



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, November 25th, 2018

The Sunday before Advent

**Indicates congregation is invited to stand as able*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers? You have fed them with the bread of tears, and given them tears to drink in full measure. Restore us, O God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Mark Anderson

Opportunities for Life and Service

Joel Russell-MacLean

Morning Chimes

*The Introit "Across the Lands" (By Keith and Kristyn Getty)

You're the Word of God the Father from before the world began.

Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by your hand.

All creation holds together by the power of your voice.

Let the skies declare your glory; let the land and seas rejoice!

You're the Author of creation; you're the Lord of ev'ry one;

And your cry of love rings out across the lands. (Repeat Chorus)

*Call to Worship: Psalm 79

Joel Russell-MacLean

Leader: O God, the nations have defiled your holy temple; they have laid Jerusalem in ruins. They have given the bodies of your servants to the birds of the air for food.

Choir: *How long, O Lord? Will you be angry forever?*

All: Help us, O God of our salvation, for the glory of your name; deliver us, and forgive our sins Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and shall be forever. Amen.

Leader #1: How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations,
and finds no resting place;
Jerusalem remembers,
in the days of her affliction and wandering,
all the precious things
that were hers in days of old.
Jerusalem sinned grievously,
so she has become a mockery.

Leader #2: Look and see if there is any sorrow like my sorrow,
which was brought upon me,
which the Lord inflicted
on the day of fierce anger.
The Lord has rejected
all my warriors in the midst of me;
The Lord is in the right
for I have rebelled against the Lord's word.
Behold my suffering: my young women and young men
have gone into captivity;
my priests and elders
perished in the city while seeking food.
In the street the sword bereaves;
in the house it is like death.

All: Cry aloud to the Lord!
O daughter Zion!
Let tears stream down like a torrent
day and night!
Lift your hands to him
for the lives of your children,
who faint for hunger
at the head of every street.

Leader #1: Look, O Lord, and consider!
To whom have you done this?
Should women eat their own offspring,
the children they have borne?
Should priest and prophet be killed
in the sanctuary of the Lord?
The young and the old are lying
on the ground in the streets.

Leader #2: My young women and my young men
have fallen by the sword;
in the day of your anger you have killed them,
slaughtering without mercy.
On the day of the anger of the Lord
no one escaped or survived.

The Lord has driven and brought me
into darkness without any light;
The Lord has made my flesh and my skin waste away,
and broken my bones;
the thought of my affliction and my homelessness
is wormwood and gall!
Though I call and cry for help,
the Lord shuts out my prayer;
I have forgotten what happiness is;
so I say, "Gone is my glory,
and all that I had hoped for from the Lord."

*Hymn of Response "O Sacred Head, Now Wounded"

#178

Leader #2: This I call to mind,
and therefore I have hope:
the steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
the Lord's mercies never come to an end;
they are new every morning;
great is your faithfulness.

“The Lord is my portion,” says my soul,
“therefore I will hope in him.”

The Lord is good to those who wait for the Lord,
to the soul that seeks the Lord.
It is good that one should wait quietly
for the salvation of the Lord.
For the Lord will not
reject forever.
Although the Lord causes grief,
the Lord will have compassion
according to the abundance of steadfast love;
for the Lord does not willingly afflict
or grieve anyone.

Homily “Jesus: Light and Hope for Those in Exile”

Leader #2: When all the prisoners of the land
are crushed under foot,
when human rights are perverted
in the presence of the Most High,
when justice is undermined
—does the Lord not see it?

All: Let us test and examine our ways,
and return to the Lord.
Let us lift up our hearts as well as our hands
to God in heaven.
We have transgressed and rebelled,
and you have not forgiven.

Leader #2: You have wrapped yourself with anger and pursued us,
killing without pity;
you have wrapped yourself with a cloud
so that no prayer can pass through.
You have made us filth and rubbish
among the peoples.

Remember, O Lord, what has befallen us;
look, and see our disgrace!
Our inheritance has been turned over to strangers,
our homes to aliens.
The joy of our hearts has ceased;
our dancing has been turned to mourning.
The crown has fallen from our head;
woe to us, for we have sinned!
Because of this our hearts are sick,
because of these things our eyes have grown dim.

All: But you, O Lord, reign forever;
your throne endures to all generations.

Why have you forgotten us completely?
Why have you forsaken us these many days?
Restore us to yourself, O Lord, that we may be restored;
renew our days as of old—
unless you have utterly rejected us,
and are angry with us beyond measure.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit; as it
was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

We Respond to God

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.

*Hymn of Response

“It Is Well With My Soul”

#493

*Carol of Lament “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Immanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer,
Our spirits by your advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night
And death's dark shadows put to flight.

Refrain:

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Mark Anderson

Deacon on Duty:

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.



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

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