

First Baptist Church at Worship

September 26, 2021
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Organ Voluntary

Prelude in Classic Style

by Gordon Young

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.*

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*Wherever the stories of Jesus are told,
wherever gifts are offered in service,
wherever hope is part of healing,
wherever songs of joy are sung,*

God is there.

Sisters and brothers, let us worship God.

Hymn 315

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 4

Confession and Forgiveness

Paul Sims

*O God, we confess the blindness that is not even aware of sinning;
the pride that dares not admit that it is wrong;
the selfishness that can see nothing but its own will;
the righteousness that knows no fault;
the callousness that has ceased to care;
the defiance that does not regret its own sins;
the evasion that always tries to make excuses;
the coldness of heart that is too hardened to repent.*

God, we are sinners; be merciful to us.

God proves his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Act of Praise

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

***God's holy ways are just and true, God's promises are ever new, alleluia, alleluia!
Let every heart with praises sing and make this house with voices ring:
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!***

from Psalm 111; paraphrased Barbara Woollett

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

Psalm 19:7-14

Alex Lockridge

*The law of the Lord is perfect, reviving the soul;
the decrees of the Lord are sure, making wise the simple;
the precepts of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the Lord is clear, enlightening the eyes;
the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever;
the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether.
More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey, and drippings of the honeycomb.
Moreover by them is Your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.
But who can detect their errors?
Clear me from hidden faults.
Keep back Your servant also from the insolent;
do not let them have dominion over me.
Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.
Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart
be acceptable to You, O Lord, my rock and my redeemer.*

A Reading from the Letters to the Churches

Jeremiah Banks

James 5:13-20

Hymn 409

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

*CONVERSE

A Reading from the Gospels

Paul Sims

Mark 9:38-50

Hymn 278

We Are Travelers on a Journey

*BEACH SPRING

Sermon

“Take the High Road”

Alex Lockridge

Responding

Hymn

O God, We Ask for Strength

AZMON

*O God, we ask for strength to lead a gentle, caring life,
To live in modes of peace and love in spite of war and strife.
O God, we ask for voice to speak with language kind and true,
To never speak a hurtful word and always speak for You.
O God, we ask for grace to hear when others disagree,
Rememb'ring You created them in holy image, free.
O God, we ask for minds which think before we say or do,
To always speak and act with care, to always live for You.*

- Larry Schultz

Prayers of the People

Jeremiah Banks

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 641

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

Higher Ground

HIGHER GROUND

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

Go now and celebrate wherever God's name is honored.

When suffering comes, pray in faith.

In times of joy, sing songs of praise.

Persevere in prayer and action

to bring the fallen back to the truth.

And may God save you from all that would harm you;

May Christ Jesus heal you and raise you up;

and may the Holy Spirit anoint you

and give you peace with one another. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Postludium III

by Ron Boud

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of
my grandparents*

Edmond and Edith Wyatt

Ray Tipton

Coy B. and Opal Lee Hammons

by

Lauren and Vance Rose

“Prelude in Classic Style,” Gordon Young.
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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