

# First Baptist Church at Worship

The Third Sunday after Epiphany

January 22, 2023

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

## Gathering

Organ Voluntary *The Master Has Come, and He Calls Us to Follow* by Mary McDonald

Greeting and Call to Worship Alex Lockridge

*The Lord gives wisdom;*

***from God's mouth come knowledge and understanding.***

*From our daily labors, the Lord summons us.*

***Freed from fear, we are bold to follow.***

*"Come! I will make you fishers of people."*

***We respond with gratitude and praise.***

- from Proverbs 2 & Matthew 4

+Hymn 488 *Come, All Christians, Be Committed* \*BEACH SPRING

+Prayer of Confession Paul Sims

***Christ, our Messiah, You call us to fish for people, but we are hesitant to leave our boats.***

***We are afraid to let go of the things we hoard, believing that they will make us secure.***

***We are afraid to put our trust in You, afraid to follow, afraid we will fail. Forgive us.***

***Transform our fear into faithfulness, and enable us to walk with You, that we may be part of Your work in the world.***

+Response LEAVE ALL THINGS BEHIND



"Leave all things you have and come and fol-low me, and come and fol-low me." —

*Two fishermen, who lived along the Sea of Galilee,*

*Stood by the shore to cast their nets into an ageless sea.*

*Now Jesus watched them from afar, then called them each by name.*

*It changed their lives, these simple men; they'd never be the same. REFRAIN*

*And as he walked along the shore 'twas James and John he'd find,*

*And these two sons of Zebedee would leave their boats behind.*

*Their work and all they held so dear they left beside their nets.*

*Their names they'd heard as Jesus called; they came without regret. REFRAIN*

- Suzanne Toolan

# Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

Psalm 27

setting by Vera Lyons



*You protect me from all danger. I will never be afraid.  
Even if a whole army surrounds me, I will not be afraid.  
In times of trouble, You will shelter me and keep me safe. **REFRAIN**  
Let me live in Your house all the days of my life  
I want to seek You out and enjoy Your sweetness.  
With shouts of joy I will sing to You! **REFRAIN**  
Teach me Your way, O God.  
Lead me along a safe path.  
I know I will live to see Your goodness in this life. **REFRAIN***

A Reading from the Letters to the Churches

Paul Sims

I Corinthians 1:10-18

A Reading from the Gospels

Alex Lockridge

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: “Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light, and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned.” From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fish for people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father, and followed him.

Jesus went throughout Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

- Matthew 4:12-23

+Hymn 476

*You Walk along Our Shoreline*

AURELIA

Sermon

“The Wisdom of Immediacy”

Alex Lockridge

# Responding

+Hymn 496

*Footsteps of Jesus*

\*FOOTSTEPS

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

Sandi Curd

Offertory Anthem

*The Summons*

setting by John Bell

The Sanctuary Choir  
Carolyn Garr, soloist

*Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown, will you let my name be known,  
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?  
    Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
    Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
    Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
    Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?  
Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoner free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,  
And admit to what I mean in you and you in me?  
    Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
    Let me come and follow you and never be the same.  
    In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show,  
    Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.*

- John Bell & Graham Maule

Remembering Our Past

Andrew Davis

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

## +Sending Song

LEAVE ALL THINGS BEHIND



"Leave all things you have and come and fol-low me, — and come and fol-low me." —

*O Simon Peter, Andrew, James, and John, beloved one,  
You heard Christ's call to speak good news revealed to God's own Son.  
Susanna, Mary, Magdalene who traveled with your Lord,  
You ministered to him with joy for he is God adored. **REFRAIN**  
And you, good Christians, one and all who'd follow Jesus' way,  
Come leave behind what keeps you bound to trappings of our day,  
And listen as he calls your name to come and follow near;  
For still he speaks in varied ways to those his call will hear. **REFRAIN***

- Suzanne Toolan

## +Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Paul Sims

*Go from this place to proclaim the message of repentance,  
for the kingdom of heaven is near.*

*Go out, united in purpose, and do not be afraid when your mission is called foolishness.*

*And may God be the light that overcomes your darkness and fear,  
may the foolishness of Christ be your wisdom,  
and may the Holy Spirit be with you, this day and every day. **Amen.***

## Organ Postlude

*Tuba Tune in D\**

by C. S. Lang

+all who are able may stand

Yukiko Fujimura, Church Accompanist

Nick Hibbard, cantor

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

Bill and Ruby Cobb

Tom Moore and Peggy Cobb Moore

by

*Kellie Moore Steely and 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