



The First Baptist Church at Worship  
**7<sup>TH</sup> SUNDAY OF EASTER**  
**ASCENSION OF THE LORD**  
 May 16, 2021



THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist

Chaconne ..... Louis Couperin  
 Prelude on "Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" ..... Traditional Spiritual  
 setting by Gordon King  
 Undulato ..... Richard Purvis

In Praise to the Lord

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

A three-fold ringing of three signifies the presence of the triune God:  
 Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

\*OPENING HYMN (See Hymnal)

**#418** *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*  
 EIN FESTE BURG

This hymn is often referred to as "the battle hymn" of the Reformation. Many stories have been relayed about its use. Albert Bailey writes, "It was, as Heine said, the Marseillaise of the Reformation...It was sung in the streets...It was sung by poor Protestant emigres on their way to exile, and by martyrs at their death...Gustavus Adolphus ordered it sung by his army before the battle of Leipzig in 1631...Again it was the battle hymn of his army at Lutzen in 1632...It has had a part in countless celebrations commemorating the men and events of the Reformation; and its first line is engraved on the base of Luther's monument at Wittenberg...An imperishable hymn! Not polished and artistically wrought but rugged and strong like Luther himself, whose very words seem like deeds." As you can see, this is a hymn close to the hearts of Protestants and Lutherans, a source of assurance in times of duress and persecution. The text is not restricted, however, to times of actual physical battles. In any time of need, when we do battle with the forces of evil, God is our fortress to hide us and protect us, and the Word that endures forever will fight for us.

MOMENT FOR HERITAGE COMMITTEE

Donna Miles Curry

Listening for the Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION *from Ephesians 1:17-19*

Rev. David Coggins, Leader

God of our Lord Jesus Christ, Father of glory, grant us a spirit of wisdom and revelation as we come to know you, so that, with the eyes of our hearts enlightened, we may know what is the hope to which you have called us, what are the riches of your glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of your power for us who believe, according to the working of your great power. **Amen.**

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Rev. Coggins

**Acts 1:1-11:** 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 over the course of 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 towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards 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.'

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

#### \*GOSPEL LESSON

Rachel Powell

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Luke.

**People: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

**Luke 24:44-53:** Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

(Children preK-5 are invited to come forward for the Children's Message. After the message they may go downstairs for a one-room Sunday school class. Parents are asked to pick up their child(ren) downstairs in Room 4 following the worship service.)

CALL TO PRAYER (See Hymnal)

#394 v.1 *Jesus, Thou Joy of Loving Hearts*  
QUEBEC

**Jesus, Thou joy of loving hearts, Thou fount of life, Thou light of all,  
from the best bliss that earth imparts, we turn unilled to hear Thy call.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE &  
THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts & Debtors)

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

SPECIAL MUSIC

First Baptist Quartet  
Tia Seay, Connie Holmen, Parris Hobbs, Ray Landis

God and God Alone ..... arr. Tom Fettke

*God and God alone is fit to take the universe's throne. Let everything that lives reserve its truest praise for God and God alone. God and God alone will be the joy of our eternal home. He will be our one desire, our hearts will never tire of God and God alone. God and God alone is fit to take the universe's throne. Let everything that lives reserve its truest praise for God and God alone. God and God alone is fit to take the universe's throne. Let everything that lives reserve its truest praise for God and God alone. Let everything that lives reserve its truest praise for God and God alone.*

THE SERMON

Rev. Alspaugh

*“Christ Is Rising!”*

## The Response of God’s People

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE (See Hymnal)

#619 *Blessed Assurance*  
ASSURANCE

Ira Sankey, good friend of hymn author Fanny Crosby, once related this story about the comfort *Blessed Assurance* provides; “During the recent war in the Transvaal, said a gentleman at my meeting in Exeter Hall, London, in 1900, when the soldiers going to the front were passing another company whom they recognized, their greetings used to be, “Four-nine-four, boys; four-nine-four;” and the salute would invariably be answered with “Six further on, boys; six further on.” The significance of this was that, in *Sacred Songs and Solos*, a number of copies of the small edition of which had been sent to the front, number 494 was *God be with you till we meet again*; and six further on than 494, or number 500, was *Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine*. From the very day she wrote them, Crosby’s words have provided comfort for millions of Christians in the face of fear, persecution, sorrow, and doubt. In spite of all the trials that may come, we know that we serve a Savior who came to bring the Kingdom of God on earth, and as we serve Him, we participate in, and belong to, that Kingdom. We each play our own part in that “glorious foretaste” of what is still to come. We belong to Christ and his Kingdom – what an assurance this is!

BENEDICTION

William Henry Caldwell

POSTLUDE

Gregory Land

Kyrie Eleison ..... Richard Purvis  
“Lord, Have Mercy”

(\*) You’re invited to rise in body or in spirit!

*Please drop your offering and yellow card in the basket as you leave. Thank you!*



Ascension from the Psalter of Christina of Markyate  
English (St. Alban's), 1124-1145 - Hildesheim, Dombibliothek

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome** to our in-person worship! If you are visiting, we would love to get to know you. Please fill out a yellow card with your contact information and a pastor will be happy to get in touch with you. Anyone is welcome to use these cards to communicate with our office and share prayer requests or other information, too. We have baskets for our offering and communication cards at our entrances/exits.

**Please Note!** We remain in a Public Health Emergency Advisory. While we are no longer requiring reservations, we do ask everyone to please cooperate with our pandemic protocols. Please wear a mask over your mouth and nose at all times while indoors, use hand sanitizer, and remain socially distanced from those outside your family group when entering, seated and exiting. If a restroom visit is required, please use the downstairs rooms. You are welcome to sing during our service with your mask on.

We continue to **livestream and video record** our Sunday worship service through our YouTube channel. This can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/> and look for First Baptist Church Dayton Ohio, or check our website (<http://www.fbcdayton.org/>). We will hold our live Zoom Gathering Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. This is a time to connect with one another, pray, and have a lesson. Anyone is welcome to join us through any of these venues as we try to reach people in safe and meaningful ways.

### Week of May 16 – 23

Sun. 16	10:00a	.....	Worship Service
	11:30-12:30	.....	BYF Gathering
	4:00p	.....	Interfaith Forum of Greater Dayton
	5:00p	.....	Adult Sunday School via Zoom
Wed. 19	2:00p	.....	Bible Study at FBC
	6:30p	.....	Executive Council Meeting via Zoom
Thu. 20	7:30a	.....	Building Bridges Bible Study via Zoom
Sun. 23	10:00a	.....	Worship Service
	11:30-12:30	.....	BYF Gathering
	5:00p	.....	Adult Sunday School via Zoom

### Interfaith Forum of Greater Dayton

by Youth, for Youth & Adults

INNOVATION CHALLENGE

SUNDAY, MAY 16, 4 pm

Meeting ID: 823 3401 7871 | Passcode: 346252

Share something you see as *not fair for people* in the world around you and talk with youth and adults of all ages and backgrounds of *how to make it fair*.

### Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, May 19 @ 6:30PM via Zoom

### June Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing

*“Nobody hungry, nobody thirsty, shade from the sun, shelter from the wind, for the Compassionate One guides them, takes them to the best springs.” –Isaiah 49:10*

The One Great Hour of Sharing offering began 72 years ago and is still a tangible way American Baptists provide for the human needs of our world. The offering provides emergency relief, clean/abundant water and ample sanitation facilities, development projects, and refugee & immigration ministries. OGHS serves people in over 80 countries around the world, and makes sure that we can respond to needs as soon as they happen. Please give generously next month to the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. Special OGHS offering envelopes will be available in the pew racks.

## Founder's Sunday

May 30, 2021

First Baptist Church will honor those who have been members of FBC for 50 years or more during our Sunday morning worship service on May 30. Not only do we recognize them for their contributions given in the past, we are mindful that they make significant contributions to the life of the church in the present.

## Education/Youth Sunday

June 6, 2021 @ 10AM

Join us as our children and youth share their gifts and lead us in worship. We will also take time to recognize those who have served in the education ministry of our church, and celebrate those who are graduating from high schools or universities. **Also, let us know if you or someone in your family will be graduating** this spring and we would be happy to include you/them in our list of graduates on Education/Youth Sunday. Contact the church office ([fbc@fbcd Dayton.org](mailto:fbc@fbcd Dayton.org)) with the graduate's name, institution of learning, degree if applicable, and a photo if possible. Thank you!

## First Baptist Celebrating Dayton Pride 2021 – “Together As One”

Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup>

Reverse Parade @ 10-11am

Festival at Courthouse Square @ Noon-4pm



This summer on Saturday, June 5<sup>th</sup> we will once again be joining with other organizations and churches from the Dayton community to celebrate Gay Pride Month. This year's celebration will be in-person, with some changes to make it a COVID-safe event. We will essentially have two booth spaces—one for the “Reverse Parade” that will take place from 10-11am (organizations will have booths/tables along the street and pass out goodies & info to people from the community driving by); and one at Courthouse Square for the Festival starting at Noon. We would like to keep the number of folks in our booth spaces somewhat limited, but if you'd like to help out in some way please speak with Pastor Jason. We look forward to fun times and sharing

the love of God with our LGBTQ+ neighbors. You can learn more about this year's Pride events at <https://www.daytonlgbtcenter.org/pride>.

## Baptist Youth Fellowship (BYF) Weekend Camp Out

Friday-Sunday, June 11-13 Tecumseh Campsite

This year we are keeping our summer camping plans with BYF youth (grades 6-12) local, tent camping at Twin Creek MetroPark. We will also be joined by some of our Baptist Youth Camp, local church friends from the Harmony Creek Church youth group ☺. There will be hiking, field games, time to chill out, hangout around the campfire, explore, and more.



We have reserved the Tecumseh campsite for Friday-Sunday, June 11-13. Campers can arrive by/after Noon on 6/11 and must depart by/before Noon on 6/13. Those youth not wanting to camp overnight can come out for the day on Friday afternoon/evening and/or during the day on Saturday (just give Pastor Jason a heads up about that). Taking COVID-safe precautions, we are asking that families transport their youth(s) to and from the camp-out. Also, each youth is required to have their own tent, though siblings/members of the same household can share a tent. If your youth needs a tent, please let Pastor Jason know ASAP and one will be secured. Besides a tent, below is a suggested packing list. Youth can bring snacks, etc. to share, but food will be provided for the weekend. Youth are asked to bring a face mask to wear as appropriate, but by and large we'll be outdoors and practice physical distancing.

Lastly, it's been a while since we've gathered and information changes, so we will be asking for new BYF Medical-Transportation forms to be filled out and signed. Hard copies are available in the narthex and outside the church office, and we'll also have some on-hand at the campsite. We are looking forward to a fun, relaxing, refreshing weekend with the youth and hope to see as many as possible. **If you have any questions, etc. please contact me/Pastor Jason ([jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org](mailto:jalspaugh@fbcd Dayton.org) / 937-631-3579 cell).** Detailed flyers of this event are also available.



## Prayer for the Armed Forces

*Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Prayers of the People

*(If you have someone you'd like to add or remove, please let us know.)*

Ayers Family	Jim Earnest	Michelle Smith
Bartlett Family	Neil Earnest	Roger Stephens
Paige Bartlett	Lavanda Ferguson	Helen Sutton
Rebecca Bauer	Gottshall Family	Kaye Suryk
Cody Berghuis	Ken Gordon	Emily Taylor
Marlen Berghuis	Bev Harrell	Torrey Thrash
Jessica Blair	Linda Haskins	Anne Veghte
Don Brown	Barbara & Bob Jett	Sara Vice
Linda Ginter Brown	Doris Landis	Waldrop Family
Melinda Brown	Anna Frances Lasley	Zachery Williamson
Robert Brown	Vincent Liss	Peggie Worthey
Lynn Chadbourne	Tim Meador	<b>Healthcare Workers</b>
Tami Malone Charles	Arthur Merkle	<b>Police &amp; Fire Fighters</b>
June Collier	Mary Ann Paloncy	<b>Military Duty:</b>
Marilyn Craig	Susan Reichard	Sebastian Ewald
Pamela Cress	Benji Sayre	Sunny Ewald
Martha DeBold	Judy See	Brittany Kalbfleisch
Florida Dixon	Judy Smith	Andy Wilson

Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)

## **A Collection of Reflections: Our Faith Journeys at Dayton First Baptist**

As we update our official written history of First Baptist Church Dayton (FBC Dayton) in preparation for our Bicentennial in May 2024 the Heritage Committee seeks to add personal reflections for the past 50 years. We have attempted to collect some of your stories using the strategy of oral history. However, we have found this process a bit challenging i.e., trying to schedule interviews, and transcribing. So, we have decided to add a second approach. We invite all of you (old and young) to take the time to write your own reflection on your experiences at FBC Dayton.

While a formal written history can record events and list activities in a church, this often leaves out the person to whom things happened. To capture and preserve this important aspect of the church's history we are inviting you to sit down and reflect on the following questions. Please share a story (or stories) of any experience you have had with someone in the church (or outside the church) for any of the questions. Do not feel you have to answer all the questions. They are just suggestions of experiences you might want to share.

Please feel free to handwrite your responses or use a computer (MS Word preferred). Please don't worry about the way you write about your memories (don't think about spelling, grammar, or punctuation, or whether something is a complete sentence—we want your details and your memories and we have a great group of volunteers who will help transcribe your work.

Your contribution can be as long or short as you want. Your contribution will become part of the church history archives stored at Wright State University and used to update the previous published church history.

You can return your contribution to the church office or email to Donna Miles Curry, Chair of the Heritage Committee ([donna.curry@wright.edu](mailto:donna.curry@wright.edu)).

**Thank you for your participation in our Bicentennial church history.**

1. How did you decide to come to FBC Dayton and what were those first Sundays like?
2. What are some of your most vivid memories of your time at FBC Dayton?
3. Who were some of the people you remember at church when you first arrived—your first encounters?
4. Who were some people who became dear friends?
5. What was your experience with Church (Sunday) School?

6. What was your experience with Pastors (what do you remember about them?)
7. Were you involved in a specific group at church (the choir, the youth, a teacher yourself, a committee)—what was it like?
8. How was the church involved in the larger Dayton community while you were here? What impact do you feel the church had in the community at large? Missions? Did you have any relationship with any other local or sister Baptist churches?
9. How have your experiences at FBC Dayton affected your faith journey?
10. What kinds of activities or events do you remember happening in the church? These could be very personal events—like your baptism, your wedding, or it could be a more general event like Christmas Eve service, or a visiting choir, or different celebrations that happened.
  - Can you remember why that event was happening? And what it was commemorating or celebrating?
  - Who was involved with the event?
  - Were you affected or moved by the event? What did you feel like being at the event?
11. What would you want someone else to know about your time here at FBC Dayton—the journey you took with this church? Is there someone you want to remember especially for the impact they had on the church?
12. Finally, is there something you don't want to forget, and you don't want us to forget about FBC Dayton that you remember vividly—a story, a person, a moment, an event, a part of the building, or the way something used to be done that might have been forgotten? Can you tell us that here?