

---

## ***Church for A New Time***

### ***God Summons Us To:***

- ◆ ***Faithful Growth***     ◆ ***Bold Witness***
  - ◆ ***Compassionate Mission***
- 

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen  
Sunday Worship -- January 23, 2022



James Tissot  
*Jesus Unrolls the Book in the Synagogue*

*Today, in your hearing,  
this scripture is fulfilled.*

---

### Opening Sentences

- In a synagogue in Nazareth, Jesus said, “The Spirit of the Lord is upon me.”  
May the word of God be fulfilled among us.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

Let us gather for worship,  
for this day is holy to the Lord.  
The joy of the Lord is our strength and salvation,  
and we gather to offer our praise.  
In singing and in silence,  
in Word and in prayer,  
let us walk in the light of the Lord.  
Let us come and worship God.

### Opening Hymn

Spirit, Open My Heart

GG #692

*Refrain: Spirit, open my heart to the joy and pain of living.  
As you love, may I love, in receiving and in giving.  
Spirit, open my heart.*

God, replace my stony heart with a heart that's kind and tender.  
All my coldness and fear to your grace I now surrender.

*Refrain*

Write your love upon my heart as my law, my goal, my story.  
In each thought, word, and deed, may my living bring you glory.

*Refrain*

May I weep with those who weep; share the joy of sister, brother.  
In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

*Refrain.*

### Prayer of the Day

God of all generations,  
who has gathered us together  
through all the ages:  
Tell us once again,  
the stories of your life, law, and love  
that we may remember who we are  
as the body of Christ in our time. Amen.



### Call to Confession

Turning to God and following the light of Christ,  
let us in faith confess our sin and the sins of the world.

### Prayer of Confession

**Holy God,  
we confess that we have wandered from your light.  
We follow paths of self-indulgence,  
instead of focusing on our need of you.  
We passively accept the suffering of the world,  
expecting others to stand up  
and work for the change we would like to see.  
Lord, in your strength,  
renew us and compel us by your invitation  
that we may work  
to pursue your justice and mercy for all people,  
sharing your light in ways great and small.**  
*A moment of silent prayer.*

### Declaration of Forgiveness

Receive the blessing of the living God,  
whose steadfast love is everlasting.  
Hear and trust in the good news of the Gospel:  
**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, healed, and made whole.**  
**Thanks be to God**

Gloria Patri      <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SD50XtTy6rc> (if on Zoom)

### Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Anthem      Let Us Build a House (if on Zoom)  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gKJgcv8SdnQ>

### Prayer for Illumination

In you, O Lord our God, we find our joy,  
for through your law and your prophets  
you formed a people in mercy and freedom,  
in justice and righteousness.  
Pour your Spirit upon us today,  
that we who are Christ's body  
may bear the good news of your ancient promises  
to all who seek you. Amen.

## Gospel Reading

Luke 4: 14-21

Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and his reputation spread throughout the region.

<sup>15</sup> He was teaching in the Galilean synagogues, and all were loud in their praise.

<sup>16</sup> Jesus came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. Entering the synagogue on the Sabbath, as was his habit, Jesus stood up to do the reading. <sup>17</sup> When the book of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him, he unrolled the scroll and found the passage where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> “The Spirit of our God is upon me:  
because the Most High has anointed me  
to bring Good News to those who are poor.  
God has sent me to proclaim liberty to those held captive,  
recovery of sight to those who are blind,  
and release to those in prison --

<sup>19</sup> to proclaim the year of our God’s favor.”

<sup>20</sup> Rolling up the scroll, Jesus gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. <sup>21</sup> Then he said to them, “Today, in your hearing, this scripture passage is fulfilled.”

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

## Sermon

### Response to the Word

God built the heavens, the earth, and everything in them.

**God calls us to be builders as well.**

God calls us to build our lives:

**to restore broken places and continue to grow.**

God calls us to build our faith:

**to study the Word and ponder its interpretation.**

God calls us to build our community:

**to build bridges of understanding and systems of justice.**

God calls us to build history by fulfilling the promises of Scripture:

**to preach the good news of God’s love and liberation for all people.**



Live into hope of captives freed, of sight regained, the end of greed.  
The oppressed shall be the first to see the year of God's own jubilee!

Live into hope! The blind shall see,  
with insight and with clarity,  
removing shades of pride and fear,  
a vision of our God brought near.

Live into hope of liberty,  
the right to speak, the right to be,  
the right to have one's daily bread,  
to hear God's word and thus be fed.



Live into hope of captives freed from chains of fear or want or greed.  
God now proclaims our full release to faith and hope and joy and peace.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

God of prophets and apostles,  
you call us to restore that which is broken  
and to proclaim your vision of a world made new.  
Create in us new hearts and strong voices as we pray.

**God, will us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for those who have been anointed or chosen as leaders of people,  
that they may attend to the voices of their people and be guided by you.

**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for pastors and teachers of the church,  
that they may faithfully interpret your Word for others.

**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for those who are poor or neglected or scorned,  
who need changes in their circumstances,  
and improvements in their opportunities,  
and for ourselves -- that we may open our hearts  
to hear when your children cry for help.

**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for those who are the captives of war  
and the victims of violence;  
may we bring them good news both in word and deed.  
**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for those with physical challenges  
and spiritual struggles;  
make us agents of healing and hope.  
**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

We pray for those who are oppressed by powers beyond their control;  
give us courage to work to set them free.  
**God, fill us with the power of your Spirit.**

God of the Jubilee,  
make us the body of the Risen Christ,  
united, in all our diversity.  
Animate us by your Holy Spirit  
that together we may work  
toward your coming kingdom.  
In Jesus' name we pray,  
remembering that he has taught us to pray together, saying:  
**Our Father, who art in heaven ...**

### Presentation of Tithes and Offering

#### Invitation to the Offering

Let us give generously from that which has been given to us,  
that through our offerings  
the good news of Jesus Christ may be fulfilled.

#### Offertory

#### Doxology (omit if on Zoom)

#### Offertory Prayer

God of life and of new life, bless the gifts we offer  
that they may further your reign in this world. Amen.

### The Life of the Church

### Charge and Benediction

---

**Today's Worship Leaders:**

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell  
Beverly Avila

Lita Simpson  
Robert Garza

Ann Rowland  
Ale Pacheco

---

**FPC McAllen Contact Information:**

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

Church phone: 956-682-2836

Pastor: [fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com](mailto:fpcpastorkathy@gmail.com)

Church Administrator: [fpchurch@sbcglobal.net](mailto:fpchurch@sbcglobal.net)