



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, January 18, 2026

Second Sunday after the 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, fill your Church with all truth; in all truth with all peace. Where it is corrupt, purify it; where it is in error, direct it; where any thing is amiss, reform it; where it is right, strengthen and confirm it; where it is in want, furnish it; where it is divided and rent asunder, make it whole again, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (*Book of Common Prayer*)

Music for Gathering

Oluseye Popoola

Opportunities for Life and Service

Joel Russell-MacLean

*The Introit

“Hosanna (Praise Is Rising)”

(*by Paul Baloche*)

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to you; we turn to you;

Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for you; we long for you;

When we're with you, we find strength to face the day.

In your presence all our fears are met, and from our hearts we say:

Hosanna! Hosanna!

Life-light of God, shine on us; you bring the age of ages.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

You are the God who saves us, worthy of all our praises.

Hosanna! Hosanna!

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

#382

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

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that thou art.
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true Word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father and I, thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Riches I heed not, nor man’s empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart;
O King of glory, my treasure thou art.**

**High King of heaven, my victory won;
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heav’n’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall;
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

Children’s Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Call to Confession

Chris Senger

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

*Hymn of Preparation

“O Word of God Incarnate”

#269

**O Word of God incarnate, O wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging, O light of our dark sky;
We praise thee for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.**

**The church from her dear Master received the gift divine,
And still that light she lifteth, o’er all the earth to shine.
It is the golden casket where gems of truth are stored;
It is the heav’n-drawn picture of Christ, the living Word.**

**It floateth like a banner before God’s host unfurled;
It shineth like a beacon, above the darkling world.
It is the chart and compass that, o’er life’s surging sea,
'Mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.**

**O make thy church, dear Saviour, a lamp of purest gold,
To bear before the nations thy true light, as of old.
O teach thy wand’ring pilgrims by this their path to trace,
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.**

Scripture Reader

Carmen Pauls Orthner

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 49:5-7 (p. 679, Old Testament section)

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 1:1-9 (pp. 165-166, New Testament section)

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 40:1-11

Leader: I waited patiently for the Lord; he inclined to me and heard my cry.

All: He drew me up from the desolate pit, out of the miry bog, and set my feet upon a rock, making my steps secure.

Leader: He put a new song in my mouth, a song of praise to our God. Many will see and fear and put their trust in the Lord.

All: Happy are those who make the Lord their trust, who do not turn to the proud, to those who go astray after false gods.

Leader: You have multiplied, O Lord my God, your wondrous deeds and your thoughts toward us; none can compare with you.

All: Were I to proclaim and tell of them, they would be more than can be counted.

Leader: Sacrifice and offering you do not desire, but you have given me an open ear. Burnt offering and sin offering you have not required.

All: Then I said, "Here I am; in the scroll of the book it is written of me.

Leader: I delight to do your will, O my God; your law is within my heart."

All: I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation; see, I have not restrained my lips, as you know, O Lord.

Leader: I have not hidden your saving help within my heart; I have spoken of your faithfulness and your salvation; I have not concealed your steadfast love and your faithfulness from the great congregation.

All: Do not, O Lord, withhold your mercy from me; let your steadfast love and your faithfulness keep me safe forever.

*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: John 1:35-42 (p. 92, New Testament section)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Faithful Plodding"

Bruce Martin

We Respond to God

*Hymn of Response

“Living Hope”

(by Phil Wickham and Brian Johnson)

How great the chasm that lay between us. How high the mountain I could not climb.
In desperation, I turned to heaven, and spoke your name into the night.
Then through the darkness, your loving kindness tore through the shadows of my soul.
The work is finished, the end is written. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Who could imagine so great a mercy? What heart could fathom such boundless grace?
The God of ages stepped down from glory to wear my sin and bear my shame.
The cross has spoken, “I am forgiven.” The King of kings calls me his own.
Beautiful Saviour, I’m yours forever. Jesus Christ, my living hope.

Refrain:

Hallelujah, praise the One who set me free!

Hallelujah, death has lost its grip on me!

You have broken every chain, there’s salvation in your name.

Jesus Christ, my living hope! (2x)

Jesus Christ, my living hope! God, you are my living hope! (last time only)

Then came the morning that sealed the promise, your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me.
Then came the morning that sealed the promise, your buried body began to breathe.
Out of the silence, the roaring Lion declared the grave has no claim on me.
Jesus, yours is the victory! (Refrain)

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

“Transfiguration Hymn”

(Words: Ken Bible; Tune: “Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah (CWD Rhondda))

Jesus Lord, we see your splendour

Here and now by daily faith.

In our service, in our suffering

We will follow unafraid,

On from glory into glory

Till we see you face to face,

Till we see you face to face.

*Benediction

Bruce Martin

Music for Departing

Oluseye Popoola

Following the service, you are invited to the lower hall for “A Time for Friends”—an opportunity to fellowship with one another and enjoy some refreshments together

Parents: Please go to meet your children in the nursery and/or children’s program, as they can only be dismissed into your care.

For live translation in French, Swahili, Punjabi, or Filipino (English also available for those having trouble hearing), scan here:



If you are visiting or just getting to know us, visit our welcome page:



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