

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 21, 2024
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Greeting Alex Lockridge

Prelude *I Will Sing the Wondrous Story* arr. by Lauren Gadd

Call to Worship Jeremiah Banks

*The time has arrived! The reign of God is here and now!
We are watching and waiting for the realm of God.
The time is now. The kingdom of God is here!
We are seeking the good news.
Believe the good news! The dreams of God are alive, right here!
We are searching for work to do in God's world.
The moment has come. Let us fish for people!
God's realm is alive in this world! Let us worship!*

+Hymn 471 *Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy* RESTORATION

+Prayer of the day Carolyn Garr

Loving God, in Jesus Christ you drew near to us, calling us to repent and believe the good news. Teach us to follow him, fishing for people—casting our nets far and wide in global mission and mending social networks in local ministry, so that all may see the fulfillment of your realm; through Christ, who leads us to the river of life. Amen.

+The Peace Jeremiah Banks

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

+Response HE LEADETH ME

*He leadeth me! O blessed thought! O words with heavenly comfort fraught!
Whate'er I do, where're I be, still 'tis God's hand that leadeth me!
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.*

(response continues on next page)

*Lord, I would clasp Thy hand in mine, nor ever murmur nor repine,
Content, whatever lot I see, since 'tis Thy hand that leadeth me!
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.
And when my task on earth is done, when, by Thy grace, the victory's won,
E'en death's cold wave I will not flee, since God through Jordan leadeth me!
He leadeth me, he leadeth me, by his own hand he leadeth me:
His faithful follower I would be, for by his hand he leadeth me.*

Proclaiming

A Reading from the Gospels

Carolyn Garr

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

-Mark 1:14-20

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

+Hymn 476

You Walk Along Our Shoreline

AURELIA

A Reading from the Epistles

Alex Lockridge

...I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

-I Corinthians 7:25-31

Sermon

Beliefs, Opinions, and the Practice of Theology

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 660

O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

MARYTON

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

Carolyn Garr

Loose change received in January will go to Olive Branch Ministries.

Offertory Music

I'd Rather Have Jesus

by Miller/Shea

Ed Garr, soloist

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

+Hymn 285

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

Beloved disciples, go forth today in the assurance that whether you answer the first time, The second time, or the hundredth time, God never stops calling, never stops guiding, And never stops forming you because God's love never fails. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Organ Postlude

God of Grace and God of Glory

setting by A.L. Page

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks
Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Donna Davis
Organist

Dr. Yukiko Fujimura
Accompanist

Carolyn Garr
Interim Music Director

Rev. Alex Lockridge
Senior Pastor

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of
Bill & Ruby Cobb and Tom & Peggy Cobb Moore
by
Kellie Moore Steely &
Kristi Moore Whitehead*

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

Music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-734945. All rights reserved.