

First Baptist Church at Worship

September 12, 2021
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Organ Voluntary

Prelude on CLONMEL

setting by Anna Laura Page

... in all our learning may we seek the wisdom from above...

- Hugh McElrath

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

The heavens tell of the glory of God; all creation tells God's story.

All God's creatures reflect God's beauty.

The commandments of God give shape to human community.

Our life together speaks of God's wisdom.

The life of Jesus shows forth God's love.

Our faith tells God's story.

Hymn 341

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

stanzas 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6

Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

Response

*NETTLETON

during the singing of the response, children are invited to the chancel for the Children's Moment

Come and seek the ways of Wisdom, she who danced when earth was new.

Follow closely what she teaches for her words are right and true.

Wisdom clears the path to justice, showing us what love must do;

Alleluia, alleluia: showing us what love must do.

Listen to the voice of Wisdom, crying in the marketplace.

Hear the Word made flesh among us, full of glory, truth, and grace.

When the word takes root and ripens, peace and righteousness embrace;

Alleluia, alleluia: peace and righteousness embrace.

Sister Wisdom, come, assist us; nurture all who seek rebirth.

Spirit-guide and close companion, bring to light our sacred worth.

Free us to become your people, holy friends of God and earth;

Alleluia, alleluia: holy friends of God and earth.

- Ruth Duck

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from Wisdom Literature

Alex Lockridge

Wisdom cries out in the street; in the squares she raises her voice. At the busiest corner she cries out; at the entrance of the city gates she speaks: “How long, O simple ones, will you love being simple? How long will scoffers delight in their scoffing and fools hate knowledge? Give heed to my reproof; I will pour out my thoughts to you; I will make my words known to you.

“Because I have called and you refused, have stretched out my hand and no one heeded, and because you have ignored all my counsel and would have none of my reproof, I also will laugh at your calamity; I will mock when panic strikes you, when panic strikes you like a storm, and your calamity comes like a whirlwind, when distress and anguish come upon you.

“Then they will call upon me, but I will not answer; they will seek me diligently, but will not find me. Because they hated knowledge and did not choose the fear of the LORD, would have none of my counsel, and despised all my reproof, therefore they shall eat the fruit of their way and be sated with their own devices. For waywardness kills the simple, and the complacency of fools destroys them; but those who listen to me will be secure and will live at ease, without dread of disaster.”

- Proverbs 1:20-33

Psalm 19

setting by JOE COX



The heav-ens are tell-ing the glo-ry of God, the sky pro - claims all God's works.

The law of the Lord is perfect, the soul to revive.

*The law of the Lord is trusted, making the simple wise. **REFRAIN***

The laws of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.

*Radiant are God's commands, giving light to our eyes. **REFRAIN***

The fear of the Lord is pure and forever endures,

*Altogether righteous and altogether sure. **REFRAIN***

May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

Be pleasing in Your sight, O Lord, my Rock and Redeemer.

A Reading from the Epistles

Paul Sims

James 3:1-12

Hymn 395

Open My Eyes, that I May See

SCOTT

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

Sermon

“Fools Hate Knowledge”

Alex Lockridge

Responding

Hymn 368

We Praise You with Our Minds, O Lord

CLONMEL

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.

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.

Sending

Hymn 323

How Great Thou Art

*O STORE GUD

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

Go out with your minds set on the things of God.

See to it that the words of your mouths

and the thoughts of your hearts

are acceptable to God and enlightening to all.

And may God make the holy word known to you;

May Christ Jesus lead you in the ways of sacrificial love;

and may the Holy Spirit set you ablaze with divine wisdom. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Psalms XIX

by Benedetto Marcello

Carolyn Garr, cantor

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

Edmond and Edith Wyatt

and

Ray Tipton

by

Joyce Tipton

Wes, Lynn, and Wesley Tipton

Sarah, Seth, and Wyatt Reeves

Jeff and Debbie Tipton

Lauren and Vance Rose

Kim, Steve, Michael Ray, Hannah, and Jeffery Morton

“Thy Word Is Like a Garden, Lord,” arr. Anna Laura Page.
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DIX (interlude/harmonization), Alice Jordan. Copyright © 1980 Broadman Press.
“Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom,” Ruth Duck.
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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 provided by William P. Young, III