First Baptist Church at Worship

February 12, 2017 Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Sixth Sunday after Epiphany

Gathering

Greeting

Alex Lockridge

Gathering Song

GUIDE MY FEET

the congregation is invited to sing hymn 637: Guide My Feet

Call to Worship

Paul Sims

We are God's people, walking together.

Let us choose the way of the Lord, and live.

We are God's servants, working together.

It is the Lord who makes us live and grow.

Praise the Lord!

The Lord's name be praised!

+Hymn 315

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

MIT FREUDEN ZART

stanzas 1, 2, 3, and 4

+Invocation

Alex Lockridge

+Act of Praise

MIT FREUDEN ZART







each false i-dol from its throne, for Christ is Lord, and Christ a-lone: to God all praise and glo-ry.

- Johann Jakob Schütz, 17th century

The Word

Children's Sermon Alice Tremaine

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Alex Lockridge

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity.

If you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the LORD your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the LORD your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess.

But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess.

I call heaven and earth to witness against you today

that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses.

Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the LORD your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him;

for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the LORD swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 119:1-8

Clara Finneseth and Cierra Ledford



Happy are those whose lives are blameless, who walk in the law of the Lord.

Happy are those who follow God's commands, who seek the Lord with all their hearts.

Happy are those who never choose evil, but follow God's ways.

Lord, You have given us Your laws and have told us to keep them faithfully. REFRAIN

Steady me, Lord, that I may be faithful in keeping Your instructions.

If I concentrate on Your commandments, I will never be put to shame.

As I learn Your truth and justice, I will truly sing Your praise.

I will obey Your laws; Lord, never leave me alone. REFRAIN

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 5:21-37

Paul Sims

The Gospel of our Lord

Thanks be to God

ASSAM

I have decided to follow Jesus; ... no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me; ... no turning back, no turning back. O come and join me; we'll follow Jesus; ... no turning back, no turning back.

- Garo Christians of India

Sermon

"The Problem Is Choice"

Alex Lockridge

Responding

+Hymn 500

Just As I Am

WOODWORTH

stanzas 1, 2, 5, and 6

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

Paul Sims

Loose change received in February will support the Youth Mission Trip to Managua, Nicaragua this June.

Offertory Anthem

Day by Day

by K. Lee Scott

Day by day, dear Lord, of Thee three things I pray:

To see Thee more clearly, love Thee more dearly,

Follow Thee more nearly.

Thanks be to Thee, Lord Jesus, for all the benefits which Thou hast won for us; For all the pains and insults which Thou hast borne for us,

O merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother.

- Richard of Chichester, 13th century

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 HUNDREDETH

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

+Sending Song

SIZOHAMBA NAYE



- Swaziland sending song

+Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Paul Sims

... through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

Organ Postlude

Trust and Obey.

setting by David Crouse

When we walk with the Lord in the light of his word, What a glory he sheds on our way

+all who are able may stand

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Gayle Majors, Organist Ann Hacker, pianist

Sanctuary flowers are given in honor of our grandchildren:
Payton, Kali, Lake, Tyeler, Isley, Luke, Tobey, and Tag
by
Steve and Betty Surmont