

First Baptist Church at Worship

“You Will Be My Witnesses” (Acts 1:8)

September 27, 2009

Eleven O’Clock in the Morning

Gathering

Greeting

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

John Hewett

Organ Voluntary

“My Heart Is Filled With Longing”

by J. S. Bach

Call to Worship

Our help is in the strength of God, who created all that is.

Who are we, that God remembers us?

Our blessings come from God, giver of all good gifts.

Who are we, to be graced by God’s bounty?

Our salvation comes from God, light in our darkness.

Who are we, to be redeemed by God’s love?

Our calling as servants and friends comes from God, whose image we reflect.

Who are we, that God’s Spirit shines out from us?

All praise to the living God!

Sara Spahr Stubbs

+ Hymn 669

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA

+ Confession of Sin

God of grace and God of glory, we live in difficult times.

We confess that we do not ask for the help of others – to pray for us.

We do not seek the wisdom of older people – to advise us.

Worst of all, we do not seek your power – to uphold us.

In your great mercy, forgive us.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days.

Paul Sims

+ Assurance of Forgiveness.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

+ The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

John Hewett

† Gloria Patri

GREATOR EX

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.*

Preschoolers are dismissed for Extended Session after a brief prayer with the Pastor

The Word

First Lesson

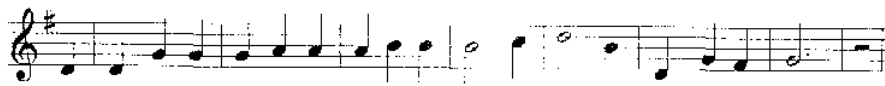
James 5:13-20

Tom Coffey, Leslie Gordon
Katie Humphrey

*The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

Psalm 19

setting by Joe Cox



The heavens are telling the glory of God, the sky proclaims all his works.

*The law of the Lord is perfect, the soul to revive.
The law of the Lord is trusted, making the simple wise.*

REFRAIN

*The laws of the Lord are right, giving joy to the heart.
Radiant are God's commands, giving light to our eyes.*

REFRAIN

*The fear of the Lord is pure and forever endures,
Altogether righteous and altogether sure.*

REFRAIN

Second Lesson

Mark 9:38-50

John Hewett

*The Gospel of our Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

† Hymn

please see page 7

"Bring Forth the Kingdom"

by Marty Haugen

Sermon

"Who's The Competition?"

John Hewett

Responding

Invitation to Christian Discipleship and Church Membership

John Hewett

First Baptist Church of Monroe welcomes all persons to participate in the full range of our services, programs, ministries and mission activities. Membership is open to anyone professing faith in Jesus Christ as Savior and Lord. Persons may offer themselves as candidates for membership by profession of faith and baptism, by statement of previous conversion and baptism, or by transfer of membership from another church. Membership may be requested in writing or during regular worship services. If you wish to present yourself for membership today, come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and our minister will receive you. You are welcome here

+ Offertory Prayer

Babs Simpson

All loose change received in September will benefit the Literacy Council, a local agency whose mission is to improve the quality of life of individuals by teaching them to read, write, speak and understand the English language. Please give as you are able.

Offertory

“He Comes To Us”

by Jane Marshall

The Chancel Choir

*He comes to us as One unknown, without a name, as of old, by the lakeside
He came to those men who knew Him not.
He speaks to us, He speaks the same word: “Follow thou me!”
And sets us to the tasks which He has to fulfill for our time.
He commands. And to those who obey Him, whether they be wise or simple,
He will reveal Himself in the toils, the conflicts, the sufferings
Which they shall pass through in his fellowship,
And, as an ineffable mystery, they shall learn in their own experience
Who He is.*

— Albert Schweitzer, 20th century
from *The Quest of the Historical Jesus*

*O Morning Star, how fair and bright, Thou beamest forth in truth and light!
O Sovereign meek and lowly.
Thou Root of Jesse, David’s Son, my Lord and Master, Thou hast won
My heart to serve Thee solely!
Thou art holy, fair and glorious, all victorious, rich in blessing,
Rule and might o’er all possessing.*

Philipp Nicolai, 16th century

A Word About Our Finances

William Edwards

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord’s 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

+ Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

*Please rise as the deacons pass your pew in returning the offering to the Chancel
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.*

Sending

+ Commission

John Hewett

*The God who called you to this place of worship
sends you out to proclaim the good news to your small corner of the world.
We will go in hope, for God goes before us.
We will go in joy, for God is our companion.
We will go with courage, for God believes in us.
We will go in peace, for God's peace will keep us eternally secure.*

Organ Postlude

"HYMN TO JOY"

arranged by Edward Broughton

† † †

† Those who are able may stand

Personal Listening Devices are available for worship. Request one from an usher.

PLEASE TURN OFF ALL CELL PHONES AND PAGERS

~ All worshipers are encouraged to complete the Attendance Register located at the end of each pew. ~

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Audio CDs of our worship services are available through the church office.

Audio recordings of sermons are now available on our website, www.monroefirstbaptist.org

Assisting in today's ministry of worship are:

*John H. Hewett, Senior Minister
Paul M. Sims, Minister
Sara Spahr Stubbs, Minister
Timothy Belflowers, Organist
The Chancel Choir
David Mosely, Ministry Intern / Soloist
Sarah Poindexter, Ministry Intern
Taylor Vancil, Ministry Intern
Seth Joyner, Cantor
The Choral Scholars
Babs Simpson, Deacon
William Edwards, Board of Trustees Chair*

Preschool Extended Session workers for today are:

Christina Kale, Robin Haas, Margaret Price

*The Sanctuary flowers are given by Chris and Anita Gross
to the glory of God and in loving memory of J. Ray Melton*