



**CHRIST THE KING / REIGN OF CHRIST
SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE,
NOVEMBER 21, 2021, 10:30 A.M.**

Next Sunday is Christ the King (also called the Reign of Christ) Sunday, and it marks the last Sunday worship service of the liturgical year. Coming next are the four Sundays of Advent, always a joyful time in the life of the church!

Please join us as we celebrate the conclusion of another liturgical year, a year that has been filled with challenges and disappointments but also with much love and joy. Why not bring a family member, a neighbor, or a friend with you to enjoy the music and the fellowship that those who worship in our Sanctuary enjoy every Sunday?

Our Scripture readings this Sunday, November 21, 2021, are: Revelation 1:4b-8; and John 18:33-38. The title of the sermon is "What Is Truth?", and a

copy of the Bulletin for this worship service can be found

here: <https://fpcovictoria.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/11-21-2021-Bulletin-PDF.pdf>



**BABY VANCE:
WELCOME TO THE BODY OF CHRIST!**

Last Sunday was a wonderful time in the life of FPC as we witnessed, with joy!, the baptism of Vance Gelder Aimone. We are so glad that Vance's parents, John and Ashley Aimone, presented their first-born child for the sacrament of baptism, and in so doing, undertook vows to teach, nurture, and love him in the Christian faith.

Vance was such a happy, well-behaved baby during the sacrament (and we can be sure that Vance's parents and extended family were happy about that!). Enjoy a couple more of the pictures of that happy occasion below, remembering Christ's declaration that "it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs" (Matthew 19:14).



HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

After so many months of living with the COVID pandemic, this Thanksgiving is a particularly appropriate time to thank God for his many blessings.

Let us be grateful for good health, but let us also be mindful of those who have suffered and lost loved ones due to the scourge of the pandemic and to other illnesses. Let us be grateful for the tables of plenty around which we will sit with family and friends, but let us also pray for mercy and relief to so many in God's creation who are hungry and malnourished. Let us pray in gratitude; let us pray in humility. Let us pray to our Sovereign God in whom and through whom all things are possible.

May you and yours have a blessed Thanksgiving!

Please note: The Church Office will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday,

Thursday and Friday, November 25th and 26th. Also, there will be no choir practice on Wednesday evening, November 24th.



**WITNESS TO THE RESURRECTION SERVICE,
MICHAEL LEWIS RATCLIFF,
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2021, 10:00 A.M.**

On Thursday, November 18th, at 10:00 a.m. in our Sanctuary, we will celebrate a Service of Witness to the Resurrection in Celebration of the Life of Michael Lewis Ratcliff (1957-2021). The Service will be preceded by a visitation, this evening (November 17th), at Rosewood Funeral Home from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Due to COVID concerns, there will be no reception following the service at FPC.

Michael's obituary can be found here: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/victoria-tx/michael-ratcliff-10442824>

Please be in prayer for Michael and his family.



BRIGHT DAYS AT PDS!

Like the rest of us, the young disciples at PDS have been enjoying the beautiful Fall weather. Sometimes the sun is so bright, often God's love is so bright, that we need to put our "shades" to soak in the beauty of it all!

VCAM

For the month of November, let's again help our VCAM families enjoy a bountiful Thanksgiving meal. Please donate your favorite healthy, non-perishable holiday staples—

- *cranberry sauce*
- *fruit cocktail*
- *green beans*
- *instant mashed potatoes*
- *poultry seasoning and spices*
- *pumpkin pie filling*
- *sweet potatoes and yams*
- *stuffing and cornbread mix*
- *cake mixes . . . and more!*

Collection baskets are located in the Narthex and hallway outside the church office.

**NEW TIME FOR CHOIR REHEARSALS:
5:30 P.M. ON WEDNESDAYS!**

This is just a friendly reminder that choir rehearsals have resumed on Wednesday evenings, *but at new time!* Rehearsals will now commence at **5:30 p.m.** (although there will be no rehearsal on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving, November 24th).

As previously reported, while our rehearsals resume and our choir leads us in music on Sunday mornings, we will also be working as best we are able to expand our choir in at least two ways: (1) with the use of “section leaders” as we were doing just before the pandemic struck; and (2) by recruiting new members (no matter how bashful they may be!). If you have ever “thought about” singing in a church choir, now’s your chance! Please join as we begin our rehearsals anew. Not only will you have a good time singing, you will also experience the special bond of fellowship that choir members share!

Please contact Robert Wyatt before or after any worship service or otherwise please take a moment to call (361.575.2441) or email (info@fpcovictoria.org) the church office to confirm your interest. We thank God that our choir can now cautiously, and safely, return to lead us in joyful praise and worship of our Lord!

**NO FPC NEWSLETTER ON
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2021**

Given the Thanksgiving Holiday, we will not have sufficient time to prepare and circulate a Newsletter next week. Spend the time you would ordinarily read the Newsletter to help yourself to some Thanksgiving dinner leftovers! Meanwhile, thank you for your patience and understanding.

Nevertheless, on Wednesday, November 24th, we WILL mail out as usual copies of our worship bulletin for the following Sunday (the First Sunday of Advent, November 28th). Those of our members who are accustomed to receiving a copy of our bulletin by mail should experience no delay in deliveries except as may be caused by the post office being closed on Thursday, November 25th).

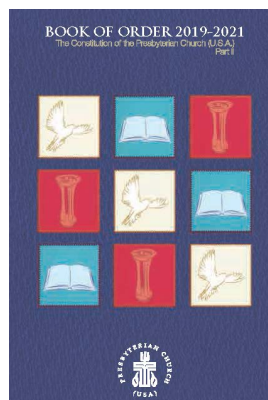
Enjoy Thanksgiving, and if you are able, please join us in church on the following Sunday.



PLAN AHEAD!
HANGING OF THE GREENS,
FOLLOWING SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE,
NOVEMBER 28, 2021

Mark your calendar now, and plan to join in FPC's annual "hanging of the greens" when we decorate our Sanctuary with lights and greenery to mark the Advent Season. Many hands make for light work, so if many will stay after our worship service on Sunday, November 28th (a week from this coming Sunday), we can make fast work of this joyful task.

With COVID continuing to let up, this is a perfect time to resume fellowship as we prepare for the coming celebration of the birth of our Savior!



SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION
CALLED FOR DECEMBER 5, 2021

The Session has called a Special Meeting of the Congregation to be held at the conclusion of the worship service on Sunday, December 5, 2021.

During this brief meeting, the Chair of the Congregation Nominating Committee, Billy Leske, will report on the recommendations of the CNC, specifically that Francie Byrne, Patrick Patterson, and Becky Richter be elected to serve on the Session for a three-year term (the Class of 2024) commencing

January 1, 2022.

The Moderator will invite additional nominations from the floor, if there be any. Before submitting someone to be considered for election to the Session, however, please be sure and confirm with that individual that he or she would be willing to serve if elected.

At the end of such discussion as the congregation may desire, a vote will be taken to elect the members of the Session Class of 2024. May God grant us and our new leaders strength, wisdom, and perseverance as First Presbyterian Church enters the coming calendar year with hope, promise, and continued service to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Peace, grace, and mercy,

Pastor Jim
