

24/6



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MARCH 23, 2025 | 8:15 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Quiet your heart. Prepare to meet God. Begin with a moment of silent prayer, offering your burdens and joys to Him.

A PRAYER

Holy and loving God,
as we worship you today,
we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us,
to help us become more holy and more loving.
In a world that does not understand repentance,
we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline
that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. Amen.

PRELUDE | *Near the Cross* | Arr. Lloyd Larson

WELCOME AND INVITATION TO COMMUNITY

Jeanmarie Tade, Pastor of Caring

CALL TO WORSHIP

It is good to give thanks to the Lord, and to sing praises to your name, O Most High.

To declare your steadfast love in the morning, and your faithfulness by night.

We gather this day, set apart for worship, to rejoice in the works of your hands.

For you, O Lord, have made us glad through your deeds; we sing for joy at all you have created.

Let us lift our voices and our hearts in praise, for the Lord is good.

Let us give glory to God for the work he completed for us on the Cross. Let us worship the Lord!—from *Psalms 92*

GATHERING HYMN | *In the Cross of Christ I Glory* | RATHBUN

1. In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, Tow'r - ing o'er the wrecks of time.
2. When the woes of life o'er-take me, Hopes de-ceive, and fears an - noy,
3. When the sun of bliss is beam-ing Light and love up - on my way,
4. Bane and bless-ing, pain and plea-sure By the cross are sanc - ti - fied.

All the light of sa - cred sto - ry Gath - ers round its head sublime.
Nev - er shall the cross for - sake me. Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
From the cross, the ra - diance streaming Adds more lus - ter to the day.
Peace is there that knows no mea - sure, Joys that through all time a - bide.

We gather as Christ's
body, a community of
faith. Welcome! Find
your place among
us as we worship
together.

Please stand

The cross: our central
symbol of faith.
It's a reminder of
Christ's sacrifice and
our source of hope.
Entering worship, we
glory in it.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Doug Meikle, Shepherding Elder

O Lord, we gather in the rhythm of your creation, mindful of your command to remember the Sabbath and keep it holy. We thank you for setting apart this day, a sacred pause in the rhythm of our lives. We praise you for the gift of rest, a foretaste of the eternal rest to come. We acknowledge your creative power, your steadfast love, and your faithfulness in everything you have made.

We come before you seeking to enter into your rest. We thank you that we can lay down our burdens and find refreshment in your presence. We praise you for the reminder that our worth is not found in our own labor, but in your love. We acknowledge your provision, your grace, and your invitation to stop our striving and know that you are God. We offer our hearts as a living sacrifice, a joyful offering of praise, as we honor you on this day set aside for worship. Amen.

Please be seated

This modern hymn beautifully expresses our access to God through Christ's intercession. We prepare our hearts to come before God, knowing that through God's provision we are loved and accepted.

PREPARING FOR CONFESSION | *Before The Throne of God Above*



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a strong and per - fect
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to de - spair And tells me of the guilt with -



plea. A great High Priest whose name is Love Who ev - er lives and pleads for
in, Up - ward I look and see Him there Who made an end to all my



me. My name is gra - ven on His hands My name is writ - ten on His
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav-iour died My sin - ful soul is count-ed



heart I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can
free. For God the Just is sat - is - fied To look on



bid me thence de - part No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me, To look on Him and par - don me.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Jeanmarie Tade

We are called to find our peace in God, to seek the quietness of His presence.

Yet, we confess that our hearts are often restless, filled with the clamor of worldly distractions.

We are called to turn away from the feverish pursuits of life, to find our rest in Him.

Yet, we confess that we often chase after fleeting pleasures, neglecting the still, small voice within.

We are called to acknowledge our need for God's cleansing grace, to find healing for our troubled souls.

Let us now enter a moment of silent confession, laying bare our hearts before the Lord of peace.

Moment of Silence

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dear Lord and Heavenly Father, we come before you, weary and burdened by the noise of our lives.

We confess that we have sought our peace in the wrong places, chasing after empty promises and fleeting comforts. We have allowed the world's clamor to drown out your gentle voice, leaving us restless and unfulfilled. Forgive us, Lord, for our lack of stillness, our inability to find rest in you. Cleanse us from the fever of our desires, and lead us into the quietness of your presence. Grant us the serenity to know your will, the courage to follow it, and the peace that surpasses all understanding.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

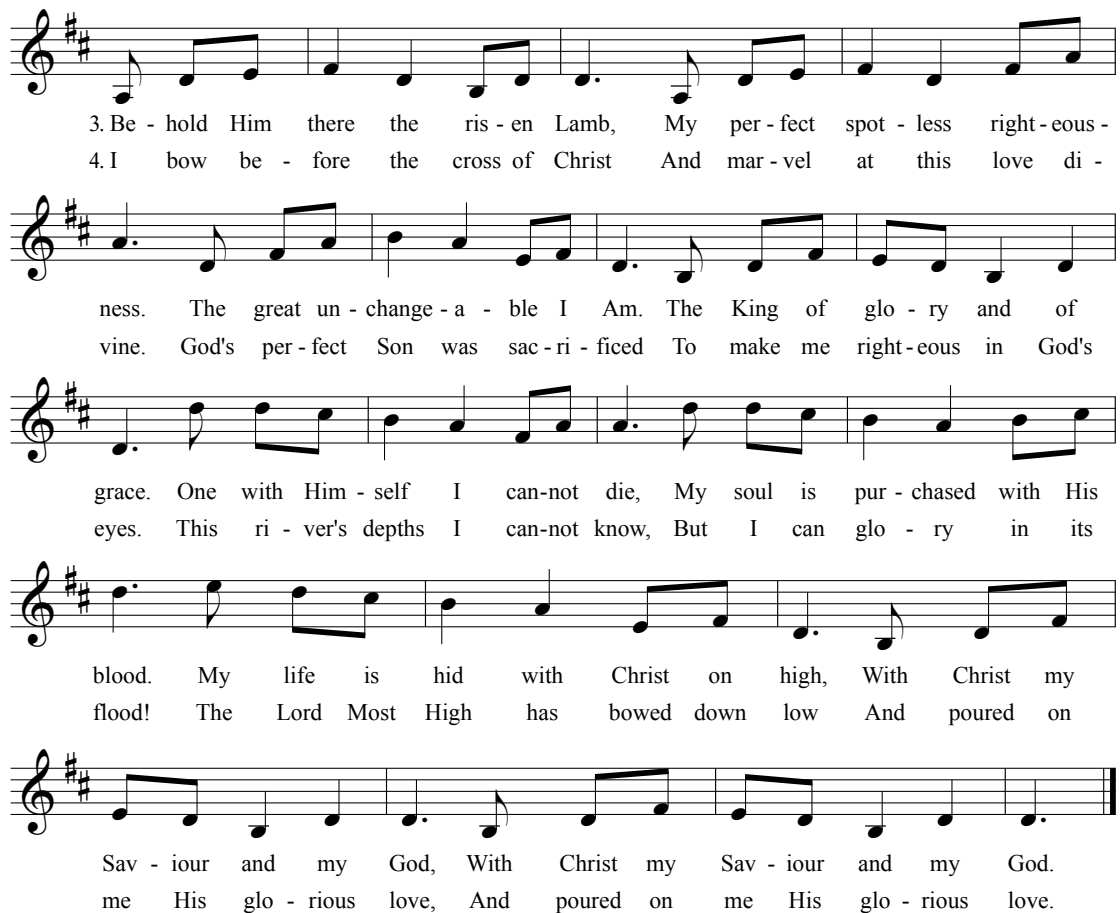
Hear the comforting words of our Savior: "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." Through Christ's sacrifice, we are offered a peace that the world cannot give. Therefore, in the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven, and we are restored to the peace of God.

Thanks be to God.

—based on the hymn, "Dear Lord and Father of Mankind"

Please stand

RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE | *Before the Throne of God Above*



3. Be - hold Him there the ris - en Lamb, My per - fect spot - less right - eous -
4. I bow be - fore the cross of Christ And mar - vel at this love di -
ness. The great un - change - a - ble I Am. The King of glo - ry and of
vine. God's per - fect Son was sac - ri - ficed To make me right - eous in God's
grace. One with Him - self I can - not die, My soul is pur - chased with His
eyes. This ri - ver's depths I can - not know, But I can glo - ry in its
blood. My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ my
flood! The Lord Most High has bowed down low And poured on
Sav - iour and my God, With Christ my Sav - iour and my God.
me His glo - rious love, And poured on me His glo - rious love.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jeanmarie Tade

Leader: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: And also with you.

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

Please be seated

HYMN AT THE MESSAGE | *Near To The Heart Of God (A Place Of Quiet Rest)*



1 There is a place of quiet rest, Near to the heart of God, A place where sin can-
2 There is a place of comfort sweet, Near to the heart of God, A place where we our
3 There is a place of full release, Near to the heart of God, A place where all is



not mo - lest, Near to the heart of God.
Sav - ior meet, Near to the heart of God. O Je - sus, blest Re - deem - er,
joy and peace, Near to the heart of God.



Sent from the heart of God, Hold us, who wait be - fore Thee, Near to the heart of God.

HEARING GOD'S WORD

MESSAGE | Remember (Exodus 20:8-11)

Curtis A. Bronzan, Senior Pastor

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH | Apostles' Creed

Doug Meikle

**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.**

RESPONDING IN WORSHIP | *What A Beautiful Name*

You were the Word at the beginning, One with God, the Lord Most High;
Your hidden glory in creation, Now revealed in You, our Christ.

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus Christ, my King!
What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus.

You heard the groaning of creation; so Jesus, You brought heaven down.
Our sin was great; Your love was greater. What could separate us now?

What a beautiful Name it is, what a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus Christ, my King!
What a beautiful Name it is; nothing compares to this.
What a beautiful Name it is, The Name of Jesus.

What a wonderful Name it is, What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of
Jesus Christ, my King! What a wonderful Name it is; Nothing compares to this.

What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of Jesus.
What a wonderful Name it is, The Name of Jesus

Death could not hold You; the veil tore before You; You silenced the boast of sin and grave.
The heavens are roaring, the praise of Your glory; for You are raised to life again!
You have no rival; You have no equal; Now and forever, God, You reign!
Yours is the kingdom; Yours is the glory; Yours is the Name above all names!

What a powerful Name it is, What a powerful Name it is,
The Name of Jesus Christ, my King! What a powerful Name it is;
Nothing can stand against What a powerful Name it is, The Name of Jesus.

Please stand

An ancient summary
of Christian belief,
uniting us with
believers across time.
We declare our faith in
the Triune God.

MUSICIANS

Dan Wagner (Conductor & Director of Worship), Jeong-Suk Bae (Organist & Accompanist), Vickie Wagner (Worship Leader), Whitney Rorabaugh (Worship Leader), Owen Teixeira (Djembe) and Ben Rorabaugh (Keyboard & Vocals)

FLOWERS

The flowers are placed in the Sanctuary today to the Glory of God and in loving memory of our parents, Nelda and Bob Moffatt and Marge and Louie Davis, by Ann and Ron Davis and family.

CARING MINISTRY UPDATES

Our prayers and sympathies go out to the following individuals:

- Chris Hill (Katie) on the loss of his father, **Philip Dean Hill**, on Friday, February 21. Condolences also to grandsons Bradley, Brenham, and Barrett.
- The family of **Emily Lavinia Rice McLeod** for their loss on Friday, March 7.
- Ann Petty on the loss of her mother, **Josephine "Jo" Petty**, on Thursday, March 20. Condolences to Jo's son David Petty (Lisa) and grandsons Clayton and Andrew Petty.

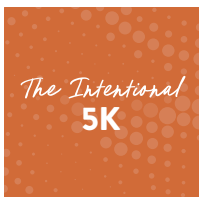
IN PRAYER THIS LENT

Awaken Houston

This Lent, FPC Houston is participating in Awaken Houston, a city-wide movement aiming to have 100,000 Houstonians praying daily for 1,000 baptisms in the month of April. In addition to a daily prayer and devotion guide, a fasting plan, and daily encouragement on socials, Awaken Houston is coordinating prayer gatherings at locations across the city. **We invite everyone in the FPC Community to join this movement by participating in a prayer gathering at FPC Houston on Wednesday, April 2, at 7 PM.**

To learn more about Awaken Houston and to join this movement via their devotional and fasting resources, visit awakenhouston.org.

CULTIVATING COMMUNITY



Intentional 5K

We strive to be a community that welcomes others into our lives as well as our faith community. Join us as we collaborate to extend 5,000 intentional invitations this year. 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'S A PLACE FOR YOU HERE!

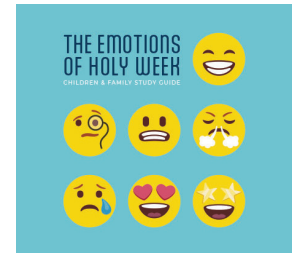
We invite you to join us as we experience the journey to the cross with the following activities, resources, and services.



Lenten Devotional
Print & Online*



Awaken Houston Prayer Gathering
Apr 2 | 7 PM | Sanctuary



Kids' Lent Guide
Print & Online*

Holy Week Services

Maundy Thursday | Apr 17 | 7 PM | Sanctuary

Good Friday | Apr 18 | 7 PM | Sanctuary

Easter Sunday | Apr 20 | 8, 9:30*, & 11:15 AM

**FPC Kids Easter Fellowship on the lawn after service.*

For more details and access to digital devotionals, visit fpchouston.org/easter.

**Print devotionals are available outside our worship spaces and in the FPC Kids area.*

Coffee with Curtis

Today | 12 PM | Living Room

We are grateful to be part of a thriving community, and as such, a lot can happen between official communications and annual meetings. If you'd like an informal catch-up on the life of our church, we invite you to join Pastor Curtis today at noon in the Living Room.

Intro to Faith+Work Course

Sundays | April 27–June 1 | 9:30 AM | Fellowship Hall

This spring, we are excited to offer a six-week course on unifying faith and work. Using our Main Street Fellowship program as the foundation, the *Intro to Faith+Work Course* will help participants explore what it means to develop a theologically-informed worldview and for it to permeate every area of their lives.

Summer Registrations Now Open

VBS | June 9–13 Youth Summer Trips | June & July Mo-Ranch | July 10–13

Visit fpchouston.org/events to register.

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

March 2025

March Goal: **\$587,031**

Giving to Date: **\$247,276**

Amount Needed: **\$339,755**

Needed to meet FYE 6/30/25: **\$1,684,944**