



"Good Samaritan" by Paulus Hoffman

THE WORLD AS IT COULD BE
SUMMER SERMONS ON THE PARABLES OF JESUS

First Baptist Church

Greensboro, North Carolina

gathers for

The Worship of God

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost, August 4, 2024

"The Kingdom of Heaven is found in what today we might call 'our own backyard' in the generosity of nature and in the daily working of people... Don't ask 'when' the kingdom comes of 'where' it is. The when is in its own good time – as long as it takes for seed to sprout and dough to rise. The where is that it is already present... in the world." – Amy-Jill Levine

GATHERING

Lee Atkinson & Bobby Doolittle

GREETING

Rev. Alan Sherouse

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"Keep On the Sunny Side of Life"

There's a dark and a troubled side of life;
There's a bright and a sunny side, too;
Tho' we meet with the darkness and strife
The sunny side we also may view.

Chorus:

Keep on the sunny side, always on the sunny side,
Keep on the sunny side of life,
It will help us every day, it will brighten all the way,
If we keep on the sunny side of life.

Oh the storm and its fury breaks today,
Crushing hopes that we cherish so dear;
Clouds and storms will in time pass away,
The sun again will shine bright and clear. [Chorus]

Let us greet with a song of hope each day,
Tho' the moment be cloudy or fair;
Let us trust in our Savior always,
To keep us every one in His care. [Chorus]

PASSING OF THE PEACE

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Rev. Courtney Willis

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Julia Lyle *Summer Intern*

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"Down to the River to Pray"

As I went down to the river to pray,
studyin' about that good old way,
and who shall wear the starry crown,
good Lord, show me the way.

1 Oh, sisters, let's go down,
let's go down, come on down.
Oh, sisters, let's go down,
down to the river to pray. [Refrain]

2 Oh, brothers...

3 Oh, fathers...

4 Oh, mothers...

5 Oh, sinners...

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Amy Starr Russell

SCRIPTURE READING

James Dolph *Pastoral Intern*

SERMON

Rev. Sherouse

"The World As It Could Be: Leaven"

COMMUNION

Rev. Sherouse & Thom Little *Deacon Chair*

COMMUNION MEDITATION

Lee Atkinson & Bobby Doolittle

"Let Us Break Bread Together" LET US BREAK BREAD

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

"Swing Low, Sweet Chariot" SWING LOW

Refrain:

Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home.
Swing low, sweet chariot,
Coming for to carry me home.

1 I looked over Jordan, and what did I see,
Coming for to carry me home.
A band of angels coming after me,
Coming for to carry me home. Oh, [Refrain]

2 If you get there before I do,
Coming for to carry me home.
Tell all my friends I'm coming too,
Coming for to carry me home. Oh, [Refrain]

3 I'm sometimes up and sometimes down,
Coming for to carry me home.
But still my soul feels heav'nly bound,
Coming for to carry me home. Oh, [Refrain]

STEWARDSHIP PRAYER

Tom Smith *Deacon*

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Lee Atkinson & Bobby Doolittle

"Where the Soul of a Man Never Dies" Ricky Skaggs & Tony Rice

BENEDICTION

Rev. Sherouse

POSTLUDE

Lee Atkinson & Bobby Doolittle

"River of Jordan" Ricky Skaggs

*Thanks to our friends, Lee Atkinson and Bobby Doolittle,
for providing our music this morning.*



First Baptist Church
Greensboro