First Baptist Church at Worship The Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

February 20, 2022 Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Organ Voluntary

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

by Richard Warner

Alleluia! Alleluia! All within me, praise God's name!

Greeting and Call to Worship

Alex Lockridge

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.

And also with you.

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Listen to the stories of God,

passed down by the faithful from age to age.

Listen to the Son of God,

teaching us how to live, love, and serve.

Listen to the voice of God,

proclaiming the broken world "beloved."

Listen and worship, people of God,

for God is here among us!

Hymn 310

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

HYMN TO JOY

stanzas 1 and 2

Confession of Sin Paul Sims

Lord Christ, the economy of Your love is beautiful, expending goodness and extending lines of forgiveness beyond our imagining. The economy of our love is stingy and crooked. We invest love where it can be repaid. We spend mercy where it yields gain. We advance blessing we can bank on. We hold grudges with interest. We do all this with no recognition of how deeply indebted we are to You. Forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors, we pray with our whole hearts.

Response HYMN TO JOY

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.

- Henry van Dyke

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Alex Lockridge

Genesis 45:3-15

Psalm 37 setting by Hal Hopson



O trust in the Lord with all your heart, take heed to do God's will;
So shall you live in peace and joy, and God your needs shall fill. REFRAIN
O rest in the Lord with quiet trust, wait patiently each day;
Though wicked ones may seem to thrive, keep faith, the Lord obey. REFRAIN

A Reading from the Gospels

Paul Sims

Luke 6:27-38

Hymn 290

Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace

O WALY, WALY

Sermon

"He's Gone Too Far"

Alex Lockridge

Responding

Hymn

Your Ways Are Not Our Own

DENNIS

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.

Your ways are not our own, O gracious God most high, Yet we would follow in Your paths and on Your love rely.

Christ teaches us to bless the ones who curse and harm,

To turn the other cheek when struck, attackers to disarm.

How shall we show Your love, Your pardon to believe?

You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we receive.

Forgiveness is our joy, receiving, giving, too.

Keep us from judgments hard and cruel, that we may dwell with You.

- Lavon Bayler

Offertory Prayer

Jeremiah Banks

Organ Offertory

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

setting by Diane Bish

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart. Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

- African American spiritual

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

Hymn 509 Trust and Obey TRUST AND OBEY

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Jeremiah Banks

Go now and give your life to the Lord.

Trust in God and do good.

Love and bless everyone – even your enemies.

Do not judge others, but be merciful and generous to all.

Treat others as you would have them treat you.

And may God be quick to act on your behalf, may Christ Jesus raise you to new and everlasting life, and may the Holy Spirit be with you, this day and every day. **Amen.**

Organ Postlude

*Trumpet Tune in D**

by David N. Johnson

Carolyn Garr, cantor

The flowers that grace our sanctuary are given in honor of Mollie Daniel and Kevin Pace for their birthdays by Mark and Jenny Daniel Sherry Pace Daniel, Lindsay, Jackson, Harrison, and Emerson Lowe Sue Mills

and $in\ honor\ of$ All those who have volunteered their time and talents
for the White Flag Ministry by $Pat\ Huff$

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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