

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 7, 2023

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Opening Voluntary

Be Thou My Vision

setting by Daniel Pinkston

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

Jesus says, "Do not let your hearts be troubled."

We long for abiding peace and friendship that renews our souls.

Jesus says, "I am the Way, and the Truth, and the Life."

We seek wisdom that endures and guidance for our journey.

Jesus says, "Where I am, there you may be also."

We come to encounter Christ. Let us worship our God!

+Hymn

Christ the Eternal Lord

DIADEMATA

Christ the eternal Lord whose promise here we claim,

Whose gifts of grace are freely poured on all who name Your Name;

With thankfulness and praise we stand before Your throne,

Intent to serve You all our days and make Your glory known.

Christ the unchanging Word to every passing age,

Whose timeless teachings still are heard set forth on scripture's page;

Transform our thought and mind, enlighten all who read,

Within You word by faith to find the bread of life indeed.

Christ the redeeming Son who shares our human birth,

And by his death salvation won for every child of earth;

Inspire our hearts, we pray, to tell Your love abroad,

That all may honor Christ today and follow him as Lord.

Christ the unfading Light of everlasting day,

Our morning star in splendor bright, the Life, the Truth, the Way;

That light of truth You give to servants as to friends,

Your way to walk, Your life to live, till earth's brief journey ends.

- Timothy Dudley-Smith

+Confession of Sin

Jeremiah Banks

Response

HOUSTON

the congregation is invited to sing hymn 96: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Paul Sims

Acts 7:55-60

Psalm 31

LAND OF REST

You are my refuge, faithful God; You shelter me from shame.

I put my spirit in Your hands and call upon Your name.

Deliver me from hidden snares, from sorrow, pain, and strife.

When troubles seem to smother me, take heed, and save my life!

Be gracious, God, in my distress, and dry my bitter tears.

My life is spent in misery; I sigh away my years.

And yet I trust in You, O God; Your covenant still stands.

Redeem me, in Your faithful love: my life is in Your hands.

- David Gambrell

The Easter Gospel

Alex Lockridge

“Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also.

“And you know the way to the place where I am going.” Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where You are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.” Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, ‘Show us the Father’? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me?”

“The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.”

- John 14:1-14

+Hymn 71

Be Thou My Vision

SLANE

Sermon

“Works Greater than These ”

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 246

The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5

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

Alice Tremaine

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

Offertory Anthem

We Are the People of God The Sanctuary Choir and the congregation

by John Carter

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a quarter rest, followed by quarter notes G, A, B, C, D, E, F#, G, and a half note G. The second staff continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics are: "We are the peo-ple of God;— He has loved us and cho-sen us for his own;". The second staff continues with a quarter note G, a quarter note A, a quarter note B, a quarter note C, a quarter note D, a quarter note E, a quarter note F#, and a quarter note G. The lyrics are: "we are the peo - ple of God;— He has cho - sen us to be his own."

Filled and clothed with his Spirit, forgiving as he forgave;

Bound and blessed by his perfect love, his everlasting love. REFRAIN

The peace of Christ is in us, for peace is our calling now.

Psalms and hymns and spiritual songs we offer him with joy. REFRAIN

All we do in word and deed, we do in his holy name.

Giving thanks to God above, with glad and joyful hearts. REFRAIN

- from Colossians 3; Mary Kay Beall

Remembering Our Past

Paul Sims

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

Alex Lockridge

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 285

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Paul Sims

Go from this place as God's own people.

*Go, proclaiming the mighty acts of God who called you out of darkness
into marvelous light.*

*And may God open the heavens that you might see God's glory,
may Christ Jesus take you to himself and be with you always,
and may the Holy Spirit go with you, this day and every day. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

God of Grace and God of Glory

setting by Anna Laura Page

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks

Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Mrs. Carolyn Garr

pianist

Mr. Samuel Garr

clarinetist

Rev. Alex Lockridge

Senior Pastor

Rev. Paul Sims

Minister of Music and Worship

Rev. Alice Tremaine

Chaplain, Baptist Health

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of

Buddy Woods

by

Rhoda Woods

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