



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, September 16th, 2018
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Indicates congregation is invited to stand as able*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Merciful and loving God, even as our Lord needed times alone, so we need this time away from work and busyness. We want to be vividly aware of your presence. We want to become more conscious of your power. We need to sense your protection. We desire to know more fully the wonder of your presence. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Mark Anderson

Opportunities for Life and Service

John Nelson

Morning Chimes

*The Introit

“We Are Called to Be God's People”

(Tune: Hyfrydol, #61)

**We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives His grace,
One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.**

**Let us show how He has changed us and remade us as His own;
Let us share our life together as we shall around His throne.**

*Call to Worship

John Nelson

Welcome

Leader: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

*Welcoming One Another

We Approach God

*Reflective Moment

“Holy Spirit”

Keith Getty/Stuart Townsend

Holy Spirit, come abide within; may Your joy be seen in all we do. Love enough to cover ev’ry sin in each thought and deed and attitude. Kindness to the greatest and the least; gentleness that sows the path of peace. Turn our striving into works of grace; breath of God, show Christ in all we do.

Gift of Music

Christa Walsh

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon

John Nelson

*Hymn of Praise

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

#20

The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this hymn. Following the blessing, the children will go down to Godly Play and Oasis.

Children’s Blessing

Gift of Music

Sanctuary Choir

We Listen to God

Scripture Reader

Reade Holtlander

Old Testament Lesson: Ecclesiastes 1:1-11

(O.T. pg. 614)

New Testament Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-30

(N.T. pg. 165)

Responsorial Reading: Psalm 19:1-4a; 7-9

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands.

Choir: *Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge.*

All: They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect, refreshing the soul.

Choir: *The statutes of the Lord are trustworthy, making wise the simple.*

Leader: The precepts of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.

People: The commands of the Lord are radiant, giving light to the eyes.

Leader: The fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever.

All: The decrees of the Lord are firm, and all of them are righteous.

*Gloria Patri #623

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*Gospel Reading: John 1:1-5; 9-4

(N.T. pg. 91)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

*Hymn of Preparation "I Am Not Skilled to Understand"

**I am not skilled to understand
What God has will'd, what God has plan'd;
I only know at His right hand
Stands One who is my Savior!**

**That He should leave His place on high
And come for sinful ones to die,
You count it strange? So once did I,
Before I knew my Savior!**

**And O that He fulfilled may see
The travail of His soul in me,
And with His work contented be,
As I with my dear Savior!**

(con't)

Yes, living, dying, let me bring
My strength, my solace from this spring:
That He who lives to be my King
Once died to be my Savior!

Sermon

“The Thinker’s Question”

Annabel Robinson

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response

“I Cannot Tell”

I cannot tell why He, whom angels worship, should set His love upon
the sons of men,
Or why, as Shepherd, He should seek the wand’rers, to bring them
back, they know not how or when.
But this I know, that he was born of Mary, that Bethl’hem’s manger
was His only home,
And that He lived at Nazareth and laboured, and so the Savior, Savior
of the world, is come.

I cannot tell how silently He suffered, as with His peace He graced this
place of tears,
Or how His heart upon the Cross was broken, the crown of pain to
three and thirty years.
But this I know, He heals the broken hearted, and stays our sin,
and calms our lurking fear,
And lifts the burden from the heavy laden, for yet the Savior,
Savior of the world is here.

I cannot tell how He will win the nations, how He will claim His
earthly heritage,
How satisfy the needs and aspirations of East and West, of sinner
and of sage.
But this I know, all flesh shall see His glory, and He shall reap the
harvest He has sown.
And some glad day His sun shall shine in splendour, when He the
Savior, Savior of the world, is known.

(con’t)

I cannot tell how all the lands shall worship, when, at His bidding,
ev'ry storm is stilled,
Or who can say how great the jubilation when all the hearts of men
with love are filled,
But this I know, the skies will thrill with rapture, and myriad, myriad
human voices sing,
And earth to heav'n, and heav'n to earth, will answer, at last the Savior,
Savior of the world, is King!

Prayers of the People

John Hillmer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts & Offerings

Christa Walsh

*Response of Praise

“Praise the Lord”

Praise the Lord, from whom all blessings flow. He has washed and made me white as snow. I'm redeemed from all my sin and shame. Now and forever praise His holy name! Praise His holy name. Praise His holy name. To God be the glory now and forever. Praise His holy name!

*Benediction

Annabel Robinson

Music for Departing

Mark Anderson

Deacon on Duty:

Tiffany Lai

Anyone desiring prayer is invited to come to the front of the sanctuary on the right-hand side. One of our deacons will be there to listen and to pray with you.

Achievers' Luncheon

Thursday, Sept. 27 at 11:55 a.m.

Guest Speaker: David Kaiser

Menu: Chicken/vegetables/salad/buns, beverage & dessert

Cost: \$10.00.

**RSVP church office by Tuesday, Sept. 25*

Learning for Life

9:30am, Sunday mornings:

- “A Christian Perspective on Work” with Len Pauls and Derrick Bellows
- “Basic Christianity” with Ron Phillips
- “Thrive” (for families), with Deirdre Sentis. A 15 minute teaching video, discussion, and weekly family activity.

Notes on the Sermon

The Hebrew Bible was not put together with the same order of books as we are used to. From now until Advent we will be looking at the section that the Jews called the “Scrolls:” (Song of Solomon, Ruth, Lamentations, Ecclesiastes, and Esther).

We start with Ecclesiastes. Its refrain is “Meaningless, meaningless! Everything is meaningless!” The sun rises and sets and goes round and round, we human beings are born and die and there is nothing new under the sun.

The writer, in Hebrew “Qohelet,” examines everything “under the sun,” and tries every imaginable experience. At the end of it he comes to the conclusion: “Respect and obey God! That is what life is all about.”

If we're honest, many of us have felt that way. But is that a Christian view of life?



First Baptist Church Office hours: Monday - Thursday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
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