

First Baptist Church, Greensboro, North Carolina

The Worship of God

Sunday, July 11, 2021

Call to Worship

10:30 a.m.

Opening Voluntary

Mary Howarth

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

Rev. Doug Vancil, piano

... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another in psalms, hymns, and songs of the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, always giving thanks to God the Father for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

— Ephesians 5.18-20



Text and Music: Robert Lowery, 1869

Lighting the Christ Candle

Andrew Petitt

Opening the Bible

Charlotte Gill

The music, the lighting of the Christ candle, and the opening of the Bible are tangible symbols that call us to worship. Use these moments to quiet your spirit and invite God's presence into our gathering.

Opening Sentences

Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you,
and also with you.

†Affirmation of Faith

Joel Reynolds, Summer Youth Intern

All glorious God, we give you thanks:

in your Son, Jesus Christ,
you have given us every spiritual blessing
in the heavenly realms.

**You chose us, before the world was made,
to be your holy people, without fault in your sight.**

You adopted us as your children in Christ.

**You have set us free by his blood;
you have forgiven our sins.**

You have made known to us your secret purpose,
to bring heaven and earth into unity in Christ.

**You have given us your Holy Spirit,
the seal and pledge of our inheritance.**

All praise and glory be yours, O God,

**for the richness of your grace,
for the splendor of your gifts,
for the wonder of your love.**

—based on Ephesians 1.3-18

†Hymn 50

MIT FREUDEN ZART

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Words of Friendship

Rev. Courtney Willis

A Time for Children

Christina McCord

Prayers of God's People

Rev. Willis

Responsive Prayer for Unity

Dear friends, let us love one another,
because love comes from God.
Whoever loves is a child of God and knows God.

**Jesus Christ, life of the world and of all creation,
forgive our separation and grant us peace and unity.**

The peace that Christ gives is to guide us in the decisions we make,
for it is to this peace that God has called us together into one body.

**Jesus Christ, life of the world and of all creation,
forgive our separation and grant us peace and unity.**

With his own body he broke down the walls of separation.
By his death on the cross Christ destroyed our divisions.

**Jesus Christ, life of the world and of all creation,
forgive our separation and grant us peace and unity.**

—based on Ephesians 2.14-22, 4.3-6, 1 John 4.7

Choral Anthem

Martin How

Day by Day
Summer Choir

Sermon

Rev. Sherouse

Dear Church
Ephesians

†Hymn 306

PROMISES

Standing on the Promises

†Stewardship Prayer

Debby Huneycutt, deacon

At this time we will be dismissed by row to convene for the remainder of the service under the shade trees on the west lawn (parking lot side.)

†Song of Dedication

OLD HUNDRETH PSALM TUNE

Praise God from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God all

crea-tures high and low; praise God for all that Love has done:

Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spir - it One. A - men.

Benediction

Rev. Sherouse

The Sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God in memory of their daughter, Susan Maureen Bieber on the occasion of her birthday, July 13 by Mary Ellen Burke and Pete Bieber.