

# First Baptist Church at Worship

September 10, 2023  
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

## A Summer in Rome

### Gathering

Greeting Alex Lockridge

Piano Prelude *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* arr. by Mary McDonald  
*All is vain unless the Spirit of the Holy One comes down...*

Call to Worship Alex Lockridge

*The night is far gone; the day is near.*

***Let us lay aside the works of the night and put on the garments of light.***

*Let us put on the garments of Jesus Christ,*

***That all may know Christ's glory and praise God.***

+Hymn 296 *Brethren, We Have Met to Worship* HOLY MANNA

+Prayer of the Day Carolyn Garr

*From the beginning until now, Loving God, we have turned away from you, following lesser ways, pursuing a lesser life than the life offered to us in Christ. Yet you will not abandon us. You call out, warning and wooing us to turn, to return to you. Even when we fall away from brothers and sisters in the church, you remain present with us. Help us to love—wholeheartedly—until we are reconciled to you and to our neighbor. In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.***

+The Peace Jeremiah Banks

*The peace of the Lord be with you.*

***And also with you.***

+Response HOLY MANNA

***Lord, we bring our gift of music; touch our lips and fire our hearts,  
Teach our minds and train our senses, fit us for this sacred art.  
Then with skill and consecration we would serve You, Lord, and give  
All our powers to glorify You, and in serving fully live.***

# Proclaiming

A Reading from the Letters to the Churches

Alex Lockridge

Owe no one anything, except to love one another, for the one who loves another has fulfilled the law. The commandments, “You shall not commit adultery; you shall not murder; you shall not steal; you shall not covet,” and any other commandment, are summed up in this word, **“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.”** Love does no wrong to a neighbor; therefore, love is the fulfilling of the law.

Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is already the moment for you to wake from sleep. **For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone; the day is near. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;** let us walk decently as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in illicit sex and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

-Romans 13:8-14

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

+Hymn 96

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

HOUSTON

Elizabeth Reese, descant

A Reading from the Gospels

Bob Croley

“If your brother or sister sins against you, go and point out the fault when the two of you are alone. If you are listened to, you have regained that one. But if you are not listened to, take one or two others along with you, so that every word may be confirmed by the evidence of two or three witnesses. If that person refuses to listen to them, tell it to the church, and if the offender refuses to listen even to the church, let such a one be to you as a gentile and a tax collector. Truly I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. Again, truly I tell you, if two of you agree on earth about anything you ask, it will be done for you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.”

-Matthew 18:15-20

Sermon

“The Law of Love”

Alex Lockridge

# Responding

+Hymn 500

*Just As I Am*

WOODWORTH

stanzas 1, 3, 5, & 6

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

Pam Worthy

Loose change received in September will benefit the Corbin Independent Schools Family Resource and Youth Services Centers, which provide a multitude of services to assist students and families in our community.

Offertory

*Grace Alone*

arr. by Camp Kirkland

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 618

*Love Lifted Me*

SAFETY

+Commission and Blessing

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

*Go out in love, reconciled to one another in Christ.  
Lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.  
And may God mark you out for salvation;  
May Christ Jesus be present among you always,  
And may the Holy Spirit reconcile you to one another, fulfilling the law of love among you. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

*Brethren, We Have Met to Worship*

setting by Harold DeCou

*Tell them all about the Savior, tell them that he will be found...*

+all who are able may stand

*leading in worship today*

Rev. Jeremiah Banks  
Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Dr. Bob Croley  
reader

Donna Davis  
Organist

Dr. Yukiko Fujimura  
Accompanist

Carolyn Garr  
Interim Music Director

Rev. Alex Lockridge  
Senior Pastor

Pam Worthy  
prayer

*The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of  
Edmond and Edith Wyatt and Ray Tipton*

*by*

*Joyce Tipton;*

*Wes, Lynn & Wesley Tipton;*

*Sarah, Seth, Wyatt & Ella Reeves;*

*Jeff & Debbie Tipton;*

*Lauren & Vance Rose;*

*Kim, Steve, Michael Ray, Hannah & Jeffery Morton*

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

Music reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-734945. All rights reserved.