

# FIRST CHURCH, SARASOTA

*Love God. Love People. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.*

## Traditional Worship Service THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 23, 2022

Michael Stuart, Director of Music/Organist  
Rev. Sam Wright, Ph.D., Senior Pastor

### ORDER OF WORSHIP

#### INTROIT

*Behold now, praise the Lord. All ye servants of the Lord, praise the Lord!*

Everett Titcomb

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries

#### OPENING HYMN

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*

Hymnal 66<sup>1</sup>

#### CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Alyssa Machado, Director of Children's Ministries

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

#### 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

#### THE CHORAL RESPONSE

*Amen*

John Rutter

#### OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Thank you for your generosity to the ministries of First Church. You may give online at [www.firstsrq.com](http://www.firstsrq.com); click GIVE, or send your check to First Church, 104 S. Pineapple Ave., Sarasota, FL 34236. We are grateful for your faithful support. You are making a difference in the lives of those in need.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Job 4:7-9; 9:20-23<sup>2</sup>

#### SPECIAL MUSIC

*Eternal Life*  
Daniel Espinal, *tenor*

Oliver Dungan

#### THE MESSAGE

*Job's Question: Why Do the Innocent Suffer?*

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

#### HYMN OF RESPONSE

*Just a Closer Walk with Thee*

TFWS 2158<sup>3</sup>

#### BENEDICTION

#### CHORAL BENEDICTION

*A Gaelic Blessing*

John Rutter

#### PASSING THE PEACE

**<sup>1</sup>Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven, Hymnal 66**

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heaven, to the throne thy tribute bring; ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore God's praises sing. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.
2. Praise the Lord for grace and favor to all people in distress; praise God, still the same as ever, slow to chide, and quick to bless. Alleluia! Alleluia! Glorious now God's faithfulness.
3. Fatherlike, God tends and spares us; well our feeble frame God knows; motherlike, God gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes. Alleluia! Alleluia! Widely yet God's mercy flows.
4. Angels in the heights, adoring, you behold God face to face; saints triumphant, now adoring, gathered in from every race. Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

**<sup>2</sup>Job 4:7-9; 9:20-23 (CEB)**

Job 4:7-9 (Words from Eliphaz, friend of Job)

Think! What innocent person has ever perished?

When have those who do the right thing been destroyed?

As I've observed, those who plow sin  
and sow trouble will harvest it.

When God breathes deeply, they perish;  
by a breath of his nostril  
they are annihilated.

Job 9:20-23 (Words from Job to friends)

If I'm innocent, my mouth condemns me;  
I have integrity;  
but God declares me perverse.

I'm blameless, yet don't know myself;  
I reject my life.

It's all the same;  
therefore, I say God destroys  
the blameless and the sinners.

If calamity suddenly kills,  
he mocks at the slaying of innocents.

The earth is handed over to the wicked;  
he covers the faces of its judges.  
If not God, then who does?

**<sup>3</sup>Just a Closer Walk with Thee, TFWS 2158**

1. I am weak, but thou art strong;  
Jesus, keep me from all wrong;  
I'll be satisfied as long  
as I walk, let me walk close to thee.  
Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

2. Through this world of toil and snares,  
if I falter, Lord, who cares?  
Who with me my burden shares?  
None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.  
Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

3. When my feeble life is o'er,  
time for me will be no more;  
guide me gently safely o'er to thy shore,  
dear Lord, to thy shore.  
Just a closer walk with thee, grant it, Jesus, is my plea  
daily walking close to thee: Let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

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### **BIBLE STUDY WITH DR. SAM**

The Gospel of Luke: Jesus in Judea

Join him and the group any week you can.

Wednesdays – 12:30 and 7 p.m.

*(You can choose which time is better for your schedule each week.)*

Room 104 on campus and Zoom

Links sent in 7 a.m. eblast each Wednesday.

~ Call the office (941-955-0935) to be added to our email list. ~

### **DR. SAM CONTINUES HIS SERMON SERIES**

#### **JOB'S QUESTION: WHY?**

January 30 - 5th Sunday Intermission: He Laughed

February 6 - Job's Question: Why Doesn't God Answer Me?

February 13 - Job's Question: Why Do the Wicked Prosper?

February 20 - Job's Question: Why Don't My Friends Understand?

February 27 - Job's Question: God's Response

### **ELECTRIC CART FOR DAUGHTER OF PASTORS**

Laritza is the twenty-eight-year-old daughter of the pastoral couple Nelson and Marilyn of our sister church Iglesia Metodista de Juan Vicente in Cuba. She was born with cerebral palsy. She cannot walk. They cannot afford a car. They have requested \$3,000 to purchase an electric vehicle to be able to transport her to district events. This is a way that our congregation can help make a young woman's life better. If you would like to give, please write "Laritza" on your check, envelope or online. Thank you for your generosity.

### **LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH**

Do let us know if you have a change of address (residence or email), phone (land or cell). Seasonal family, please let us know when you are here and when you are at your other home. We want to keep in touch with all our church family, hoping you enjoy hearing from us. Send changes to Administrative Assistant Mindy Kolbe ([mkolbe@firstsrq.com](mailto:mkolbe@firstsrq.com)).

### **LARGE PRINT BULLETINS**

Large print bulletins are available at both entrances.

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