

First Baptist Church at Worship

July 30, 2017

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Greeting Austin Carty

Gathering Song LAFFERTY
the congregation is invited to sing hymn 436: *Seek Ye First*

Call to Worship Alex Lockridge

*On this day of worship, we call on God's name
and hear God's invitation to work for the good of all.
Gathered with neighbors and strangers, we call on God's hope
and discover that a lifetime of service seems but a few days.
In this place of praise and prayer, we call on God's love
and receive that grace which is as old as creation, as fresh as the morning.
Let us worship God.*

+Hymn 299 *Stand Up and Bless the Lord* OLD 134TH
stanzas 1, 2, 4, and 5

+Prayer of the Day Paul Sims
... to the praise of the triune God, who lives forevermore. Amen.

+Act of Praise HYFRYDOL

*Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! we give Thee praise!
For the riches we inherit, heart and voice to Thee we raise!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Thee we bless through endless days!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Thee we bless through endless days!*

- George Frazer (alt.)

The Word

Children's Sermon

Alex Lockridge

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: I Kings 3:5-12

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:129-136

setting by Hal Hopson



O Lord, You have the words of — life; O — teach me Your ways.

Lord, Your teachings are wonderful; I obey them with all my heart.

As Your word unfolds, light is shed and understanding is given to the simple.

O Lord, I long for Your commandments.

*Turn to me and have mercy on me, for I love Your name. **REFRAIN***

O Lord, let Your words direct my steps that I may not be overcome with evil.

Save me from those who would harm me so that I may keep Your commands.

Bless me with Your presence and teach me Your ways.

*My tears pour down like a river for those who break Your law. **REFRAIN***

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

Austin Carty

The Gospel of our Lord

Thanks be to God

+Hymn

We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed

AZMON

We plant a grain of mustard seed, and in our faith we find

The proof of God is love, indeed, which blossoms from its kind.

Our actions, more than words, define how love's example feeds

A greater love, for love divine bursts forth from smallest seeds;

When stooped to lend a helping hand, we find a touch that heals,

For love invested will expand to bear the fruit love yields.

Make love our purpose, love our aim, for love endures all things,

And choosing love our lives will claim the peace forgiveness brings.

Our lives will be fulfilled and blessed if through the seeds we've sown

And by the love that we profess the love of Christ is known.

- Mary Bryan Matney

Sermon

“Give Your Servant an Understanding Mind”

Austin Carty

Responding

+Hymn 48

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

If you wish to present yourself for membership today, or if you have another decision to share, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

+Offertory Prayer

Mary Ida Gray

Loose change received in July will benefit our church's shoebox ministry, which will be shared internationally through Samaritan's purse, and locally through Olive Branch Ministries.

Offertory Anthem

Hymn of Promise

setting by John Ferguson

The Summer Choir

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;

In cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!

In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;

There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.

From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;

In our doubt, there is believing; in our life eternity.

In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,

Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

- Natalie Sleeth

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 Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 285

God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

+Commission and Blessing

Austin Carty

Paul says:

***The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness,
generosity, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.***

May we live by the Spirit.

Amen.

Organ Postlude

Be Thou My Vision

setting by Matt Limbaugh

Be Thou my wisdom and Thou my true word,

I ever with Thee, and Thou with me, Lord;

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,

Thou mine inheritance, now and always.

- traditional Irish hymn

+all who are able may stand

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net Number A-722512

Gayle Majors, Organist

Ann Hacker, Pianist

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in commemoration of

Ruth Myers' birthday

by

David Myers and family