

First Baptist Church at Worship

October 1, 2023
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

World Communion Sunday

Gathering

Greeting

Alex Lockridge

Prelude

Trust and Obey
Ann Hacker, pianist

arr. by V. Bedford

Call to Worship

Carolyn Garr

Around the world people gather to break bread and pour wine.

We gather with them in heart and mind.

Around the world the broken body is made whole.

As part of that body, we join in its unity.

Around the world the Banquet of God is prepared for the table.

We, who share in the banquet, come eagerly to be fed.

Let us worship together, let us share God's bounty.

+Hymn 295

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

+Prayer of Confession

Jeremiah Banks

*...even though we forget our promises to be faithful to you. **In your mercy, forgive the emptiness of our words. Enable us by your Holy Spirit to serve you faithfully, putting into practice the faith our lips profess, through your Son, who took upon himself the form of a servant for our sake. Amen.***

+Assurance of Forgiveness

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

+Response

NETTLETON

*Would you bless our homes and families, source of life who calls us here;
In our world of stress and tension teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays;
Teach us when we face our troubles, love's expressed in many ways.*

(Response continues on next page)

*Let us reach beyond the boundaries of our daily thought and care.
'Til the family You have chosen spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other with a love that constant stays;
Teach us when we face our troubles, love's expressed in many ways.*

-Walter Farquharson

Proclaiming

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Exodus 17:1-7

Alex Lockridge

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

+Hymn of Discipleship

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

TOPLADY

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

Let the water and the blood from thy wounded side which flowed

Be of sin the double cure, cleanse from guilt and make me pure.

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill thy law's demands

Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow,

All for sin could not atone. Thou must save, and thou alone.

While I draw this fleeting breath, when my eyelids close in death,

When I soar to worlds unknown, see thee on thy judgment throne,

Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in thee.

A Reading from the Gospels

Matthew 21:23-32

Sandi Curd

Sermon

"Is the Lord Among Us or Not?"

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 457

Come and Feast, for All Are Welcome

REGENT SQUARE

stanzas 1 and 3

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give thanks and praise.

(the Great Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)

*...through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. Amen.*

Breaking the Bread; Sharing the Cup

A Communion Medley

arr. by G.C. Sikes

+The Peace

Jeremiah Banks

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 467

We Are One in Christ

THAXTED

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

Jefferson Calico

Loose change received in October will go to the Bereavement Meal Fund, which provides
meals to our grieving members and their families during their most difficult days.

Offertory Anthem

Thou Art Holy

by C. Courtney

+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 433

Halle, Halle

HALLE, HALLE

FBC Children/Youth

Jefferson Calico, guitar

Nick Hibbard & Summer Walter, percussion

+Commission and Blessing

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

*Go now to will and to work for God's purposes.
And may God quench your thirst with love and consolation;
May Christ Jesus strengthen you and encourage you;
And may the Holy Spirit lead you on and make your joy complete. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

setting by J. Innes

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks
Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Rev. Dr. Jefferson Calico
prayer

Dr. Sandi Curd
Deacon

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

Tom Davis

in commemoration of his birthday

by

The Davis Family,

Laura Davis,

Todd & Talia Davis,

Andrew & Mallory Davis, and

Leslie Davis

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