First Baptist Church at Worship

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 2, 2021
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Organ Voluntary

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

setting by Dale Wood

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

We gather to praise and worship God, the One who created us for love. We gather to worship the true Vine, the One in whose love we abide.

Hymn

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!
Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, ocean-depth of happy rest!

Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother – all who live in love are Thine; Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began; Love divine is reigning o'er us, bringing all within its span. Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife; Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

- Henry van Dyke

A Moment for Children

Nick Hibbard

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles Acts 8:26-40

Paul Sims

Spiritual

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

Lord, I want to be a Christian in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart,

A Reading from the Gospels John 15:1-8

Alex Lockridge

Response

The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He

by John Carter



The Lord of Life, a vine is he and grafted to him we must be;

And thus we yield abundantly sweet fruit for all to taste and see. REFRAIN

The Lord of Life, the Source Divine calls us to come, with him entwine.

Will we, unhearing, dare decline the call of Christ, the one True Vine. REFRAIN

The vine is he, the branches we for now and to eternity.

His word sown deep in us will be both sun and rain ... sufficiency. REFRAIN

- Mary Kay Beall

Sermon

"Fruitful Abidance"

Alex Lockridge

Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table

HOLY MANNA

As we gather at Your table, as we listen to Your word,

Help us know, O God, Your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.

Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;

Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's vict'ry known.

Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;

Send us forth to love and serve You, bringing peace where there is strife.

Give us, Christ, Your great compassion to forgive as You forgave;

May we still behold Your image in the world You died to save.

Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast

Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.

There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,

As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

- Carl P. Daw, Jr.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Alex Lockridge & Paul Sims

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 our thanks and praise.

(the Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)
Therefore, with our hearts lifted high,
we offer you thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Communion of the People

Sending Song

The Lord of Life, a Vine Is He

by John Carter



If we be joined to him, we know his strength and power will help us grow.

His Spirit's grace through us will flow to prune and shape us as we go. **REFRAIN**- Mary Kay Beall

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge & Paul Sims

May God, the vine grower, tend you and make you fruitful; May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life; And may the Holy Spirit fill you with God's love. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude

Fanfare

by Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens

Carolyn Garr, cantor

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in memory of Buddy Woods

by

Rhoda Woods

Children's Church resumes today

Nick Hibbard will be leading Children's Church, but will need one adult volunteer each Sunday. If you are willing to help, please contact the church office at 606.528.4738.

Family Fun Day at Dollywood

Saturday, May 22 to register, visit corbinfbc.org/Dollywood-signups

Vacation Bible School

6 pm – 8 pm the five Wednesdays in June **VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**

Contact Nick Hibbard at nhibbard@corbinfbc.org or 606.620.2095.

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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.