



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, March 17th, 2024

5th Sunday in Lent

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: Lord Jesus, you came to humanity to serve us, even to the point of giving up your life. In turn, help us to enjoy every opportunity we have to serve others no matter what role or position we have been given in life, without concern for recognition. In your name we pray. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Calla-Dawn Brooks

Opportunities for Life and Service

Joel Russell-MacLean

Morning Chimes

Xavier Russell-MacLean

*The Introit

"Only Our Holy God"

"Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, Rich Thompson"

**What other glory consumes like fire? What other power can raise the dead?
What other name remains undefeated? Only our Holy God.**

**Who else could rescue me from my failing? Who else would offer his only Son?
Who else invites me to call him, Father? Only our Holy God.**

Come and behold him, the One and the Only.

Cry out, sing holy, forever a Holy God. Come and worship our Holy God.

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

We Are God's People"

#283

The children are invited forward and will remain at the front until the hymn of approach.

**We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of his Spirit, established by his Word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, and strong in him we stand:
O let us live transparently and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.**

**We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return the gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleases Heaven.**

**We are the Body of which the Lord is head,
Called to obey him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family, diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.**

**We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to inspire.**

God at Work in our Lives

Children's Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music

"Once Upon a Tree"
(Pepper Choplin)

Sanctuary Choir

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Listen to God

*Hymn of Approach

"Christ Be Our Light"

by Bernadette Farrell

**Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we turn to you.
Make us your own, your holy people, light for the world to see.**

Refrain:

**Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.
Christ, be our light! Shine in your church gathered today.**

**Longing for peace, our world is troubled. Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us. Make us your living voice. (Refrain)**

**Longing for food, many are hungry. Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us your bread, broken for others, shared until all are fed. (Refrain)**

**Many the gifts, many the people, many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another, making your kingdom come. (Refrain)**

Scripture Reader

Rowan Russell-MacLean

Epistle Lesson: Colossians 2:6-10

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Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 143

Leader: Lord, hear my prayer, listen to my cry for mercy; in your faithfulness and righteousness come to my relief.

All: Do not bring your servant into judgment, for no one living is righteous before you.

Leader: The enemy pursues me, he crushes me to the ground; he makes me dwell in the darkness like those long dead.

All: So my spirit grows faint within me; my heart within me is dismayed.

Leader: I remember the days of long ago; I meditate on all your works and consider what your hands have done.

All: I spread out my hands to you; I thirst for you like a parched land.

Leader: Answer me quickly, Lord; my spirit fails. Do not hide your face from me or I will be like those who go down to the pit.

All: Let the morning bring me word of your unfailing love, for I have put my trust in you. Show me the way I should go, for to you I entrust my life.

Leader: Rescue me from my enemies, Lord, for I hide myself in you.

All: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God; may your good Spirit lead me on level ground.

Leader: For your name's sake, Lord, preserve my life; in your righteousness, bring me out of trouble.

All: In your unfailing love, silence my enemies; destroy all my foes, for I am your servant.

*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 Lesson: Mark 10:32-42

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Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response “Come, All Christians, Be Committed”

#455

**Come, all Christians, be committed to the service of the Lord.
Make your lives for him more fitted, tune your hearts with one accord.
Come into his courts with gladness, each his sacred vows renew,
Turn away from sin and sadness, be transformed with life anew.**

**Of your time and talents give ye, they are gifts from God above,
To be used by Christians freely to proclaim his wondrous love.
Come again to serve the Saviour, tithes and offerings with you bring.
In your work with him find favour, and with joy his praises sing.**

**God’s command to love each other is required of every one;
Showing mercy to each other mirrors his redemptive plan.
In compassion he has given of his love that is divine;
On the cross sins were forgiven; joy and peace are fully thine.**

**Come in praise and adoration, all who on Christ’s name believe.
Worship him with consecration, grace and love will you receive.
For his grace give him the glory, for the Spirit and the Word,
And repeat the gospel story until all his name has heard.**

Prayers of the People

Jennifer Holtslander

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

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing

“Man of Sorrows”

**Sent of heaven, God's own Son, to purchase and redeem,
And reconcile the very ones, who nailed him to the tree.**

**Oh that rugged cross, my salvation, where your love poured out over me.
Now my soul cries out, Hallelujah! praise and honour unto thee.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

*Unison Prayer of Departing

**I bind unto myself today the strong name of the Trinity,
By invocation of the same, the Three in One and One in Three.**

**I bind this day to me for ever, by power of faith,
Christ's Incarnation, his baptism in the Jordan River;
His death on the cross for my salvation; his bursting from the tomb;
His riding up the heavenly way; his coming at the day of doom.
Protect me, Christ, till your return.**

**Christ be with me, Christ within me,
Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ beside me, Christ to win me,
Christ to comfort and restore me,
Christ beneath me, Christ above me,
Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me,
Christ in mouth of friend and stranger.**

**I bind unto myself the name, the strong name of the Trinity;
By invocation of the same. The Three in One, and One in Three,
From whom all nature is created, Eternal Father, Spirit, Word:
Praise to the Lord of my salvation.**

“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.

“Once Upon a Tree”

(Pepper Choplin)

Once upon a tree, a good man died,
And though he did no crime, he was crucified.
If the story ended there, I would have no song to share,
But my heart will ever sing the story.

Once upon a tree, so the story goes,
And all its mystery surely no one knows.
Could the Father’s will be done through the suffering on his Son?
And there comes the answer, “Once upon a tree.”

For God so loved the world, he gave his priceless pearl.
What greater love could there be?
He died, he rose again, still the story doesn’t end,
For his spirit is living in me.

What tale of human love could there ever be told?
What song could compare with the one I hold?
Through everything I am and through everything I’ll be,
Let me sing my story: “Once upon a tree. Once upon a tree.”



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