



Vincent Van Gogh, Raising of Lazarus, 1890

Sunday, March 26, 2023
The Fifth Sunday in Lent

Welcome to worship with the First Baptist Church of Christ.

Whatever road has brought you here and wherever you should go once we depart, know that you are welcome in this space fully and completely, and that the image of God we all bear together this hour is more complete because you are here as a part of it.

Things to Know

Restrooms can be found through the double doors on the side near the elevator, one flight of stairs up or one flight down.

Participate in the service as much or as little as you like. Stand when others stand, or remain seated. Sing when others sing, or enjoy the way this old sanctuary fills with sound. Invitations to stand as you are able are marked with an asterisk (*). Invitations to respond in word or song are noted in bold.

For Those With Children

Thank you for bringing a child to worship! Take a deep breath and know they are welcome here. Parents with infants are more than welcome to remain in the sanctuary, or ushers can direct you down the back stairs to a comfortable room with sound from the sanctuary so all can still hear the service. A nursery is provided for children younger than 3. Preschoolers (age 3-Kindergarten) are invited to leave after “Let the Children Come” for our W.O.W. (Working on Worship) experience.

For Those with Special Needs

Thank you for joining us for worship! We love our historic buildings, but know they can be a challenge for those with mobility needs. Know that we are committed to doing all we can to make this space welcoming to everyone. Reserved seating for those in wheel chairs and those sitting with them is found near the elevator, and is marked with signs on the walls and on the back of the pews. Please don't hesitate to ask an usher for assistance. If you have special hearing needs, please ask one of the ushers to bring you a hearing assistance device from the sound booth in the back, or feel free to go back there and get one. An accessible restroom is located up one floor across from the office. If you, or someone with you, requires special assistance for any reason, please find a minister or an usher.

THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

The Sounding of the Hour

Anne Armstrong

Ford Myrick, acolyte

The Prelude

"Trumpet Tune"

Anthony Holborne

Anne Armstrong, organ

The Call to Worship

Allie Ford

O mortal, can these bones live?

Only the Lord God knows.

O people, hope in the Lord.

With the Lord there is steadfast love

and great power to redeem.

*The Hymn of Praise 590

The Solid Rock

SOLID ROCK

**My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand, all other ground is sinking sand.**

**When darkness seems to hide His face,
I rest on His unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale,
My anchor holds within the veil. (Refrain)**

**His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood;
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my hope and stay. (Refrain)**

**When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne. (Refrain)**

*The Invocation

Rebecca Pursiful

*The Gloria Patri 705

GLORIA PATRI

**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.**

The Welcome

Kelsey Stillwell

“Let the Children Come”

Allie Ford

Children in 3K-K are invited to W.O.W., a preschool worship experience! We will meet with the W.O.W. Shepherds at the end of “Let the Children Come.” Pick up your children there after worship. The W.O.W. leader this week is Rebecca Pursiful and the shepherds this week are Sonya Milam and Merrill Long.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The Hymn of Offertory 57

Be Still, My Soul

FINLANDIA

**Be still, my soul: the Lord is on your side.
Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
Leave to your God to order and provide;
In every change God faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul: your best, your heavenly friend
Through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.
Be still, my soul: your God will undertake
To guide the future as in ages past.
Your hope, your confidence let nothing shake;
All now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
The Christ who ruled them while He dwelt below.
Be still, my soul: the hour is hastening on
When we shall be forever with the Lord,
When disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
Sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,
All safe and blessed we shall meet at last.**

*The Offertory Prayer

Greta O'Dell
Deacon of the week

The Offertory

“Be Still, My Soul”
Jackie Riley, piano

arr. Gail Smith

*The Offertory Response 186

HAMBURG

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all.**

Mission Moment

Sister Theresa Sullivan

THE OFFERING OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Ezekiel 37:1-14

Jackie Riley

The hand of the LORD came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O LORD GOD, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD. Thus says the LORD GOD to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the LORD.” So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophesy to the breath, prophesy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the LORD GOD: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude. Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the LORD God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the LORD, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken and will act,” says the LORD.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

Thanks be to God.

The Call to Confession

Scott Dickison

Almighty and everlasting God,
we thank You for all that is good,
for our creation and for our humanity,
for the stewardship You have given us of this planet earth,
for the gifts of life and of one another,
for Your love which is unbounded and eternal,
O Thou, most holy and beloved,
our Companion, our Guide upon the way.
We repent the wrongs we have done:

The Discipline of Silence

The Response 399

“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”
(*sung twice*)

Jacques Berthier

**O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer:
When I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer,
O Lord, hear my prayer.
Come and listen to me.**

The Assurance of Pardon

Scott Dickison

We have wounded Your love.

O God, heal us.

We stumble in the darkness.

Light of the world, transfigure us.

We forget that we are Your home.

Spirit of God, dwell in us.

Eternal Spirit, living God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
all that we are, have been, and shall be is known to You,
to the very secret of our hearts
and all that rises to trouble us.
Living flame, burn into us,
cleansing wind, blow through us,
fountain of water, well up within us,
that we may love and praise in deed and in truth.

Amen.

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scott Dickison

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.

The Anthem

“Out of the Deep”
The Chancel Choir
Juliana Moroz, cello

from *Requiem*, John Rutter

Out of the deep have I called unto thee, O Lord: Lord, hear my voice.
O let thine ears consider well the voice of my complaint.
If thou, Lord, wilt be extreme to mark what is done amiss: O Lord, who may abide it?
For there is mercy with thee, therefore shalt thou be feared.
I look for the Lord, my soul doth wait for him, and in his word is my trust.
My soul fleeth unto the Lord: before the morning watch, I say, before the morning watch.
O Israel, trust in the Lord, for with the Lord there is mercy
And with him is plenteous redemption.
And he shall redeem Israel from all his sins.

Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD.

Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, , Lord who could stand?

But there is forgiveness with you, so that you may be revered.

I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope; my soul waits for the Lord more than those who watch for the morning, more than those who watch for the morning.

O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is great power to redeem.

It is he who will redeem Israel from all its iniquities.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"More Than Those Who Watch for the Morning"

Scott Dickison

OFFERING OF COMMITMENT

*The Hymn of
Commitment 72

Day By Day

BLOTT EN DAG

**Day by day and with each passing moment,
Strength I find to meet my trials here;
Trusting in my Father's wise bestowment,
I've no cause for worry or for fear.
He whose heart is kind beyond all measure
Gives unto each day what he deems best—
Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure,
Mingling toil with peace and rest.**

**Every day the Lord Himself is near me
With a special mercy for each hour;
All my cares He gladly bears and cheers me,
He whose name is Counselor and Power.
The protection of His child and treasure
Is a charge that on Himself He laid;
"As your days, your strength shall be in measure,"
This the pledge to me He made.**

**Help me then in every tribulation
So to trust Your promises, O Lord,
That I lose not faith's sweet consolation
Offered me within Your holy Word.
Help me, Lord, when toil and trouble meeting,
E'er to take, as from a father's hand,
One by one, the days, the moments fleeting,
Till I reach the promised land.**

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Congregational Response 512 "We Go in Peace"

Keith Christopher

**We go in peace, we go in love,
We go with grace and mercy from the Lord above
To tell the world this very thing:
That Jesus Christ is Lord and King!**

Postlude

"Postlude"
Anne Armstrong, organ

Andrew Fletcher

APRIL 2 - APRIL 8

PALM SUNDAY, 11AM
WORSHIP, FOLLOWED BY
EGG HUNT IN PARK

MAUNDY THURSDAY, 5:30PM
SUPPER AND WORSHIP IN
FELLOWSHIP HALL

GOOD FRIDAY, 5:30PM
ART AND MEDITATION

Holy Week





OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Sunday, March 26

9:45 am	Sunday school
11:00 am	Worship
12:15 pm	VBS Meet and Greet
5:00 pm	Youth hang out
6:00 pm	Women's book club

Monday, March 27

9:00 am	Crisis Closet
9:00 am	Circle of Hope
5:30 pm	Public Education
	Advocacy Gathering

Wednesday, March 29

9:30 am	Language Ministry
5:30 pm	Youth Choir
5:30 pm	Family Dinner
6:00 pm	Children's choir
6:15 pm	Youth "Unplugged"
6:30 pm	Language Ministry
	Adult Bible study
	Chancel Choir rehearsal

Sunday, April 2

9:45 am	Sunday School
11:00 am	Worship
12:15	Easter Egg Hunt and lunch

Deacon of the Week

March 23	Greta O'Dell
March 30	Harriet Eason

Birthdays

March 26	Darrell T. Pursiful
March 27	Lacie Brown
March 29	Don McGouirk
	Charles Whitby
March 30	Rachel Huston

March 31	Charlie Thomas
April 1	Jennifer Graham
April 2	Kirby Godsey

Condolences

We grieve with the family of **Joyce Morgan** who passed away on March 14.

Save the Date:

April 2	Palm Sunday
April 6	Maundy Thursday
April 7	Good Friday
April 9	Easter Sunday
April 29	Church-wide Mission Day
May 5-7	Men's Retreat
May 21	Graduate Sunday
June 12-16	VBS
July 16-19	PassportKids

The Record Speaks

As of 2/28/2023

Monthly Budget:	\$50,200
Receipts:	\$42,580
Expenses:	\$43,661
Year to Date:	(\$4,491)
Missions Giving:	\$2,550

Wednesday Night Supper

Please use this QR code to make reservations this afternoon for Wednesday night, March 29.



Women's Book Club

Our next women's book club gathering will be tonight at 6:00 pm, at Tricia Whitby's house (210 Sleepy Creek Rd). The book will be *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng. Mark your calendar to join us!

Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to sponsor flowers for the sanctuary this year, please use the link in the newsletter or contact Mary Leonard.

Men's Retreat

Fort Mountain State Park, Chatsworth, GA
May 5-7

VBS Volunteer Meet & Greet-Today Fellowship Hall

Are you interested in volunteering for VBS this year? Do you want to learn more about the VBS theme and curriculum?

We will have information about the different volunteer roles and answer questions about volunteering! We will also help you to sign up for volunteering. To sign up to volunteer use this QR code:



Easter Eggs

Please take a bag of empty eggs (or two) from the education or office lobbies and return them filled and taped by March 29. The egg hunt will follow Palm Sunday worship on April 2. Please return them where you picked them up. You can fill them with small candies, stickers, erasers, etc. Please stay mindful of allergies and other dietary restrictions if possible.

Easter Lilies

We have been unable to find a source for potted Easter lilies this year. However, DeWayne Moore will be decorating the sanctuary for Easter with lots of beautiful flowers. To help offset the cost of the flowers and to continue our tradition of honoring those we love, you may make a \$10 donation. Please send an email to the office telling us whom you are honoring or giving in memory of. You may make a donation through the portal on the website (click on "Seasonal Flowers") or by sending a check to the church office.

Hire the Youth to Easter Egg your Yard!

Our youth will come to your house and hide eggs after dark so families can wake up to a yard full of colorful treat-filled eggs. Eggs will arrive Friday, April 7, or Saturday, April 8 night.

Order 30 eggs for \$25, 50 eggs for \$40, 70 eggs for \$55, 90 eggs for \$70, or 110 eggs for \$85. Money raised will help with the cost of youth camp and summer trips.

Registration will close on April 1 or once we've reached our limit of houses.

Thank you for supporting our youth!

Use this QR code to register:



Use this QR code to pay and select the 'Easter Egg Fundraiser.'



YOUTH NEWS

GIGANTIC Youth Hang Out

Today

5:00–7:00pm

Food, games, and fun!

Think you're a BIG deal? Can you rise to the challenge? Come have a MASSIVE good time and invite a friend!

Easter Egg Hiding Fundraiser

Youth will be stuffing eggs and hiding them in yards to raise money to help with the cost of camp and trips this summer. This fundraiser is a lot of fun, and we need your help!

How it works:

People sign up to have youth come hide eggs in their yard on Friday, April 7, or Saturday, April 8, so they wake up to a yard full of eggs the next morning. The cost depends on the number of eggs they want.

What we need:

- Youth families are asked to donate candy and small toys/stickers to fill eggs.
- Drivers to transport students to houses to hide eggs on Friday and/or Saturday nights.
- Youth Responsibilities: Youth will stuff and sort eggs when we meet on Sundays and Wednesdays. On Thursday, April 6, Youth will meet before the Maundy Thursday service to finish preparing eggs and will receive their house assignments for hiding. On Friday, April 7, and

Saturday, April 8, youth will hide eggs at assigned houses in the evening.

Important: The number of sign-ups we can accept depends on the number of youth and drivers we have for Friday and Saturday. Sign up with the link in the youth newsletter to let us know if your student can hide eggs and if you can be a driver!

Mission Madness

When: April 14–16

Where: Columbus, GA

Cost: \$140

Mission madness is a weekend retreat coordinated by CBFGA. We will drive to Columbus, Georgia Friday afternoon and back on Sunday. We spend most of the day Saturday on mission sites throughout the community. Youth worship, work, play, and fellowship together. Cost includes t-shirt, hotel, and meals.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Children's Ministry Dates:

April 2: Easter egg hunt after worship

May 20: End of school celebration

June 12-16: VBS

July 16-19: PassportKids

MISSIONS

Mission Amplify

Public Education Advocacy

Monday, March 27th, 5:30–7:30 pm

We are a cohort engaging in advocacy for public education funding. We are following policies around public education funding, collecting resources, writing to legislators, and learning together. At our previous meeting, we met with Jason Downey, Chair of the State Board of Education. Whether you're new to advocacy work or have done this before, if you're interested in learning more, we would love for you to join us!

We will meet again at Cathy Logue's house for dinner and discussion on March 27th. Let Kelsey know if you'd like to be added to the email list and if you'd like to attend.

Trip to the Border

October 22-26, 2023

CBF is offering an Educational Experience to the Texas/Mexico Border. Meet with CBF field personnel Elket Rodriguez and Global Missions staff in Harlingen, Texas. The itinerary includes meeting with local pastors to hear about their churches' responses to border needs, attending immigration court to learn about the asylum process, volunteering at the Humanitarian Respite Center in Brownsville, a prayer walk along the border/river, and breaking bread with immigrant families as we share stories. Contact Kelsey for more information.

Signs of the Season

The paraments on the pulpit and communion table along with the ministers' stoles are visual reminders of the current season of the church year. The season of Lent lasts forty days, beginning with Ash Wednesday and ending with Easter Sunday. It is traditionally a time of fasting, penitence, and prayer. The color purple, symbolizing repentance, marks the season.



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