

First Baptist Church at Worship

August 16, 2020
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

O the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God!

***How unsearchable are God's judgments,
how inscrutable God's ways!***

For who has known the mind of the Lord? Who has been God's counselor?

***For from God and through God and to God
are all things. To God be the glory forever. Amen.***

- from Romans 11

Hymn

The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy

LYONS

The kingdom of God is justice and joy; for Jesus restores what sin would destroy.

God's power and glory in Jesus we know, and here and here-after the kingdom shall grow.

The kingdom of God is mercy and grace; the captives are freed, the sinners find place.

The outcasts are welcomed God's banquet to share, and hope is awakened in place of despair.

The kingdom of God is challenge and choice; believe the good news, repent and rejoice!

God's love for us sinners brought Christ to the cross, our crisis of judgment for gain or for loss.

God's kingdom is come, the gift and the goal; in Jesus begun, in heaven made whole.

The heirs of the kingdom shall answer his call, and all things cry "Glory!" to God All-in-all.

- Bryn Austin Rees

Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

Holy God, there is so much we need to confess:

When we discount another's pain or overlook neighbors in distress,

forgive us.

When we choose callous words over compassionate impulses,

forgive us.

*When we think others less deserving of grace; when we ration kindness
as if it could be exhausted,*

forgive us.

*Have mercy on us, Lord, and heal our brokenness so that every word
and deed that proceeds from our hearts might glorify You.*

Amen.

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

from Isaiah 56

A Reading from the Gospels

from Matthew 15

Alex Lockridge

Hymn

Help Us Accept Each Other

AURELIA

*Help us accept each other as Christ accepted us;
 Teach us as sister, brother, each person to embrace.
 Be present, Lord, among us and bring us to believe
 We are ourselves accepted, and meant to love and live.
 Teach us, O Lord, Your lessons, as in our daily life
 We struggle to be human and search for hope and faith.
 Teach us to care for people, for all, not just for some,
 To love them as we find them, or as they may become.
 Let Your acceptance change us, so that we may be moved
 In living situations to do the truth in love;
 To practice Your acceptance until we know by heart
 The table of forgiveness, and laughter's healing art.*

- Fred Kaan

Sermon

“Yes, Even the Dogs”

Alex Lockridge

Response

WILD MOUNTAIN THYME

Spir - it, o - pen my heart _____ to the joy and pain of
 liv - ing. _____ As You love may I love, _____ in re - ceiv - ing
 and in giv - ing, _____ Spir - it, o - pen 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***

- Ruth C. Duck

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

Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound

NEW BRITAIN

Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!

I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;

How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;

'Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

- John Newton

Benediction

Alex Lockridge

Gayle Majors, Organist

Carolyn Garr, worship leader

Patsy Faulkner, Ed Garr, and Pat Parkey, singers

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

Mel Chandler, Sr.

in commemoration of his August 24th birthday

by

Mel, Jane, Garner & Patton Chandler