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ORDER OF WORSHIP

FEBRUARY 16, 2025 | 11:00 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 | *Ubi Caritas et Amor* | Gerald Near (Where dwelleth charity and love, there God is found)

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

INTROIT | *Fanfare on When Morning Gilds the Skies* | LAUDES DOMINI

When morning gilds the skies, my heart, awaking, cries, "May Jesus Christ be praised!" Alike at work or prayer, to Jesus I repair. May Jesus Christ be praised.

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

Curtis A. Bronzan, Senior Pastor

Please stand

We proclaim the reason we have gathered.

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!

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

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.

1 Oh, the deep, deep love of Je - sus, vast, un - 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 its 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!

Please be seated

CALL TO CONFESSION

Wei Yang, 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

SONG OF PRAISE | Gloria Patri | GREATOREX

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.

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

Wei Yang

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.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS | Main Street Ministries

Deysi Crespo, Executive Director and Curtis A. Bronzan

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

PREPARATION FOR THE OFFERING

"Creed" is a general term describing any concise, time-honored expression that summarizes important parts of our faith that all Christians share. The Heidelberg Catechism is one of the great Reformed Creed documents.

Please be seated

CHORAL OFFERTORY | *Followers of the Lamb* | Shaker Hymn/arr. Philip Dietterich
O brethren ain't you happy... ye followers of the Lamb? Roberto Reyna, Baritone, Soloist
Sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel.
Sing on, dance on, ye followers of the Lamb.
O sisters ain't you happy...ye followers of the Lamb?
O I'm glad I am a Christian...ye followers of the Lamb.
O I mean to be obedient...ye followers of the Lamb.

Please stand

DOXOLOGY | *Old 100th*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below.
Praise him above, ye heavenly hosts. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. AMEN

PREPARING SONG | *Goodness Of God*

Vickie Wagner, Worship Leader

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.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Please be seated

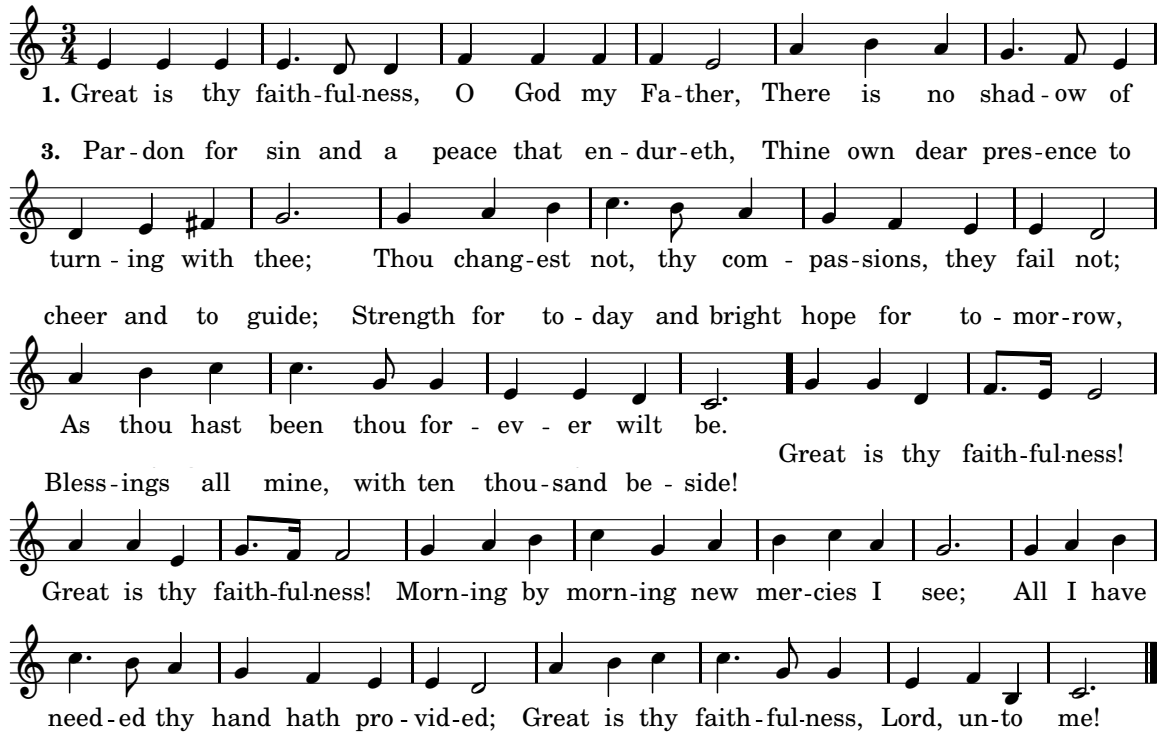
MESSAGE | *Forgive One Another (Colossians 3:12-14)*

Courtney McLaughlin,
Pastor of Equipping

SENDING OUT

Please stand

HYMN OF GRATITUDE | *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

Curtis A. Bronzan

POSTLUDE | *Finale from Symphony No. 6* | Charles-Marie Widor

MUSICIANS

Chancel Choir, Dan Wagner (Conductor & Director of Worship), and Jeong-Suk Bae (Organist & Accompanist)

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

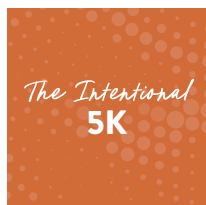
Brooks Simmons Boyd: Tues | Feb 18 | 11 AM | Sanctuary

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."

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.

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.

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**