

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

July 4, 2021

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Organ Voluntary

God of Grace and God of Glory

setting by J. Wayne Kerr

*Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be
Armored with all Christ-like graces in the fight to set all free.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor Thee!*

- Harry Emerson Fosdick

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.

+++

In God's realm:

*weakness becomes strength,
emptiness is filled to overflowing,
fear grows into courage,
the foolish learn wisdom,
the wise learn God's foolishness,
the great are humbled, and the humbled are lifted up.
In God's realm, all things are made whole.*

Hymn

In Christ, Our Liberty

ST. ANNE

*We bind ourselves in freedom's chains; the cross has set us free.
God's anvil forged each link with love, in Christ, our liberty.
Tho' creeds and laws imposed by pow'r may mock equality,
Our trust in Christ and Christ alone will keep our spirits free.
We have no need of priest or king to intercede for souls;
To live for Christ our covenant, to die to self our goal.
Now free in Christ it's time to stand, it's time to stand and cry
That freedom will not live beyond our willingness to die.*

- Lester Bork

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from the Letters to the Churches

Alex Lockridge

II Corinthians 12:2-10

Hymn 587

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

during the singing of the hymn, children are dismissed for Children's Church
stanzas 1, 2, and 3

A Reading from the Gospels

Paul Sims

Mark 6:1-13

Sermon

"What Is Baptist?"
Religious Freedom

Alex Lockridge

Hymn 285

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

If you wish to present yourself for membership today, or if you have another decision to share, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

Litany for Religious Liberty

Paul Sims

Baptists have never been party to oppression of conscience.

Our contention is not for more toleration, but for absolute liberty.

There is a wide difference between toleration and liberty.

Toleration implies that someone falsely claims the right to tolerate.

Toleration is a concession, while liberty is a right.

Toleration is a matter of expediency, while liberty is a matter of principle.

Toleration is a gift from people, while liberty is a gift from God.

It is the consistent and insistent contention of our Baptist people,

always and everywhere, that religion must be forever voluntary and un-coerced.

And that is not the prerogative of any power, whether civil or ecclesiastical,

to compel anyone to conform to any religious creed of worship.

God wants free worshipers and no other kind.

- George W. Truett

Hymn

Christ, Our Liberty

NETTLETON

Once a people came together bound by faith and vision new;

With the wonder of the gospel came God's gift of freedom true.

Freed to follow Christ in service, freed to worship and to seek;

Conscience guided by God's Spirit, God their sole authority.

Having suffered persecution, they now fought for freedom's cause,

That our faith be freely chosen, not defined by human laws.

We their children are entrusted with the dream they dared to dream;

Each one free to seek God's leading, in our Lord our unity.

In our freedom God commands us that we share God's gift of grace;

For the sake of God's creation, we seek vision for this day.

Like our fathers and our mothers, may we always faithful be;

In our dying find our living, bound to Christ, our Liberty.

- Peggy Haymes

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 439

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

BATTLE HYMN

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

*As we go from this place of worship, may we remember
that we depend on God for everything:
the very air we breathe, God's strength that holds us together,
and for life in this community of Christ.
May God bind us together and send us out to proclaim
the good news of God's kingdom. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

God of Grace and God of Glory

setting by Paul Manz

*Cure Thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.*

- Harry Emerson Fosdick

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

Jerry Poynter

by

Billie Poynter and family

“God of Grace and God of Glory,” arr. J. Wayne Kerr.
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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.