

First Baptist Church at Worship

September 13, 2020
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

*God is merciful and gracious, slow to anger,
and abounding in steadfast love.*

***God does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.***

For as the heavens are high above the earth,

so great is God's steadfast love toward those who revere God.

- from Psalm 103

Hymn

Bless the Lord with All My Being

NETTLETON

Bless the Lord with all my being, all within me bless God's name.

Bless the Lord and so remember all God's mercy to proclaim:

Who forgives all my transgressions and with mercy gently heals;

Who redeems me from destruction and with goodness kindly deals.

Working for those in oppression, God's own love and justice prove.

Slow to anger, full of mercy, steadfast love our sins remove.

As the heav'ns are high above us, vaster still God's love has been.

As the east from west is distant, so God puts away our sin.

Unto all who keep the statutes, steadfast in God's holy way;

Unto all who still remember God's commandments to obey;

To our children's children ever, God's own righteousness extends;

As it was in the beginning, God's love lasts and never ends.

- from Psalm 103; Fred R. Anderson

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Alex Lockridge

from Genesis 50

A Reading from the Gospels

Paul Sims

from Matthew 18

Sermon

"Reconciliation Is the Way"

Alex Lockridge

*I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.
I know my name is clear before my Father;
I am his child, and I am not afraid.
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;
The law of love I gladly will obey.*

*I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too.
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;
I dare to see another's point of view.
And when relationships demand commitment,
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.*

*Your kingdom come around and through and in me,
Your power and glory, let them shine through me;
Your hallowed name, O may I bear with honor,
And may Your living kingdom come in me.
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,
And may You feed a hungry world through me.*

- Gloria Gaither

Invitation to the Table

Alex Lockridge & Paul Sims

Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)

Response

LINSTEAD



Je - sus lives a - gain, earth can breathe a - gain, pass the word a - round: loaves a - bound!

Let us talents and tongues employ, reaching out with a shout of joy;

*Bread is broken, the wine is poured, Christ is spoken and seen and heard. **REFRAIN***

Christ is able to make us one, at the table he set the tone,

*Teaching people to live to bless, love in word and in deed express. **REFRAIN***

Jesus calls us in, sends us out bearing fruit in a world of doubt,

*Gives us love to tell, bread to share: God (Immanuel) everywhere. **REFRAIN***

- Fred Kaan

The Communion of the People

The Peace

Alex Lockridge

The peace of the Lord be with you.

Also with you.

Hymn

Blest Be the Tie

DENNIS

Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;

The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Before our Father's throne we pour our ardent prayers;

Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our comforts and our cares.

We share our mutual woes, our mutual burdens bear;

And often for each other flows the sympathizing tear.

When we asunder part, it gives us inward pain;

But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet again.

- John Fawcett

Benediction

Alex Lockridge & Paul Sims

Patsy Faulkner, Carolyn Garr, Ed Garr, and Pat Parkey – singers

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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

Seth, Sarah, and Wyatt Reeves

Jeff and Debbie Tipton, Vance and Lauren Rose

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

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. *Soli Deo Gloria.*