



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, March 22nd, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Lent

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth, you see how vulnerable we are. Protect our bodies and our souls: from all that threatens us physically, and from every evil thought that assaults our hearts and minds. Through Jesus Christ the Lord, we pray. Amen.

Call to Worship

Joel Russell-MacLean

Leader: Welcome in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

We Approach God

Hymn of Praise

“This Is My Father's World”

**This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world, I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas - God's hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world, the birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world, God shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear him pass, God speaks to me everywhere.**

**This is my Father's world, O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world, why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King, let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!**

We Listen to God

Scripture Reader

Old Testament Reading: Jeremiah 33.10,11, 14-16

Responsorial Reading: Psalm 121

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills — from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: The Lord will not let your foot be moved; the Lord who keeps you will not sleep.

All: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

Leader: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

All: The Lord will keep you from all evil; The Lord will keep your life.

Leader: The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.

All: 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.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25.1-13

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

Hymn of Response

“Blessed Be Your Name”

by Matt Redman

**Blessed be your name in the land that is plentiful,
Where your streams of abundance flow, blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name when I'm found in a desert place,
Though I walk through the wilderness, blessed be your name.**

(Chorus)

**Every blessing you pour out, I'll turn back to praise,
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say:
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be your glorious name.**

**Blessed be your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
When the world's 'all as it should be', blessed be your name.
Blessed be your name, on the road marked with suffering,
Though there's pain in the offering, blessed be Your name**

(Chorus)

Prayers of the People

Richard Hovey

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.

Response of Praise

Great is thy faithfulness

**Great is thy faithfulness, O God, my Father,
There is no shadow of turning with thee:
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
As thou hast been, thou forever will be.**

**Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed, thy hand hath provided;
Great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!**

Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing