

First Baptist Church at Worship

May 29, 2022

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Seventh Sunday of Easter

The Ascension of Jesus

Assemble in God's Name

Organ Voluntary

Entrata Festiva

by David Lasky

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

This is the day the Lord has made;

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

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Like the first disciples, we are witnesses to the work of Christ.

Let us proclaim Christ's name to all nations!

Just as Christ blessed those first disciples, we have been blessed.

Let us praise God with great joy!

+Hymn 219

Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise

LLANFAIR

+Confession of Sin

Paul Sims

God of all time and space, we confess our failure to use well our time and our space. We give our hearts to trivial matters. We struggle to separate truth from clutter. We neglect the needs of the neighbors You direct us to love. We exploit the world You have made and we have failed to care for Your creation. Forgive us. Reshape our priorities and guide our efforts that we may live our days to Your glory.

+Easter Alleluia

by Finton O'Carroll



Proclaim God's Word

A Moment for Children

Jefferson Calico

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles

Jeremiah Banks

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. "This," he said, "is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?" He replied, "It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." When he had said this, as they were watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up toward heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up toward heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

- Acts 1:1-11

+Psalm 47

*NETTLETON

Clap your hands, O faithful people! Shout to God a song of praise!

From the dust of all the nations, God a realm of grace shall raise.

In appointed courts of glory faithful to God's name always:

Alleluia, alleluia! May we prosper all our days.

With a shout, and blast of trumpet, God shall mount a throne on high.

Let our praise, as finest incense, rise to meet God in the sky.

Fill the world with glad rejoicing, heav'n shall sing, and earth reply:

Alleluia, alleluia! All God's works to glorify.

Let your hearts be filled with gladness, as the Lord your life shall bless;

Live as heirs of God's great justice, wear the cloak of righteousness.

God will grant us earth's dominion, all things good, and nothing less:

Alleluia, alleluia! Glorious is Your faithfulness.

- Michael Morgan (alt.)

A Reading from the Letters to the Churches

Paul Sims

Ephesians 1:15-23

+Hymn 246

The Church's One Foundation

*AURELIA

stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 4

The Easter Gospel
Luke 24:44-53

Alex Lockridge

Sermon

Jeremiah Banks

“Seeing the Point – You Are (and You Will Be) My Witnesses”

Give Thanks to God

+Hymn 352

All Praise to Thee

SINE NOMINE

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

Jeremiah Banks

Offertory Anthem

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

setting by Benjamin Harrison

The Sanctuary Choir

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus! His the scepter, his the throne;
Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood,
Jesus, out of every nation, hath redeemed us by his blood.
Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Thou on earth our food, our stay!
Alleluia! Here the sinful flee to Thee from day to day:
Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.
Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! he is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise, "I am with you evermore!"*

- William Dix

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 for Ascension

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*O risen Christ, ascended Lord, all praise to You let earth accord. Alleluia, alleluia.
You are, while endless ages run, with Father and with Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Go in God's Name

+The Peace

Paul Sims

The peace of the risen and ascended Christ be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 581

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

+Commission and Blessing

Jeremiah Banks and Alex Lockridge

Go out into the world, and in your words and in your lives

bear witness to the Christ who has ascended to be everywhere present.

And as you come to know him, may God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation,

may Christ Jesus lift up his hands and bless you,

and may the Spirit open to you all the riches of Christ's inheritance. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

by Anna Laura Page

+all who are able may stand

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of our parents

Rex and Betty McDonald

Edward and Joie Akins

Willard and Evelyn Brookins

by

Mitchell and Connie Brookins

Gary and Janie Akins

Rachel Akins and family, Rebecca Akins, and Katie Bales and family

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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