

Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen
October 11, 2026



La ofrenda (The Offering) (1931)

Opening Sentences

- The Lord will make a feast for all people and destroy the power of death forever.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Call to Worship

Please rise in body or in spirit.

Come, all who hunger for good news.

We thirst for words of hope and healing.

Come, from rural road and city street.

We gather at the King's invitation.

Come, join the celebration.

We will worship together!

All images in these worship pages
are paintings by Diego Rivera.

God, reveal your presence; gladly we adore you,
and with awe appear before you.

Holy is your temple: all within keep silence,
humbly bow with deepest reverence.

You alone now we own as our God and Savior:
praise your name forever!

In God's holy presence, hear the harps resounding;
see the crowds the throne surrounding:
Holy, holy, holy! hear the hymn ascending,
angels, saints, their voices blending.
Turn your ear to us here; hear, O Christ the praises,
that your church now raises.

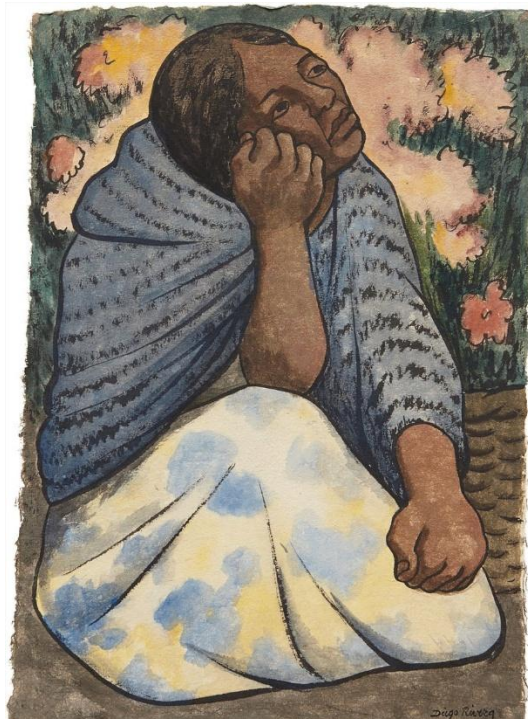
Fountain of all blessing, purify my spirit;
all my trust is in your merit.

Like the holy angels on your glory gazing,
we adore, hosannas raising.

Let your will ever still rule your church terrestrial,
as the hosts celestial.

Prayer of the Day

Beloved God,
we gather in the shelter of your love,
grateful for the banquet of worship
you have prepared for us.
Focus our hearts and our minds
on the beauty of this time,
the blessings of our lives,
and the fullness of your message.
Strengthen us in faith and commitment
so that we might serve as partners
in your ministry of love to the world.
Amen.



Mujer sentada en el mercado con rebozo azul y flores (1937)

Call to Confession

Let us come before the throne of God,
the mercy seat,
with all of our humanity,
open to the peace of promised forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

**Extravagant God,
you invite us to your table in the kingdom of heaven.
But we do not take our place at the feast.
We say, “We have more important things to do,”
and turn back to labors
that threaten to consume us.
Beckon us again, we pray;
that we may respond with gratitude.
In your mercy, gather us in
that we might experience the joy of your kingdom
and taste the abundance of your grace.**

A moment of silent confession

Assurance of Grace

The God of peace, who calls all creation to live in unity,
hears our prayer.
In the spirit of feasting and thanksgiving,
in the mercy of Almighty God,
hear and trust in the good news of the Gospel:
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and transformed.
Thanks be to God!**

Act of Praise Holy, Holy, Holy / *Santo, santo, santo*

GG #595

Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: you are holy, Lord!
*Santo, santo, santo. Me corazón te adora!
Me corazón te sabe decir: Santo eres, Señor!*

Passing the Peace of Christ

The peace of our Lord be with you all. / **And also with you.**

Time with the Younger Church

Life of the Church

Prayer for Illumination

Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts
and your Spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment
of your realm of justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

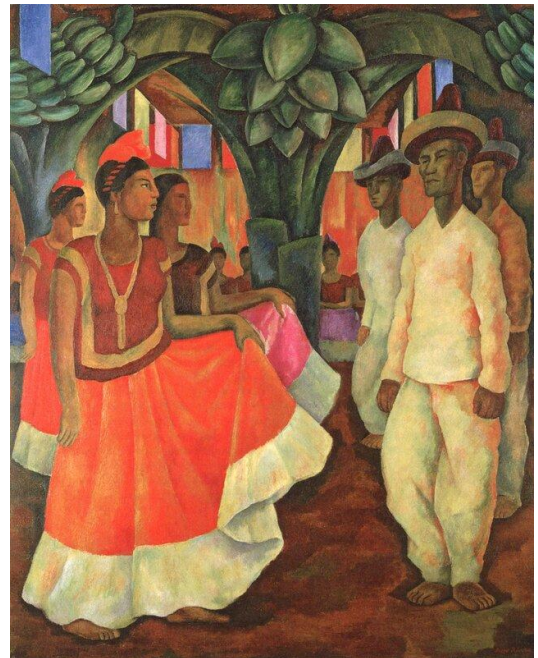
Anthem

Gospel Reading

Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying, ² “The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. ³ He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. ⁴ Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ ⁵ But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, ⁶ while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. ⁷ The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. ⁸ Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. ⁹ Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you can find to the wedding banquet.’ ¹⁰ Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests. ¹¹ But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, ¹² and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. ¹³ Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ¹⁴ For many are called, but few are chosen.”

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God**



Sermon

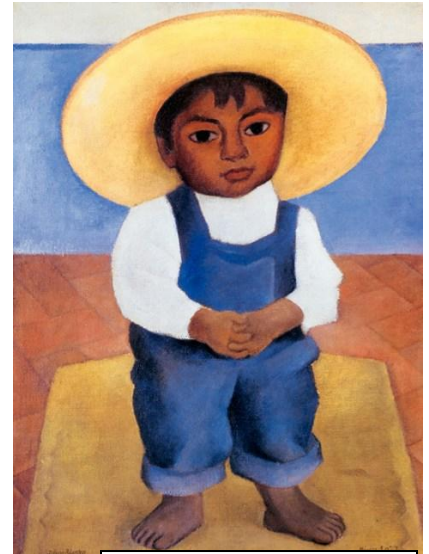
Visio Divina

“Dance in Tehuantepec” by Diego Rivera

I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table;
I'm gonna eat at the welcome table, Alleluia.

Here all the world will find a welcome;
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.
Here all the world will find a welcome;
here all the world will find a welcome, Alleluia.

We're gonna feast on milk and honey;
we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.
We're gonna feast on milk and honey;
we're gonna feast on milk and honey, Alleluia.



Ignacio Sanchez (1939)

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

God of mercy, throughout history your goodness prevails.
Open the hearts of all people
to find you and your mercy that endures forever.
Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of peace, bend that which is inflexible,
remove the barriers that divide,
loosen the attachments that thwart reconciliation.
Bring peace in this world,
especially in Ukraine, Gaza, South Sudan
Restore wholeness among us.
Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of justice, healer and redeemer,
heal those who suffer from illness, poverty and exclusion.
Hasten justice for those suffering under the power of evil.
Give new life to all.
Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God, our rock and fortress,
protect refugees, those without homes or security,
all the abandoned children.

Help us always to defend human dignity.

Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God our creator, all creation groans in expectation;
convert us from exploitation.

Teach us to live in harmony with your creation.

Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of mercy, strengthen and protect
those who are persecuted for faith in you
and those of other faiths who suffer persecution.

Give us the courage to profess our faith
and to protect our neighbors.

Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of life, heal painful memories,
transform all complacency, indifference, and ignorance;
pour out a spirit of reconciliation.

Turn us to you and to one another.

Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God of love, your Son Jesus reveals the mystery of love among us.

Strengthen that unity that you alone sustain in our diversity.

Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**

God our sustenance,

bring us together at your eucharistic table,

and nurture within and among us

a communion rooted in your love. Show us your mercy. **Hear our prayer.**



We pray all this in the name
of Jesus Christ our Lord,
who has taught us to pray together, saying:
Our Father, who art in heaven ...

The Flower Vender (Girl with Lilies (1941)

Invitation to the Offering

Because God has given us a great banquet,
let our thanksgiving overflow
with joyous giving for the sake of this world
that God so loves.

Offertory

Act of Dedication

Lord of All Good, v. 1

GG #711

Lord of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
use them your holy purpose to fulfill,
tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
that our whole life is offered to your will.

Offertory Prayer

God of compassion and generous love,
we give you thanks for the riches of Earth,
which sustain our lives and which you have created for our joy.
We thank you for Jesus,
whose life, death, resurrection, and ascension
renews our strength and revives our hope.
We give you thanks for the Holy Spirit, who comes among us,
invites us to dine with each other and with you,
and keeps us in faith.
Bless these gifts for the sake of your children
and for the work of your church to care for those in need.
In peace, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart! v. 1-3

GG #804

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!
Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voices as full and strong as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old, the psalms of ancient days.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go,
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Charge and Benediction

Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks and sing!

Your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

Today's Worship Leaders:

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell

Ann Williams

John Adam Tabali

Robert Garza

Ale Pacheco-Garza

FPC Chancel Choir

FPC McAllen Contact Information: 104 S. 12th Street; McAllen, TX 78501

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 1029; McAllen, TX 78505

Church phone: 956-682-2836

website: <https://www.mcallenfpc.org/>

Pastor: fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com Church Administrator: fpchurch@sbcglobal.net



The Flower Carrier (1935)