

The First Baptist Church at Worship

3rd Sunday in Lent

March 15, 2020

10:00 AM

The Gathering

The congregation is invited to meditate and contemplate during the Prelude.

THE PRELUDE

R. Alan Kimbrough, Organist

“Aria”
Paul Manz

Chorale Preludes on “St. Columba”
Robin Mitford and Henry G. Ley

In Praise to the Lord

ACOLYTES BRING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE SANCTUARY
TO LIGHT THE CANDLES

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

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

CHORAL INTROIT

In the Cross of Christ I Glory, v.1

*In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time:
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. David Coggins

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#282 *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken*
AUSTRIAN HYMN

The opening line of this hymn quotes Psalm 87:3 “Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God.” The theme of these stanzas is the universal church and its story. The text begins with a vision of the new city of God in the first two stanzas, and then looks back to the early journey of the Israelites, with references in the third stanza to cloud, fire, and manna. We are reminded through this of the long history God has with us, and of the wonderful future awaiting those who are, through grace, members of God's family.

*OPENING PRAYER

Rev. Coggins

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#436 *Seek Ye First*
LAFFERTY

**Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
And all these things shall be added unto you; Alleluia, alleluia!
Ask, and it shall be given unto you, seek and ye shall find,
knock, and the door shall be opened unto you; Alleluia, alleluia!**

*WELCOME & PASSING THE PEACE

Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

(Please register your attendance by filling out a yellow card from the pew rack and placing it in the offering bag later in the service.)

We are invited to greet our nearest neighbors, extend our hand,
and greet one another in the name of Christ.

(Please be seated.)

Listening for the Word of God

RESPONSIVE PSALTER LESSON

Jerome Stueart

Psalm 32

Of David. A Maskil.

Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.

**Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.**

While I kept silence, my body wasted away
through my groaning all day long.

**For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer.**

Then I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not hide my iniquity;

**I said, ‘I will confess my transgressions to the LORD’,
and you forgave the guilt of my sin.**

Therefore let all who are faithful
offer prayer to you;

at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters
shall not reach them.

**You are a hiding-place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with glad cries of deliverance.**

I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.

**Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle,
else it will not stay near you.**

Many are the torments of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD.

**Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.**

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

People: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

Romans 5:1-11: Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us. Much more surely then, now that we have been justified by his blood, will we be saved through him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies, we were reconciled to God through the death of his Son, much more surely, having been reconciled, will we be saved by his life. But more than that, we even boast in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

People: Thanks be to God.

*THE FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#64 *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*
ST. COLUMBA

In this hymn, we contemplate the good care that our Good Shepherd gives. Even as we acknowledge that we are often “perverse and foolish” and obviously do not deserve God’s kindness, God surrounds us with symbols of God’s loving care. Truly “thy goodness faileth never.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Ray Landis

(Following the message, children in preK-5 grades will be led downstairs for Sunday School. PreK-1 graders will be in Rm. #4. Grades 2-5 will be in Rm. #3B. Parents are asked to pick up their children after worship.)

CALL TO PRAYER

#399 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*
O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer:
when I call answer me.**

**O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

**The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise:
all my hope comes from God.**

**The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise:
God, the well-spring of life.**

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

& LORD’S PRAYER (*Debts & Debtors*)

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

Living Water Emily Crocker

I will give to you living water from the well of endless life. As the deer longs for cooling streams, so do I bring you peace. Peace I bring to you. Whosoever shall drink of the water I give shall thirst no more, I say. For I say unto you that the water I give shall be in you a well of endless life, of Life.

THE SERMON

Rev. Alspaugh

“Peace with God”

CONFESSION: THE LITANY OF RECONCILIATION *(Responsive)*

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.
The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class—**God forgive.**

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own—**God forgive.**

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth—**God forgive.**

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others—**God forgive.**

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee—**God forgive.**

The lust which dishonors the bodies of men, women, and children—**God forgive.**

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves, and not in God—**God forgive.**

Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another as God is Christ forgave you—**Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You are made in God's image.
You are loved.
We are never alone.
You are precious children of God.
You are the apple of God's eye.
We walk by faith.
We are forgiven beyond measure.
Thanks be to God!

Responding to God

THE OFFERTORY

Chancel Choir

Down By the Riverside arr. Rosephanye Powell

I'm gonna lay down mah burden down by the riverside. I ain't gon' study war no, No, Lawd, no mo. I gonna lay down my sword and shield down by the riverside. Well, I ain't gon' study war no mo. I'm gonna put on mah long, white robe down by the riverside.

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

OLD 100TH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God for all that Love has done:
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Jerome Stueart

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

Rev. Alspaugh

(Persons wishing to make known a decision to follow Christ as Lord or to join First Baptist Church are invited to come forward while the organist plays the first verse of the recessional hymn. You may join First Baptist Church by transfer of letter, statement of faith, or baptism. The pastor will greet you as you come forward this morning.)

ACOLYTES ENTER ON LAST VERSE OF HYMN

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#33 *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*
CWM RHONDDA

The notion of “the unknown” is not an idea we’re overly fond of. Part of us would love to know how the future plays out -- what to prepare for, what to let go, because it won’t be successful anyway. C. S. Lewis alludes to this desire in *Prince Caspian*, in this conversation between Lucy and Aslan. “Please, Aslan!” said Lucy, “am I not to know?” “To know what would have happened, child?” said Aslan. “No, nobody is ever told that.” “Oh dear,” said Lucy.” Not knowing what the future holds brings certain uneasiness to our lives. And yet, in a strange kind of way, there is comfort in the fact as well. Whatever happens to our loved ones or us is out of our hands; we simply couldn’t know anything about it if we tried. There is a common phrase: “Let go, and let God.” In this hymn by William Williams, we are given the words to express our prayer that God would guide us as we walk through a life of unknowns. At the end of her conversation with Aslan, Lucy, her head previously buried into Aslan’s mane, suddenly sits up and says, “I’m sorry, Aslan...I’m ready now.” Let us pray that we are always ready to go with God wherever He takes us, songs of praises ever on our lips.

*ACOLYTES EXTINGUISH THE LIGHT AND LEAD THE PASTORS OUT,
SYMBOLICALLY CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD*

*BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

Rev. Alspaugh

*BENEDICTION

#517 (v.1) *Go Forth for God*
Genevan Psalter, C. Winfred Douglas

**Go forth for God, go to the world in peace;
Be of good courage, armed with heavenly grace,
In God’s good Spirit daily to increase,
Till in the kingdom we see face to face.
Go forth for God, go to the world in peace.**

*POSTLUDE

R. Alan Kimbrough

“Cwm Rhondda” Paul Manz

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



*The chancel flowers are given today in loving memory of
Janet West from her family.*

March ABC/USA Offering

AMERICA FOR CHRIST 2020

“You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” –Mt. 22:39

The contributions made to the America for Christ Offering minister to families who have lost homes to floods, to children living lives of limitation in poverty, to seminarians preparing to devote their lives to sharing the Good News, and many more. AFC 2020 empowers local and national efforts to “love our neighbor.” Please give generously to this month’s AFC Offering. Special offering envelopes are available in the pew racks.

First Baptist Church of Dayton

THIRD SUNDAY
IN LENT

MARCH 15, 2020



OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

*To celebrate God's love as a community of believers
in Jesus Christ through worship, education,
fellowship, and outreach to others.*

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