

First Baptist Church at Worship

May 21, 2023

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Ascension of Jesus

Gathering

Organ Voluntary

It Is Well With My Soul

arr. Mark Hayes

*And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
the trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend, "Even so" – it is well with my soul.*

- Horatio G. Spafford

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

Let God's people be joyful.

Sing to God; sing praises to God's name.

The heavens open at the presence of God.

Sing to God; hear God's mighty voice.

God gives power and strength to all God's people.

Let us worship God.

+Hymn 223

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

+Prayer of the Day

Carolyn Garr

*Redeeming God, you call us to be one with you, as you are one with Christ. As his perfect love casts out fear, and changes it to love, unite us by Your Spirit of peace, that we may be one with you, as you are one with Christ. **Amen.***

+The Peace

Jeremiah Banks

The peace of the risen and ascended Christ be with you.

And also with you.

+Response

May the road rise to meet you,

May the wind be always at your back.

May the sun shine warm upon your face,

And rains fall soft upon your fields.

Proclaiming

The Easter Gospel

Jill House

After Jesus had spoken these words, he looked up to heaven and said, “Father, the hour has come; glorify your Son so that the Son may glorify you, since you have given him authority over all people, to give eternal life to all whom you have given him. And this is eternal life, that they may know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom you have sent. I glorified you on earth by finishing the work that you gave me to do. So now, Father, glorify me in your own presence with the glory that I had in your presence before the world existed. “I have made your name known to those whom you gave me from the world. They were yours, and you gave them to me, and they have kept your word. Now they know that everything you have given me is from you, for the words that you gave to me I have given to them, and they have received them and know in truth that I came from you, and they have believed that you sent me. I am asking on their behalf; I am not asking on behalf of the world but on behalf of those whom you gave me, because they are yours. All mine are yours, and yours are mine, and I have been glorified in them. And now I am no longer in the world, but they are in the world, and I am coming to you. Holy Father, protect them in your name that you have given me, so that they may be one, as we are one.

- John 17:1-11

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

+Hymn 210

I Know My Redeemer Lives

DUKE STREET

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles: Acts 1:1-11

Carolyn Garr

Sermon

“This is Eternal Life”

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 215

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL

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.

Remembering Our Past

Alex Lockridge

Offertory Prayer

Paul Winchester

Offertory Anthem

Soon and Very Soon

setting by Jack Schrader

Loose change received in May will support the mission projects of our Vacation Bible School.

Graduate Recognition

Jeremiah Banks

Presentation of Scholarships

J. Bill Sosh

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Kim Croley

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 HUNDRETH

*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 562

Soon and Very Soon

HANKEY

+Commission and Blessing

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

*Go out into the world. and in your words and in your lives,
bear witness to the Christ who has ascended to be everywhere present.
And may God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
may Christ Jesus lift up his hands and bless you,
and may the Spirit open to you all the riches of Christ's inheritance. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

setting by R. Warner

*Praise, My Soul, the God of heaven; glad of heart your carols raise;
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, who, like me, should God's praise?
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise the Maker all your days.*

-Henry Francis Lyte (alt.)

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks
Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Kim Croley
Scholarship Committee Member

Carolyn Garr
choral director

Samuel Garr
accompanist

Jill House
reader

Rev. Alex Lockridge
Senior Pastor

J. Bill Sosh
Scholarship Committee Member

J.P. Winchester
pianist

Paul Winchester
Deacon

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

William E. Hensley

by

Glennis Hensley

Nancy, Courtney & Patrick Haggerty

Bill, Tricia, Grace & Kate Hensley

Cindy, Lars & Clara Finneseth

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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 by William P. Young, III