

CELEBRATION WORSHIP
SANCTUARY
9:00 A.M.

✝ - When you see this symbol, we ask that you stand, if able.

Please be sure to pick up elements for communion prior to the start of the service. Our tradition at First Baptist is to extend the Lord's Table by providing a special offering to benefit the Benevolence Ministry. You may give to this offering by placing it in an envelope, marking "Benevolence Fund" and placing it in the offering plates at the door as you exit.

The act of singing creates an increased risk of spreading COVID. If worshippers choose to sing, we ask that you be considerate of others by wearing a mask and staying at least 6 feet apart throughout the service.

Chiming of the Hour	Handbells
Prelude	Tim Evans
Call to Worship	Ellee Hilley

Inspired by John 15:1-8

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

All: We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

All: We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, productive.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

All: We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God:

Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

Hymn 349	<i>To God Be The Glory</i>	TO GOD BE THE GLORY
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*To God be the glory, great things He hath done;
 So loved He the world that He gave us His Son,
 Who yielded His life an atonement for sin,
 And opened the life gate that all may go in.*

*Refrain: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!
 Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!
 O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son,
 And give Him the glory, great things He hath done.*

*O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood,
 To every believer the promise of God;
 The vilest offender who truly believes,
 That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.*

Refrain

*Great things He hath taught us, great things he hath done,
 And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
 But purer, and higher, and greater will be
 Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see.*

Refrain

Welcome	Steven Norris
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✝ Scripture Reading	1 John 4: 7-21	Sally Hartman
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Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

Hymn 364	<i>I Love Thee</i>	MADILL
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*I love Thee, I love Thee, I love Thee, my Lord;
 I love Thee, my Savior, I love Thee, my God:
 I love Thee, I love Thee, and that Thou dost know;
 But how much I love Thee my actions will show.*

*I'm happy, I'm happy, oh, wondrous account!
 My joys are immortal, I stand on the mount:
 I gaze on my treasure and long to be there,
 With Jesus and angels and kindred so dear.*

*O Jesus, my Savior, with Thee I am blest,
 My life and salvation, my joy and my rest:
 Thy name be my theme, and Thy love be my song;
 Thy grace shall inspire both my heart and my tongue.*

*Oh, who's like my Savior? He's Salem's bright King;
 He smiles and He loves me and helps me to sing:
 I'll praise Him, I'll praise Him with notes loud and clear,
 While rivers of pleasure my spirit shall cheer.*

Pastoral Prayer	Seth Brown
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At the conclusion of the prayer:
*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. Amen.*

Special Music	<i>Take My Gifts and Let Me Love You</i>	MADILL
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Offertory Prayer	Ronnie Hopkins
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Musical Offering	Tim Evans
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✝ Presentation of the Offering	<i>The Doxology</i>	OLD 100TH
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*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
 Praise Him, all creatures here below;
 Praise Him, above ye heavenly host;
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Time for Children	Erin Clarke
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Children, children ages pre-K through 5th grade should remain with their loved ones during service today to celebrate Communion.

Hymn 543	<i>Abide with Me</i>	EVENTIDE
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*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
 the darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
 When other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
 Help of the helpless, abide with me!*

*I need Thy presence every passing hour;
 What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's power?
 Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
 Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me!*

*Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes;
 Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
 Heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee.
 In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!*

Sermon	<i>A New Love That Abides</i>	Steven Norris
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Communion
 At First Baptist, we believe that Jesus' invitation to the Lord's Table is for all His followers. Anyone who proclaims, "Jesus is Lord," may take part.

Hymn 504	<i>I Am Thine, O Lord</i>	I AM THINE
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*I am Thine, O Lord, I have heard Thy voice, and it told Thy love to me;
 But I long to rise in the arms of faith, and be closer drawn to Thee.*

*Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer blessed Lord,
 to the cross where Thou hast died;
 Draw me nearer, nearer, nearer, blessed Lord,
 To Thy precious, bleeding side.*

NEWS AND EVENTS

*Consecrate me now to Thy service, Lord, by the power of grace divine;
Let my soul look up with a steadfast hope, and my will be lost in Thine.*

Refrain

*There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
There are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with Thee.*

Refrain

Benediction

Steven Norris

Postlude

Tim Evans

Called Church Conference May 9

Members, please plan to stay a few extra minutes after service next week to participate in our Church Conference. We will vote on two issues: 1) to approve a Search Committee that will begin looking for a new Children's Minister; and 2) to fill two positions on the FBC Endowment Board that will become vacant at the end of June.

The Church on the Other Side

We invite you to join us on Wednesday nights throughout the month of May as we ask ourselves, "What does it mean to be the Church on the other side of this pandemic?" This series is part of the FBC "Six Months of Intentional Discernment." These conversations will be facilitated by senior pastor, Steven Norris, and will be held at 6pm in the Sanctuary.

Baby Dedication During Connexion Service Today

Rejoice with us as Nicholas and Loren Bland dedicate their daughter, Kambryn Ann Bland, during the 11:15 Connexion service today.

Children's Ministry Help Needed

We have been working diligently to fill out a rotation for volunteers in the preschool and children's Sunday worship care and Children's Church areas. Can you spare one Sunday every six weeks to help out where you are needed? We still have spots to be filled. This is a team effort, so please reach out to us and let us know how you can help — email us at info@fbcgriffin.org or speak to a staff member today.

XYZ Restarts May 11

We're kicking off a new season with a meal catered by Touch of Grace and a performance by the Ukulele Ensemble! Make plans to join us on May 11. You can RSVP for your meal by clicking on the XYZ event on our FBC Griffin calendar in the app or on the website. The cost for the meal is \$6.

Senior Recognition May 16

Are you — or is someone in your family who attends FBC — a graduating senior? Send us your name, school, and degree so we can recognize your achievement on Senior Recognition Day. If you have pictures, we will be happy to take those too! Lunch will be provided following the 11:15am service for high school graduates. Email information to sethbrown@fbcgriffin.org by May 2.

It's Planting Time Again!

The FBC Community Garden is looking for volunteers to assist with weeding, watering, picking and delivering vegetables this spring and summer. Gardening experience isn't required and we will be glad to meet volunteers to explain what needs to be done and to answer any questions. Volunteers can sign up by contacting Patrick Shepherd at (678) 776-6286.

New Young Adult Sunday School Class Begins Today

Warren and Camilla Huddleston open their Young Adult Sunday school class at 10:15am today in the Instrumental Room on the 2nd floor of the Education Building.

Women's Retreat at Callaway Gardens — Interest Form Available

Ladies, if you have an interest in joining this weekend getaway in October, please fill out the interest form available at fbcgriffin.org/2021-womens-retreat.

Steven Norris
SENIOR PASTOR

Seth Brown
MINISTER TO STUDENTS

Erin Clarke
MINISTER OF MUSIC

Ellee Hilley
DIRECTOR OF WORSHIP
ARTS

Bruce Morgan
PASTOR EMERITUS



First Baptist
Griffin
A community of grace.

May 2, 2021

If a house should be taken for us by a friend, and we were told it was ready, and that the lease and all the necessary papers were duly attested and signed, we should not ask how we could get into it. We should just pack up and move in... God says that He is our dwelling place, and the Bible contains all the necessary papers, duly attested and signed. And our Lord invites us, nay more, commands us to enter in and abide there. In effect He says, God is your dwelling place, and you must see to it that you take up your abode there. You must move in.

—Hannah Whitall Smith

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