



"The Road to Emmaus" by James He Qi

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina gathers for
The Worship of God
Third Sunday of Easter, April 23, 2023

God, who resists definition,
companion on the way,
you walk behind, beside, beyond;
you catch us unawares.
Break through the disillusionment and despair
clouding our vision,
that, with wide-eyed wonder,
we may find our way and journey on
as messengers of your good news. Amen.

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Christ Candle Caleb Wall

Opening the Bible Raina Gould

Prelude Baker Lawrimore *organist*
"Plein jeu (Suite du Deuxième Ton)" by Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

Opening Sentences Rev. Alan Sherouse

†Call to Worship Rev. Courtney Willis
By Sharlande Sledge

Surprising God, keep us expectant, open, sensitive, alive. When we expect a
desert, give us cool rain.

Give us music when we expect trouble.

When we expect anger, give us calm.

Give us silence when we expect noise.

When we expect loneliness, give us memories.

Give us sleep when we expect restlessness.

When we expect questions, give us prayers.

Give us hopefulness when we expect helplessness.

When we expect emptiness, give us tears.

Give us siblings when we expect friends.

When we expect bread and wine, give us Christ.

Give us strength when we expect exhaustion.

When we expect comfort, give us challenge.

Give us a feast when we expect a meal.

When we expect fairness, give us justice.

Give us flashes of your glory when we expect commonplace.

When we expect death, give us resurrection.

Give us extravagance when we expect enough. Surprise us with your overwhelming grace.

†Hymn 95

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" CORONATION

†Passing of the Peace

Words of Friendship Rev. Chris Cherry

Time for Children Rev. Amy Starr Russell

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

†Hymn 557

"Open My Eyes, That I May See" SCOTT

Prayers of God's People Rev. Buck Cochran

Gospel Lesson Rev. Willis

Luke 24:13-35

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 199

"Tell Me the Story of Jesus" STORY OF JESUS

Stewardship Prayer Kevin Starr *deacon*

Choral Offertory Sanctuary Choir

"Wings of the Dawn" Text based on Psalm 139, Music by Linda Spencer

O Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit and when I rise. Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I go from your presence?

If I rise on wings of the dawn, If I settle on the far side of the sea, Even there your hand will guide me. Your right hand will hold me fast.

If I say surely darkness will hide me, And the light be dark around me, Not even dark is dark to you. Night will shine like the day.

So I'll praise you, lift up my voice and I'll praise you, Lord, Father I'll praise you, praise you, Lord. You created me within, You knit me in my mother's womb. I praise you for I am fearfully made. Your works are wonderful.

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Baker Lawrimore *organist*

"Caprice sur les Grand jeux (Suite du Deuxième Ton)" by Louis-Nicolas Clérambault

We welcome **Rev. Bruce Hartgrove** this morning as he leads our music. Before his retirement in 2021, Rev. Hartgrove served for 39 years as Minister of Music at First Baptist Church in High Point, NC.