



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, September 11, 2022

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

**Please stand as you are able whether you are participating at home or in the sanctuary.*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Father, you make everything beautiful in its time. You set eternity in our hearts. We cannot see all that you are doing from beginning to end, but we look to Jesus, our Lord, the source and the goal of all your work. Help us to discern your will for our church, our city, and for each day of our lives. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Medley of Hymns
(Tchaikovsky, Dennis Alexander)

Calla Dawn Brooks

Opportunities for Life and Service

Kayely Rich

*The Introit

"God Our Father, We Adore Thee"

#268

Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Three in One! We give thee praise!

For the riches we inherit, heart and voice to thee we raise!

We adore thee! We adore thee! Thee we bless through endless days!

We adore thee! We adore thee! Thee we bless through endless days!

Call to Worship and Prayer

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.**

Welcoming One Another

We Approach God

*Hymn of Praise

“To God Be the Glory”

#66

The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this song.

**To God be the glory—great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory—great things He has done!**

**O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory—great things He has done!**

**Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer and higher and greater will be
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.**

**Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
Come to the Father through Jesus the Son,
And give Him the glory—great things He has done!**

Children’s Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music

“Rain Down”

Sanctuary Choir

(Words & music: Jaime Cortez; Arr. John Carter)

For those who would like to follow along, the words are printed on page 7.

Confession of Sin

Norma Holtslander

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

*Hymn of Approach

“Speak O Lord”

(Stuart Townend & Keith Getty)

**Speak, O Lord, as we come to you
To receive the food of your Holy Word.
Take your truth, plant it deep in us;
Shape and fashion us in your likeness,
That the light of Christ might be seen today
In our acts of love and our deeds of faith.
Speak, O Lord, and fulfill in us
All your purposes for your glory.**

**Teach us, Lord, full obedience,
Holy reverence, true humility;
Test our thoughts and our attitudes
In the radiance of your purity.
Cause our faith to rise; cause our eyes to see
Your majestic love and authority.
Words of pow’r that can never fail—
Let their truth prevail over unbelief.**

**Speak, O Lord, and renew our minds;
Help us grasp the heights of your plans for us—
Truths unchanged from the dawn of time
That will echo down through eternity.
And by grace we’ll stand on your promises,
And by faith we’ll walk as you walk with us.
Speak, O Lord, till your church is built
And the earth is filled with your glory.**

Old Testament Lesson: 2 Kings 25:8-21

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 80 (Selected verses)

Leader: O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angry with your people's prayers?

All: You have fed them with the bread of tears and given them tears to drink in full measure.

Leader: You brought a vine out of Egypt; you drove out the nations and planted it.

All: You cleared the ground for it; it took deep root and filled the land.

Leader: Why then have you broken down its walls, so that all who pass along the way pluck its fruit?

All: It has been burned with fire; it has been cut down;

Leader: May those who did this perish at the rebuke of your countenance.

All: But let your hand be upon the one at your right hand, the one whom you made strong for yourself.

Leader: Then we will never turn back from you; give us life, and we will call on your name.

All: Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; let your face shine, that we may be saved.

*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.

New Testament Lesson: Revelation 21:1-8

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"The City of God"

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response

“O God Our Help in Ages Past”

#52, vs 1-2, 5-6

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:**

**Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all of us away;
We fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the opening day.**

**O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while life shall last, and our eternal home.**

Prayers of the People

Joel Russell-MacLean

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts and Offerings

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing

“Through the Darkness of the Ages”
(Hilary Jolly)

Tune: Nettleton

**Through the darkness of the ages,
Through the sorrows of the days,
Strength of weary generations,
Lifting hearts in hope and praise,
Light in darkness, joy in sorrow,
Presence to allay all fears,
Jesus, you have kept your promise,
Faithful through two thousand years.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

“O God Our Help in Ages Past”
(Metzger)

Mark Anderson

Following the worship service today, you are invited to join us in the lower hall for an extra special “Time for Friends.” We will celebrate both our fall kick-off, and also that we are able to reinstate this way of gathering together for fellowship each Sunday.

For those of you on Zoom, after the Music for Departing, a few smaller breakout groups will be formed. There is no obligation to stay if you need to be going. If you wish to take part, simply remain on Zoom to be invited to a group and hear how others are doing.

Lyrics for "Rain Down, Rain Down"

Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love, God of life.

Faithful and true is the Word of our God.
All of God's works are so worthy of trust.
God's mercy falls on the just and the right;
Full of God's love is the earth.

Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love, God of life.

We who revere and find hope in our God
Live in the kindness and joy of God's wing.
God will protect us from darkness and death;
God will not leave us to starve.

Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love, God of life.

God of creation, we long for Your truth;
You are the water of life that we thirst.
Grant that Your love and peace touch our hearts,
All of our hope lies in you.

Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love on your people.
Rain down, rain down,
Rain down your love, God of life.