



"The Last Supper" by Corinne Vonaesch

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina gathers for
The Worship of God
Fifth Sunday of Easter, May 7, 2023

And the table will be wide. And the welcome will be wide. And the arms will open wide to gather us in. And our hearts will open wide to receive.

And we will come as children who trust there is enough. And we will come unhindered and free. And our aching will be met with bread. And our sorrow will be met with wine.

And we will open our hands to the feast without shame. And we will turn toward each other without fear. And we will give up our appetite for despair.

And we will taste and know of delight.

And we will become bread for a hungry world. And we will become drink for those who thirst. And the blessed will become the blessing. And everywhere will be the feast.

"And the Table Will Be Wide" by Jan Richardson

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Christ Candle Miller Norman

Opening the Bible Olivia Haynes

Prelude Matt Messick

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

†Call to Worship Rev. Buck Cochran

By Beth Merrill Neel

Children of God: welcome!

Welcome to this place of love and grace,

Welcome to this place of hope and perseverance.

God invites all of us to be a part of the beloved community, God invites all of us to share in the good news:

We are welcome, just as we are. We are loved, just as we are.

In gratitude for all of this, let us worship God! Alleluia! Amen.

†Hymn 254

“Alleluia, Alleluia! Hearts to Heaven” ODE TO JOY

†Passing of the Peace

Life of the Community Rev. Courtney Willis

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 107

“Christ Be My Leader” SLANE

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Chris Cherry

Gospel Lesson Rev. Seth Hix

John 14:1-14

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 578

“Come, All Christians, Be Committed” BEACH SPRING

Stewardship Prayer Thom Little *deacon*

Choral Offertory Sanctuary Choir

“Here I Am, Lord” Based on Isaiah 6; Arranged by Craig Courtney
*I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry,
All who dwell in deepest sin My hand will save,
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright,
Who will bear My light to them? Who shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.*

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people’s pain.

I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak My words to them. Who shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

The Lord’s Supper Rev. Sherouse and Tammy Miller *deacon chair*

†Communion Anthem Sanctuary Choir, Jerico Carrillo *flautist*

“Come, Share the Lord” Words and Music by Bryan Jeffery Leech; arr. by Ronald Tabell

We gather here, in Jesus name, his love is burning in our hearts like living flame. For through his loving Son, the Father makes us one. Come take the bread, come take the wine, come share the Lord.

We’ll gather soon where angels sing. We’ll see the glory of our Lord and coming king. Now we anticipate the feast for which we wait. Come take the bread, come take the wine, come share the Lord.

For he will feed us with his presence here. This bread and wine will do us good. Our deepest hunger he will satisfy. For he is life, and peace, and rest, and drink and food.

He joins us here, He breaks the bread. The lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead. The one we love the most is now our gracious host. Come take the bread, come drink the wine, come share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here. Everyone belongs. Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrong. We are now a family of which the Lord is head. Though unseen he meets us here in the breaking of the bread.

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Matt Messick *organist*

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of
FBC Preschool teachers and all teachers
on the occasion of National Teacher Appreciation Week
by the Culbreth family.