

# First Baptist Church at Worship

## The Third Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2022  
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

### Gathering

Organ Voluntary     *Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound*     setting by Anne A. Davis

Greeting and Call to Worship     Alex Lockridge

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.*

*And also with you.*

+++

*Thirsty, our hearts crave living water.*

***Hungry, our souls ache to be satisfied.***

*Weary, our minds are tired by thoughts that do  
not come from God.*

***Thirsty, hungry, and weary,***

***let us worship the God of love and grace.***

Hymn 295     *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*     \*NETTLETON

Confession of Sin     Paul Sims

*We try to draw boundaries around Your forgiveness, for we cannot imagine the  
endlessness of Your grace. We try to make a rule book of Your holy stories, for we  
cannot grasp the depth of Your living word. We try to make a worldly hero of our holy  
Savior, for we cannot understand the majesty of Your gift. Forgive us, Holy God, and  
gather us more closely into the realm of Your transforming love.*

Assurance of Forgiveness     by Hal H. Hopson



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. The lyrics are written below the notes.

We are for - giv - en.     We are for - giv - en.     Thanks be to  
God. \_\_\_     Thanks be to God.     We are for - giv - en.  
We are for - giv - en.     Thanks be to God. \_\_\_     Thanks be to God.

# Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Paul Sims

Isaiah 55:1-9

Psalm 63

setting by David Strasser



O God, You are my God, and I will ev - er praise You.

*O God, You are my God. I seek You, my soul thirsts for You;  
my flesh faints for You, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.  
So I have looked upon You in the sanctuary, beholding Your power and glory.  
Because Your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise You. REFRAIN  
So I will bless You as long as I live;  
I will lift up my hands and call on Your name.  
My soul is satisfied as with a rich feast,  
and my mouth praises You with joyful lips,  
for You have been my help,  
and in the shadow of Your wings I sing for joy. REFRAIN*

A Reading from the Gospels

Alex Lockridge

At that very time there were some present who told Jesus about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. Jesus asked them, “Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did.”

Then he told this parable: “A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. So he said to the gardener, ‘See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the soil?’ The gardener replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

- Luke 13:1-9

Hymn 471

*Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy*

RESTORATION

stanzas 1 and 2

Sermon

“Missing the Point – The Equality of Grace”

Alex Lockridge

# Responding

Hymn

*Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service*

\*BEACH SPRING

If you desire to become a follower of Christ or if you wish to present yourself for membership today, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

*Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need,  
Who upon the cross, forsaken, offered mercy's perfect deed:  
We, Your servants, bring the worship not of voice alone, but heart,  
Consecrating to Your purpose every gift that You impart.  
Still Your children wander homeless, still the hungry cry for bread;  
Still the captives long for freedom; still in grief we mourn our dead.  
As, O Lord, Your deep compassion healed the sick and freed the soul,  
Use the love Your Spirit kindles still to save and make us whole.  
As we worship, grant us vision, till Your love's revealing light  
In its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight,  
Making known the needs and burdens Your compassion bids us bear,  
Stirring us to tireless striving Your abundant life to share.*

- Albert F. Bayly

Offertory Prayer

Sherry Pace

Offertory

\*BALM IN GILEAD

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound - ed  
whole; there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin - sick soul.

*Sometimes I feel discouraged and think my work's in vain,  
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. **REFRAIN**  
If you can't preach like Peter, if you can't pray like Paul,  
Just tell the love of Jesus, and say he died for all. **REFRAIN***

- African-American spiritual

Prayers of the People

Alex Lockridge

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.*

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## Sending

Hymn 586

*Grace Greater than Our Sin*

MOODY

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Jeremiah Banks

*Go now; turn to the Lord, and let God's thoughts fill your minds.  
Do not expend your resources on that which cannot satisfy,  
and do not become overly sure of yourselves, lest you fall into temptation.  
Instead, seek the Lord while he may be found.  
And may God's love be better to you even than life,  
may Christ Jesus be to you a rock and a life-giving spring,  
and may the Holy Spirit be with you, this day and every day. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

*Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

setting by John Innes

Carolyn Garr, cantor

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given  
in honor of my mother, Virginia Hawkins,  
and in memory of my father, Jim Hawkins  
by  
Marsha and Danny Barnett*

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Today's organ music is from a library of more than 1,000 digitized hymns, anthems, and solo-organ music that Gayle Majors recorded over the last several years. We are thankful for Gayle's life, for her 36-year tenure as Organist for First Baptist Church, and for this fine legacy that she has left for us.

\*supplemental organ music by William P. Young, III