

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Fifth Sunday in Eastertide

PREPARATION

Welcome Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude *Breathe On Me, Breath of God* Robert Jackson
David Córdoba Hernandez, *pianist*

ADORATION

Call to Worship Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

In the wilderness, water brings life.

Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

In the bread and wine, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

Seek us out, O God, and give us Yourself.

Invocation Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

Worship in Song Randy and Denise Phillips
Crucified with Christ
Adam Comer, *Tenor*

Call to Confession Rev. Richard Wright

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess to God and to one another our failure to love our neighbor.

Prayer of Confession

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit.

We have not loved others as you have loved us.

We have denied the promises of baptism and cut ourselves off from you.

Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon Rev. Richard Wright

You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you.

In baptism God claimed you and joined you to Christ, as branches to a vine.

Believe the promise given to you: in Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

PROCLAMATION

Hymn of Prayer *Holy Manna* Robert C. Lau

Aaron Foster, *organist*

Epistle Reading *Acts 8:26-40* Tiffany Wright

Choral Worship *Come to Me* Cindy Berry

The Ensemble

Are you burdened with pain and sorrow, trampled down by fear and despair? Open your heart to the peace that I give; only then can you truly live. Come to Me, come to Me! Let Me carry your burden. Let My love set you free as you rest in My arms. Tune your heart to listen for My whispers of love, as I call you to come to Me. Are you wandering without direction, traveling through life with no purpose or joy? I am the Shepherd who leads the way; hear Me calling and follow today. Come to Me. . . . Do not fear, for I am with you; be not afraid, for I am your God. I want you to know how wide, how long, how high and deep is My love for you! . . . Oh, how I love you, so come, won't you come to Me.

Prayer of Preparation Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Message Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

Slipping Through the Cracks

RESPONSE

Reminder of Giving Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

Meditation Traditional American Melody

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

David Córdoba Hernandez, *pianist*

Response *Doxology* OLD 100TH

Aaron Foster, *organist*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayers of the People Rev. Dr. Carol McCall Richardson

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. Amen.

COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table Rev. Dr. Randy Hyde

Today we celebrate communion by coming to the Table. When we do this the body of the church acts together, moving as a community toward the table. When you approach the table take a piece of bread and a cup of juice and step to the side to eat and drink. Communion servers may offer words of affirmation such as "The bread of life given for you" or "The cup of salvation." When receiving the elements you may remain silent or offer "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." Gluten free bread is available on the organ side. A deacon will bring communion to those who cannot come forward.

A Word of Encouragement Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

(If you are called to make a Decision of Faith or have questions about church membership, please speak with Rev. Hyde following worship.)

Benediction Rev. Dr. Randy L. Hyde

Response *Blest Be the Tie that Binds* DENNIS

*Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love,
The fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above. Amen.*

Postlude *Glory to Our God and King* Franklin Ritter

Aaron Foster, *organist*

Per the Shelby County Health directive, masks must be worn over the mouth and nose at all times in the building. Please do not linger to chat, but exit the building at the conclusion of worship. Thank you.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Today's worship participants are Richard Wright, a deacon and member of the Pastor Search Committee; Adam Comer, a member of the Connect 4 SS class and the Youth committee; Tiffany Wright, a member of the Reopening Task Force and a member of the Connect 4 SS class; and Carol Richardson, co-chair of the Senior Adult committee and a member of the First Friends SS class.

Our music ensemble consists of choir members, Trudy Hatton, Paul Martin, Jason Sullivan, and Cathy Wilhelm.

Today's anthem was placed in the Music Library in honor of Sammy Rich by Carolyn and Jerry Bynum.

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

The resurrection of Jesus is, for Christians, the heart of history; the flash point from which everything is reordered. It is the beginning of the new thing that God is up to, defeating death and initiating the new Creation, which God will bring to full fruition in God's own time. The season of Eastertide lasts 50 days, because importance of the resurrection is too vast to be contained within one day.

Announcements

In-Person Sunday School Returns

Sunday School returned to First Baptist after more than a year's hiatus. We also have small groups who have started meeting at the church again during the week. We are also seeing an increase in our attendance for worship services on Sundays. We are still observing our protocols of masking while inside the church and social distancing with our seating in the sanctuary.

At this time, we are allowing each Sunday School class to determine the best time for them to return to meeting regularly at the church. When your Sunday School class is ready to return to church on Sunday mornings, the teacher should send an e-mail to Bridget Ellis (bellis@fbcmemphis.org) letting us know the date you would like to return. We'll provide you with any necessary information to ensure the return of your Sunday School class will be as safe as possible. Thank you for your patience and your dedication and prayers for our church.

Giving Options

FBC has several ways for you to keep up with your giving schedule.

You can mail your offering to the church: First Baptist Church, 200 E Parkway N., Memphis, TN 38112. You can donate online via our website: www.fbcmemphis.org/giving

Or, you can email Lisa Butts (lbutts@fbcmemphis.org) to learn how to set up automatic recurring offering withdrawals set up from either your bank account or credit card. Contact Lisa Butts for more information.

FBC Hosts Covid-19 Vaccination Site May 8

First Baptist Church will be hosting the ShotRx901 vaccination site in the church parking lot, Saturday, May 8 from 8 am-4 pm. The shots are free and no appointment is necessary. Just walk or drive up and we'll get you taken care of.

Stay Connected to First Baptist through Social Media
www.facebook.com/fbcmemphis • Twitter: @fbcmemphis

A WORD ABOUT FBC

First Baptist Memphis is a Midtown congregation that seeks to follow Christ by practicing hospitality, community, dialogue, and service.

- We value diversity in our membership and believe it enriches our journey and ministry.
- We strive to be a family of faith where all can belong.
- We value the voice of every child of God and strive to hear the voice of God in one another.
- What we do inside our walls prepares us to share God's love across the street and around the world.

The Radio Bible Class (10:30 am) and this service (11:00 am) are broadcast live on radio stations ESPN 680 AM, and ESPN 92.9 FM.

The service is also livestreamed on our Facebook page, and is available in recorded form on Facebook and our YouTube channel, as well as the church's website (www.fbcmemphis.org/online-worship).

Sermons and worship services are available online at www.fbcmemphis.org/sermons.

FBC in Prayer

Current Concerns

Valerie Brenner
Nancy Burch
Chatham Family
Sara Cunningham
Ken Haywood
Willena Highsmith
Ken Miller
Robin Miller



Rev. Randy Hyde, D.Min.
Interim Pastor

Rev. Ray Hatton
Music Ministry Interim

Holly Hatton
Children & Youth
Ministry Coordinator

Stacey Graves
Director, First Baptist Day School

Aaron Foster
Organist

David Córdoba Hernandez
Pianist

200 East Parkway North
Memphis, TN 38112

901.454.1131 phone
901.454.1135 fax

fbcmemphis.org



Baptism of the Chamberlain of Queen Candace of Ethiopia
attributed to Hendrik van Balen and Jan Brueghel

Fifth Sunday in Eastertide

May 2, 2021

Now as they were going along the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?"

Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God."

—Acts 8:36-37

