

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Fourth Sunday of Easter

April 30, 2023

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Piano Voluntary

Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus

setting by Marilyn Ham

... and life more abundant and free...

- Helen H. Lemmel

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

The Shepherd calls us by name and leads us to abundant life.

We hear Your voice and hasten to follow.

The Shepherd prepares a table and lavishly pours out grace.

We hear Your invitation and take our place at the feast.

The Shepherd gathers us in and welcomes us to the house of the Lord.

We hear Your call and give You praise.

+Hymn 341

For the Beauty of the Earth

*DIX

stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 4

+Confession of Sin

Jeremiah Banks

God of community, You call us to a world that is radically different from what we are used to. You ask us to lay aside our ideas of "mine" and "yours."

You show us a life where goods are shared, where all are loved, and where faithfulness is shown through generosity.

But we cling to our possessions, trusting them more than we trust You.

Forgive us, merciful God. Help us to walk in Your ways and there learn to be grateful and generous.

+Response

GUIDE MY FEET

Guide my feet _____ while I run this race, guide my feet _____

feet _____ while I run this race, guide my feet _____ while I run this

race, for I don't want _____ to run this race in vain! _____

Hold my hand,

Search my heart,

Stand by me,

- African American spiritual

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

Psalm 23

Paul Sims

**The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters.
He restoreth my soul:
he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil: for Thou art with me;
Thy rod and Thy staff they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies:
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.**

Response

BRADBURY

*Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need Thy tender care;
In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use Thy folds prepare:
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are;
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, Thine we are.*

- Dorothy A. Thrupp

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Alex Lockridge

Acts 2:42-47

+Hymn

Make of Our Life a House of Praise

*LAND OF REST

*Make of our life a house of praise where all, with one accord,
Unite to walk in Jesus' ways, the temple of the Lord.
Here may we find our prayers are heard, and grow in truth and grace,
Receive from Christ his holy word and know his love's embrace.
Teach us our house of life to share, that all who will may come,
The lost be doubly welcome there, the wand'rer find a home.
So may our doors be open wide, and life together prove
A house where God is glorified, a house of praise and love.*

- Timothy Dudley-Smith

The Easter Gospel

Paul Sims

John 10:1-10

Sermon

"Enter Here"

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 477

We Are Called to Be God's People

AUSTRIAN HYMN

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.

+Offertory Prayer

Lindsay Lowe

Loose change received in April will support the work of CBF Field Personnel Scarlette Jasper, who works in Southeastern Kentucky through Olive Branch Ministries, Together for Hope, and The White Flag Ministry.

Offertory Anthem

The Lord Is My Shepherd

by Allen Pote

The Sanctuary Choir

The Lord is my shepherd. Nothing shall I want. My shepherd makes me lie in fields of green, leads me beside still waters. The Lord is my shepherd who restores my life, leads me in the paths of righteousness for the sake of the Lord's name. And even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for You are with me, Your rod and staff will comfort me. You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. Surely goodness and mercy, shall follow me all the days of my life, and in the house of my God I will live forever.

- from Psalm 23

Remembering Our Past

Stan Yonce

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.

+Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Sending

+The Peace

Paul Sims

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 640

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

SHOWALTER

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

*As you go, remember that you have been claimed by Jesus, the Good Shepherd,
who came that we may have abundant life.*

*And day by day, may you receive God's goodness and mercy,
so that your life will overflow with God's generosity. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee

setting by Robert Powell

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks

Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Dr. Yukiko Fujimura

Church Accompanist

Rev. Alex Lockridge

Senior Pastor

Mrs. Lindsay Lowe

Deacon

Rev. Paul Sims

Minister of Music and Worship

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

Marie Leake

and in commemoration of her April 29th birthday

by

Daniel, Lindsay, Jackson, Harrison, and Emerson Lowe

Kevin and Sherry Pace

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 by William P. Young, III