

First Baptist Church at Worship

November 12, 2023
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Greeting Jeremiah Banks

Prelude *Great Is the Lord* arr. by J.B. LeDoux

Call to Worship Carolyn Garr

Lead a life worthy of the God who calls you.

We have one teacher: the Messiah; all of us are students of the Lord.

The greatest among you will be the one who serves.

All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.
Let us humble ourselves and worship our exalted God.

+Hymn 298 *God is Here!* ABBOT'S LEIGH

+Prayer of Confession Alex Lockridge

...from oppressive and unjust practices and from bondage to greed and desire, Lord, deliver and redeem us. Gather us in from our wandering and lead us by your way, until we reach the place you prepare for those who follow. Amen.

+Assurance of Forgiveness

*Friends, believe the good news of the Gospel:
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!*

+The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Response *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* arr. by Linda R. Lamb
FBC Handbell Choir

Proclaiming

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Jeremiah Banks

Micah 3:5-12

A Moment for Children

+Hymn 289

The Servant Song

GILLARD

A Reading from the Gospels

J. Bill Sosh

Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, “The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses’s seat; therefore, do whatever they teach you and follow it, but do not do as they do, for they do not practice what they teach. They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on the shoulders of others, but they themselves are unwilling to lift a finger to move them. They do all their deeds to be seen by others, for they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long. They love to have the place of honor at banquets and the best seats in the synagogues and to be greeted with respect in the marketplaces and to have people call them rabbi.

But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers and sisters. And call no one your father on earth, for you have one Father, the one in heaven. Nor are you to be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Messiah. The greatest among you will be your servant. All who exalt themselves will be humbled, and all who humble themselves will be exalted.

-Matthew 23:1-12

Sermon

Alex Lockridge

“Wide Phylacteries, Long Tassels, and the Nature of Hypocrisy”

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

Paul Winchester

Loose change received in November will go to the Benevolence Fund.

Offertory Anthem

To God Be the Glory

arr. by J.M. Martin

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 637

Guide My Feet

GUIDE MY FEET

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge

*Go now, in the freedom of the gospel of Christ.
Let your words and your lives be one in Christ.*

*And may the God of lasting love open the way before you;
May Jesus the Messiah be your one instructor;
And may the Holy Spirit lead you on the path of humility. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

setting by M. Limbaugh

*All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again; gladly forever adore him.*

+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

J. Bill Sosh
Deacon

Paul Winchester
Deacon

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of
Agnes Young
in commemoration of her birthday
by
Billie Poynter and family*

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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