



# *First Baptist Church*

**Worship Service for Sunday, June 1st, 2025**

**Ascension Sunday**

*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**

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**Silent Prayer:** Almighty God, your only-begotten Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, has ascended into the heavens; may we also in heart and mind ascend to him, and abide in him continually; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Opportunities for Life and Service

Cheryl Johnston

**Hail the day that sees him rise, alleluia!  
To his throne beyond the skies. Alleluia!  
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, alleluia!  
Enters now the highest heav'n. Alleluia!**

**There for him high triumph waits; Alleluia!  
Lift your heads, eternal gates. Alleluia!  
He hath conquered death and sin, alleluia!  
Take the King of Glory in! Alleluia!**

**See, he lifts his hands above; Alleluia!  
See, he shows the prints of love: Alleluia!  
Hark! His gracious lips bestow, alleluia!  
Blessings on his church below. Alleluia!**

**Lord, beyond our mortal sight, alleluia!  
Raise our hearts to reach thy height, alleluia!  
There thy face unclouded see, alleluia!  
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in thee! Alleluia!**

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.**

Leader: Christ is Risen!

**All: He is risen indeed!**

Welcoming One Another

## **We Approach God**

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**\*Hymns of Praise      “Lo He Comes With Clouds Descending”**

*(Tune: Helmsley)*

*The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this song and remain at the front during the service.*

**Lo! He comes, with clouds descending,  
Once for favoured sinners slain;  
Thousand, thousand saints attending Swell the triumph of his train.  
Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia! God appears on earth to reign.**

**Every eye shall now behold him  
Robed in dreadful majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold him, Pierced and nailed him to the tree,  
Deeply grieving, deeply grieving, deeply grieving, Shall the true Messiah see.**

**Now redemption, long expected,  
See in solemn pomp appear:  
And his saints, by all rejected, Thrill the trumpet sound to hear:  
Halleluia, halleluia, halleluia! See the day of God appear.**

**Yea, amen, let all adore thee,  
High on thine eternal throne;  
Saviour take the power and glory, Claim the kingdom for thine own.  
O come quickly, O come quickly, O come quickly!  
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!**

**Children’s Blessing**

**Cheryl Johnston**

**God at Work in Our Lives**

**Merv and Carol Hepting**

## We Listen to God

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\*Hymn of Approach

“Easter Song”

#222

**Hear the bells ringing, they're singing that we can be born again!  
Hear the bells ringing, they're singing “Christ is risen from the dead!”  
The angel up on the tombstone said, “He has risen, just as he said.  
Quickly now, go tell his disciples that Jesus Christ is no longer dead!”  
Joy to the world, he is risen, alleluia!  
Is risen, alleluia! Is risen, alleluia, alleluia!**

Scripture Reader

Barry Lyons

Epistle Lesson: The Letter to the Ephesians 1:15-21

N.T. page 192

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 47

Leader: Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

**All: For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.**

Leader: God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

**All: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.**

Leader: For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

**All: God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.**

Leader: The princes of the peoples gather as the people of the God of Abraham.

**All: For the shields of the earth belong to God; God is highly exalted.  
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.**

\*New Testament Lesson: The Acts of the Apostles 1:1-11

N.T. page 118

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

“Not Knowing, Waiting to Receive”

Joel Russell-MacLean

## **We Celebrate**

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**\*Hymn of Response: “Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

**#234**

**Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.  
Hark! How the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side—  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;  
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends their burning eye at mysteries so bright.**

**Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave,  
Who rose victorious to the strife for those he came to save;  
His glories now we sing who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.**

**Crown him the Lord of heav’n: One with the Father known,  
One with the Spirit through him given from yonder glorious throne.  
To thee be endless praise for thou for us hast died;  
Be thou, O Lord, through endless days adored and magnified.**

**\*The 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 one, holy, universal church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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

Joel Russell-MacLean

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.**

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 Approach

"Agnus Dei"

by Michael W. Smith

**Alleluia! Alleluia! For the Lord God Almighty reigns. *(Repeat)***

**Alleluia! Holy! Holy are you Lord God Almighty.**

**Worthy is the Lamb. Worthy is the Lamb.**

**You are Holy. Holy, are you Lord God Almighty.**

**Worthy is the Lamb. Worthy is the Lamb. 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**

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\*Hymn of Response

“The Passion”

*(Scott Ligertwood, Brooke Ligertwood & Chris Davenport)*

**The passion of our Saviour, the mercy of our God.**

**The cross that leaves no question of the measure of his love.**

*(Refrain:)*

**Our chains are gone, our debt is paid,**

**The cross has overthrown the grave;**

**For Jesus’ blood that sets us free,**

**Means death to death And life for me.**

**The innocent judged guilty, while the guilty one walks free.**

**Death would be his portion and our portion liberty. *(Refrain)***

## **We Depart to Serve God**

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\*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Xavier Russell-MacLean

“A Time For Friends”

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

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