionals and missionaries serving globally. FPC has been an active participant and a sponsor of M3 since the inaugural gathering 10 years ago. For more information and to register, visit fpchouston.org/events.

Gather25: Closing Session Live Stream

Sat | Mar 1 | 5-7:30 PM | Fellowship Hall

Gather25 is an unprecedented 25-hour global broadcast event that tells the story of the global Church, by the global Church, from host sites around the world. On Saturday evening, gather with your FPC community at the church for a time of prayer and fellowship, to share dinner, and to watch the closing Gather25 session. For more information and to register, visit fpchouston.org/events.

Middle School Spring Retreat


Fri-Sun | Feb 28-Mar 2 | Livingston, TX

Join our middle school students for an overnight retreat at Camp Cho-Yeh! Get away from the busyness of Houston to enjoy fellowship, fun, and fresh air. For more information, contact Jessica Kirklin at jkirklin@fpchouston.org. To register, visit fpchouston.org/events.

Save the Date

VBS 2025 | Mon-Fri | June 9-13

Mo-Ranch Retreat | Thur-Sun | July 10-13

 Look for this symbol to find easy opportunities for an *intentional invitation*. Visit fpchouston.org/intentional5k to learn more.

Connect

Text **CONNECT** to **90859** for more info about FPC Houston, ways to get involved, and upcoming events.

Give

Your generosity helps impact the people, places, and ministries we serve. To contribute today, text **GIVE** to **90859** or place your gift in an offering box. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Weekly Giving Report

February 2025

February Goal: **\$333,083**

Giving to Date: **\$133,479**

Amount Needed: **\$199,604**

Needed to meet FYE 6/30/25: **\$2,323,215**