



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, February 4th, 2024

6th Sunday in Epiphany

Welcome! Young children are welcome in the service or in our staffed nursery.

The collection is taken at the doorways as you enter the sanctuary.

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

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: God, you know we are set in the midst of so many and great dangers, and that due to the frailty of our nature we cannot always stand upright: Grant to us strength and protection to support us in all dangers, and carry us through all temptations; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (Traditional Collect)

Music for Gathering

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Opportunities for Life and Service

Cheryl Johnston

Morning Chimes

*The Introit “We Are Singing” (Siyahamba)

We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God. (Repeat)

We are singing, we are singing, we are singing in the light of God. (Repeat)

We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God. (Repeat)

We are walking, we are walking, we are walking in the light of God. (Repeat)

Call to Worship and Prayer

Cheryl Johnston

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 “King of Kings”
(Brooke Ligertwood, Jason Ingram, and Scott Ligertwood)

The children are invited forward before going downstairs for their own time of worship.

**In the darkness we were waiting, without hope, without light,
Till from heaven you came running, there was mercy in your eyes.
To fulfil the law and prophets, to a virgin, came the Word,
From a throne of endless glory to a cradle in the dirt.**

Refrain:

**Praise the Father, praise the Son,
Praise the Spirit, Three-in-One,
God of glory, Majesty,
Praise forever to the King of kings!**

**To reveal the kingdom coming and to reconcile the lost,
To redeem the whole creation, you did not despise the cross.
For even in your suffering, you saw to the other side.
Knowing this was our salvation, Jesus, for our sake, you died. *(Refrain)***

**And the morning that you rose, all of heaven held its breath.
Till that stone was moved for good, for the Lamb had conquered death.
And the dead rose from their tombs and the angels stood in awe,
Now the souls of all who come to the Father are restored.**

**And the Church of Christ was born then the Spirit lit the flame.
Now this gospel truth of old, shall not kneel, shall not faint.
By his blood and in his name, in his freedom, I am free,
Through the love of Jesus Christ, who has resurrected me. *(Refrain)***

Children’s Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

We Listen to God

Scripture Reader

Reade Holtslander

Epistle Lesson: 2 Corinthians 4:6-11

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Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 18

Leader: I love you, O Lord, my strength.

All: The Lord is my rock, my fortress, and my deliverer, my God, my rock in whom I take refuge, my shield, and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.

Leader: I call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, so I shall be saved from my enemies.

All: The cords of death encompassed me; the torrents of perdition assailed me;

Leader: The cords of Sheol entangled me; the snares of death confronted me.

All: In my distress I called upon the Lord; to my God I cried for help. From his temple he heard my voice, and my cry to him reached his ears.

Leader: Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and reeled because he was angry.

All: He reached down from on high; he took me; he drew me out of mighty waters.

Leader: Then the earth reeled and rocked; the foundations also of the mountains trembled and reeled because he was angry.

All: He reached down from on high; he took me; he drew me out of mighty waters.

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.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Celebrate

*Hymn of Approach “My Jesus, I Love Thee”

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**My Jesus, I love thee, I know thou art mine;
For thee all the follies of sin I resign;
My gracious redeemer, my saviour art thou;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**I love thee because thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree;
I love thee for wearing the thorns on thy brow;
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**I'll love thee in life, I will love thee in death,
And praise thee as long as thou lendest me breath,
And say when the deathdew lies cold on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.**

**In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore thee in heaven so bright;
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow:
If ever I loved thee, my Jesus, 'tis now**

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Call to the Supper

Joel Russell-MacLean

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, we confess to you before all of heaven, and before one another, that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, forgive us and restore us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is right and good, always and everywhere to give thanks to you Lord, Holy Father, Creator of heaven and earth... We praise you, joining the angels of heaven, all our sisters and brothers around the world, and the faithful departed ..., saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is Jesus who came and will come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayers of the People

Chris Senger

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.

The Words of Consecration

Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, you came to set us free from sin, death and the devil. With love, we offer ourselves to you, fully and completely, as living sacrifices, as we proclaim the good news:

All: **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Our Gifts and Offerings

Minister: Come Holy Spirit, be with us as we take this bread and cup as genuine symbols of the body and blood of Jesus. Unite us to Jesus and bring us, in the end, with all the faithful, to resurrection and everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Communion

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response “I Know Whom I Have Believed” #409

**I know not why God’s wondrous grace to me he hath made known,
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love redeemed me for his own.**

Refrain:

**But “I know whom I have believed, and am persuaded that he is able,
To keep that which I’ve committed unto him against that day.”**

**I know not how this saving faith to me he did impart,
Nor how believing in his word wrought peace within my heart. *(Refrain)***

**I know not how the Spirit moves, convincing all of sin,
Revealing Jesus through the word, creating faith in him. *(Refrain)***

**I know not when my Lord may come, at night or noonday fair,
Nor if I walk the vale with him, or “meet him in the air.” *(Refrain)***

We Depart to Serve God

*Benediction Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing Xavier Russell-MacLean

Prayers and Anointing

Pastors and board members will be in the front pews to pray with anyone who comes forward. This is especially a time to be anointed and to pray for healing.

“A Time For Friends”

Everyone is invited to the lower hall for refreshments following the service.

Parents: Please go to meet your children in Godly Play and Nursery as they can only be dismissed into your care.



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