



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
AN AMERICAN BAPTIST CONGREGATION

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

JUNE 25, 2023

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP

FBC SANCTUARY

11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
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"What is the meaning of it, Watson?" said Holmes solemnly as he laid down the paper. "What object is served by this circle of misery and violence and fear? It must tend to some end, or else our universe is ruled by chance, which is unthinkable. But what end? There is the great standing perennial problem to which human reason is as far from an answer as ever."
-Sir Arthur Conan Doyle in *The Adventure of the Cardboard Box*

Gathering Music

"In Christ Alone (My Hope Is Found)"

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty/Marilynn Ham. © 2002 Thankyou Music/Alfred Music
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Joanna Gillette

Prelude

"Amazing Grace"

Arr. Tedd Smith & Don Hustad. © 1988 Hope Publishing Co. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Joanna Gillette

Romans 6

Leader: All of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death.

People: We know that our old self was crucified with him so that we might no longer be enslaved to sin.

Leader: Consider yourselves alive to God in Christ Jesus.

People: Thanks be to God!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 322)

"How Great Is Our God"

HOW GREAT IS OUR GOD

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 422 vs. 2-3)

"Jesus! What a Friend for Sinners"

HYFRYDOL

**2 Jesus! what a strength in weakness! Let me hide myself in Him;
tempted, tried, and sometimes failing, He, my strength, my victory wins. [Refrain]
Hallelujah! what a Savior! Hallelujah! what a friend!
Saving, helping, keeping, loving, He is with me to the end.**

**3 Jesus! what a help in sorrow! While the billows o'er me roll,
even when my heart is breaking, He, my comfort, helps my soul. [Refrain]**

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Dr. Bob Johnston
Luke 13.1-5

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer

“Revelation Song”

Jennie Lee Riddle. Song #4447960, © 2004 Gateway Create Publishing. Used by permission CCLI #20126570

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

Hear our cries to you, O Lord: for our lack of compassion toward the poor, have mercy on us; for our failure to end the destruction of air, water, soil, and creatures on Earth, have mercy on us; for our disbelief in your power to make us whole, have mercy on us; for making war, have mercy on us; for mistrusting your Word, have mercy on us; for all that we have done and have not done out of hardened hearts, have mercy on us. Forgive us and renew us. Guide us into ways that do not deny you but lead to peace.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Do not be afraid. The One who was and is and is to come knows you through and through and has overcome death and sin to forgive you, so that you might be delivered into joy that has no end. Your sins are forgiven. You are alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Morning Prayer and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Old Testament Reading

Joanna Gillette
Isaiah 49.14-16a (NIV)

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

“Great is Thy Faithfulness”

FAITHFULNESS/by Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923 and Wm. M. Runya, 1923.
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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Psalm Reading

Rev. Dr. Bob Johnston
Psalm 31.1-2, 5, 14-15a (NIV)

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Bob Johnston
"Making Sense of it All"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 573)

"It is Well with My Soul"
VILLE DU HAVRE

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

"Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"
LASST UNS ERFREUEN / James Mansfield. © 1994, Lorenz Publishing Co./The Lorenz Corp.
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The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God by Cecilia Adam, in memory of husband Michael Adam on their 63rd wedding anniversary 6.25.1960

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Joanna Gillette Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen
Vocalist: Meredith Bagwell-Gray FBC Worship Band
Livestream Video Crew: Brenda Schenkel, Kylee Johnston Sound: Glenn Prescott
Welcome Table: Steve & Sally Heilman YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Laura McCorkill

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: St. Luke AME Church
American Baptist Churches, USA; Region Exe. Min. Rev. Dr. Mary Day Miller, serving churches in Massachusetts
International Ministries Missionaries: Alise & Mark Juanes, serving in Thailand

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(<https://patreon.com/biblewormpodcast>)

Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.
The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Senior Pastor
Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families
Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Administrative Support Manager
Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Bookkeeper
Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Building Manager
Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Digital Media Coordinator
Mark Robinson – mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Director of Worship Music
Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com	Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist
Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com	8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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