

# First Baptist Church at Worship

July 12, 2020

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

## The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

*God comes among us*

*to give us ears that do not fail to hear,  
to give us eyes that do not fail to see,  
to give us hearts that do not fail to respond.*

*God makes us to be good soil*

*to receive the seeds of truth,  
to bear abundant fruit.*

*Let us worship God.*

Hymn

*Rejoice, You Pure in Heart*

MARION

*Rejoice, you pure in heart, lift praises to the sky;  
Your festal banner wave with joy, the cross of Christ raise high!  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.  
Bright youth and seasoned age, strong souls and spirits meek,  
Raise high your free, exulting song, God's wondrous praises speak.  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.  
With voices full and strong as ocean's surging praise,  
Send forth the hymns the saints have loved, the psalms of ancient days.  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.  
Yes, on through life's long path, still singing as you go,  
From youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe:  
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.*

- Edward H. Plumptre, alt.

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Paul Sims

*from Isaiah 55*

Psalm 65

MARION

**REFRAIN:** *Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.*

*You show Your care for the land by sending rain;*

*You make it rich and fertile.*

*You fill the streams with water; you provide the earth with crops.*

*This is how You do it:*

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*You send abundant rain on the plowed fields and soak them with water;  
 You soften the soil with showers and cause the young plants to grow.  
 What a rich harvest Your goodness provides! Wherever You go there is plenty.  
 The pastures are filled with flocks; the hillsides are full of joy.  
 The fields are covered with sheep; the valleys are full of wheat.  
 Everything shouts and sings for joy.*

**REFRAIN: Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing.**

A Reading from the Gospels  
*from Matthew 13*

Alex Lockridge

Response

BRING FORTH THE KINGDOM

Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, bring forth the King-dom of peace;  
 bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice, bring forth the Cit - y of God!

*You are a seed of the word, O people: seeds for the Kingdom of God!*

*Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the Kingdom of God! **REFRAIN***

*We are a blest and a pilgrim people: bound for the Kingdom of God!*

*Love our journey and love our homeland: love is the Kingdom of God! **REFRAIN***

- Marty Haugen

Sermon

“Good Soil”

Alex Lockridge

Response

*All Good Gifts*

by Stephen Schwartz

*from GODSPELL*  
 Zackery Morris, soloist

*We plow the fields and scatter the good seed on the land,*

*But it is fed and watered by God’s almighty hand;*

*He sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,*

*The breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.*

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above.*

*Then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

*We thank Thee then, O Father, for all things bright and good,*

*The seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food;*

*No gifts have we to offer for all thy love imparts,*

*But that which Thou desirest: our humble thankful hearts.*

- Matthias Claudis

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.*

## Hymn

### *Christ Taught Us of a Farmer*

LANCASHIRE

*Christ taught us of a farmer who went out sowing seeds.  
A few had trouble growing among the rocks and weeds.  
But others grew till harvest in soil that was so good,  
O God, You sow the gospel: the seed is Your own word.  
You sowed Your word of love here so many years ago.  
Your message found a welcome, Your word began to grow.  
By grace, this church was built here by saints who followed You,  
The seed took root and flourished; we hear and follow, too.  
For hearts and songs uplifted, for work and sacrifice,  
The seed You planted grows here: we grow in Jesus Christ;  
In times of joy we praise You, in struggling times we search,  
And always we are learning to be Your faithful church.*

- Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

## Benediction

Alex Lockridge

Gayle Majors, Organist

Jefferson Calico, guitar    Edward Garr, djembe  
Carolyn Garr, piano        Samuel Garr, clarinet

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given by  
Boulevard Baptist Church in Anderson, South Carolina  
to the glory of God and in loving honor of our pastor,  
Alex Lockridge, and his family: Maria, Kaden, and Kinley*