First Baptist Church at Worship

August 26, 2018 Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Gathering

Greeting Austin Carty

Gathering Song

Kenyan worship song



Call to Worship Austin Carty

People of God, whom will you serve?

As for this house, we will serve the Lord. Where else can we turn? To whom can we go?

Jesus alone has the words of eternal life. Let us worship God.

+Hymn 32

God Has Spoken by the Prophets

HYMN TO JOY

+Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

God of majesty and grace, in Christ, the Holy One of God, You have given us Your words of eternal life. Forgive us for taking too lightly this gift: for hearing Your word but not obeying Your will; for treating Your word as just one among many; for choosing that which pleases us and ignoring that which challenges us; for allowing the noise of our busy lives to distract us from Your loving voice; for keeping silent instead of shouting aloud the truth of Your rule and the wonder of Your love.

For these and all our sins, we pray, forgive us, O God. From Your boundless grace grant us to live according to Your will, responsive to Your Living Word in Jesus Christ our Lord.

Hear us now as we give You our praise:

please see Gathering Song

The Word

Children's Sermon Lindsay Lowe

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Joshua 24:1-2, 14-18

Paul Sims

Then Joshua gathered all the tribes of Israel to Shechem, and summoned the elders, the heads, the judges, and the officers of Israel; and they presented themselves before God. And Joshua said to all the people:

Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel: Long ago your ancestors lived beyond the Euphrates and served other gods. Now therefore revere the LORD, and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD.

Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 34:15-19 setting by John Bell



The eyes of God are on the righteous; God's ears are open to their cry.

The face of God is against evildoers,

to cut off the remembrance of them from the earth.

When the righteous cry for help, God hears, and rescues them from their troubles.

God is near to the brokenhearted;

God saves the crushed in spirit.

Many are the afflictions of the righteous,

But God rescues them from them all. REFRAIN

A Reading from the Gospels: John 6:56-69

Austin Carty

The Gospel of our Lord

Thanks be to God

+Hymn 619

Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine

ASSURANCE

Sermon

"Choose This Day Whom You Will Serve"

Austin Carty

Responding

+Hymn 37

God, Our Father, You Have Led Us

CWM RHONDDA

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

Nancy Rich

Loose change received in August will support the work of CBF Field Personnel Scarlette Jasper, who works in Southeastern and Southern Kentucky through Olive Branch Ministries and Together for Hope.

Offertory Anthem

I Will Joyfully Sing

by Mary McDonald

The Summer Choir

I will joyfully sing in the morning. I will joyfully sing all the day.

I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, for the Lord is the strength of my day.

I will lift up my eyes in the morning, for the Lord will not turn me away.

I'll sing praises to Thee in the morning, for the Lord is the strength of my day.

- from Psalm 59

Prayers of the People

Austin Carty

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 Paul Sims

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 625

Standing on the Promises

PROMISES

+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.

Organ Postlude

Unspeakable Joy

by Carlos Colón

+all who are able may stand

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Gayle Majors, Organist Ann Hacker, Pianist

Daniel Lowe, reader

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in honor of Glennis Hensley for her birthday by

Nancy, Courtney, and Patrick Haggerty Bill, Tricia, Grace, and Kate Hensley Cindy, Lars, and Clara Finneseth