

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Fifth Sunday after Epiphany

February 5, 2023
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gather in God's Name

Organ Voluntary

*Trumpet Tune in D**

by David N. Johnson

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

God comes among us and within each one, inviting us to be salty Christians.

We are each important to the good work

God seeks to accomplish with and through us.

We are called to be lights in the world and to let our lights shine brightly.

God expects us to reflect eternal truth

and to lead others to Christ's way.

With the humility of the Apostle Paul, we offer our weakness and limited insight.

In our worship and in our service

we seek to demonstrate the mind of Christ.

+Hymn 352

All Praise to Thee

SINE NOMINE

+Confession of Sin

Paul Sims

... until Your kingdom comes. Amen.

+Response

by Marty Haugen



Bring forth the King-dom of mer - cy, bring forth the King-dom of peace;



bring forth the King-dom of jus - tice, bring forth the Cit - y of God!

You are the salt for the earth, O people: salt for the Kingdom of God!

Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the Kingdom of God! REFRAIN

You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the City of God!

Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the Kingdom of God! REFRAIN

Proclaim God's Word

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from I Corinthians 2

Alex Lockridge

When I came to you, brothers and sisters, I did not come proclaiming the mystery of God to you in lofty words or wisdom. For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ, and him crucified. And I came to you in weakness and in fear and in much trembling. My speech and my proclamation were not with plausible words of wisdom, but with a demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith might rest not on human wisdom but on the power of God.

Yet among the mature we do speak wisdom, though it is not a wisdom of this age or of the rulers of this age, who are doomed to perish. But we speak God's wisdom, secret and hidden, which God decreed before the ages for our glory. None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written, "What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the human heart conceived, what God has prepared for those who love him"—these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. For what human being knows what is truly human except the human spirit that is within? So also no one comprehends what is truly God's except the Spirit of God. Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit that is from God, so that we may understand the gifts bestowed on us by God.

Anthem

Christ, the Way of Life, Possess Me

by K. Lee Scott

*Christ, the Way of Life, possess me, lift my heart to love and praise;
Guide and keep, sustain and bless me all my days.*

Well of life, forever flowing, make my barren soul and bare

Like a watered garden growing fresh and fair.

May the Tree of Life in splendor from its leafy boughs impart

Grace divine and healing tender, strength of heart.

Path of life before me shining, let me come when earth is past,

Sorrow, self, and sin resigning, home at last.

- Timothy Dudley-Smith

A Reading from Matthew 5

Jeremiah Banks

"You are the salt of the earth; but if salt has lost its taste, how can its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything, but is thrown out and trampled under foot. You are the light of the world. A city built on a hill cannot be hid. No one after lighting a lamp puts it under the bushel basket, but on the lampstand, and it gives light to all in the house. In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father in heaven.

"Do not think that I have come to abolish the law or the prophets; I have come not to abolish but to fulfill. For truly I tell you, until heaven and earth pass away, not one letter, not one stroke of a letter, will pass from the law until all is accomplished. Therefore, whoever breaks one of the least of these commandments, and teaches others to do the same, will be called least in the kingdom of heaven; but whoever does them and teaches them will be called great in the kingdom of heaven. For I tell you, unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven."

Sermon

"The Wisdom of Demonstration"

Alex Lockridge

Give Thanks to God

+Hymn

Beyond the Beauty and the Awe

*LAND OF REST

*Beyond the beauty and the awe, beyond the fear and dread,
We long, O God, to hear Your word, to taste Your holy bread.
Oh, teach us how to hear Your voice despite the traffic's din,
To keep the blasts of rancor out and let Your Spirit in.
In sound or silence, sight or smell, may we some token find
That makes Your living presence known to body, soul, and mind.
Then help us live as Jesus taught, as light and salt and yeast,
That others may be brought to share Your promise and Your feast.*

- Carl Daw

Invitation to the Table

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

Breaking the Bread

Christ, Be Our Light

by Bernadette Farrell

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the dark - ness.

Christ, be our light! Shine in Your church gath-ered to - day.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a 3/4 time signature. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people, light for the world to see. **REFRAIN**
Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. **REFRAIN**
Longing for shelter, many are homeless. Longing for warmth, many are cold.
Make us Your building, sheltering others, walls made of living stone. **REFRAIN**
Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making Your kingdom come. **REFRAIN***

Sharing the Cup

This Little Light of Mine

setting by Moses Hogan

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, ...
All through the night, I'm gonna let it shine, ...
My God gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, ...*

- Negro spiritual

+The Peace

Alex Lockridge

*The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.*

+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

Jeremiah Banks

Loose change received in February will benefit the Global Missions Offering of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship.

Offertory – “A Place at the Table – for Everyone”

Remembering Our Past

Kim Croley

+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.*

Go in God's Name

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

... in the power of the living Christ. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Variations on AUSTRIA

by David Lasky

+all who are able may stand

Carolyn Garr, cantor

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in honor of

Frankie Sasser

for her birthday on February 8

by

Bob, Kim, Rachel, and Rob Croley

Janne Beam and Alexis, Cody, and Clara Jackson

Glenn II, Julie, Lily, and Luke Sasser

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

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