

The First Baptist Church at Worship

11th Sunday After Pentecost

August 28, 2011

10:30 AM

(Please read as a preparation for worship.)

Scripture is not a set of clues from which to figure out God, for the story it tells is itself the truth of God. The dominant heresy of our time might be described as a cheapjack form of Arianism, as pop-Feuerbach. We are supposed to be on a quest for God, and the mode of our questing is projection. It seems so reasonable: God dwells in unapproachable light; our ability to see through to him, even if he in some sense reveals himself, must therefore be very limited and fragmentary, a matter of glimpses; and since we thus can have no embracing conceptual structure within which to communicate our glimpses, we can speak only with such metaphorical projections as experience may suggest. It seems so reasonable - but if the gospel is true, it is all wrong.

- Robert W. Jenson

The Gathering

THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist
Debbie Lindley, Pianist

(We gather for personal and corporate reflection and prayer.)

Leaning On the Everlasting Arms Anthony Showalter
Peace Medley Lillenas-Kretz
Give of Your Best to the Master Charlotte Barnard
Praise Medley Allen-Harris

All settings by Mickelson-Atwood

In Praise to the Lord

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#315 *Sing Praise to God...*
MIT FREUDEN ZART

In the mid to late 1600's the Lutheran Church experienced a period of revival known as the "Pietistic Movement." Frankfort attorney Johann Jakob Schütz was inspired to write this well known hymn. As we sing, let us be filled with a sense of revival!

*OPENING PRAYER

Rev. C. Roland Marcus

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

#495 *Step by Step*
STEP BY STEP

**O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
O God, You are my God, and I will ever praise You.
I will seek You in the morning
and I will learn to walk in Your ways;
and step by step You'll lead me,
and I will follow You all of my days.**

*WELCOME & PASSING OF PEACE

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

(Please register your attendance by filling out a yellow card from the pew rack and placing it in the offering bag this morning.)

We are invited to greet our nearest neighbors, extend our hand,
and greet one another in the name of Christ.

(Please be seated.)

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Mary Andreolli
Alliance of Baptists

(During Coffee Fellowship this morning, Mary will tell us about the work of the Alliance of Baptists. Please join us in the church parlor for this presentation. More information about Mary and her work can be found in the announcements insert.)

Reading & Proclaiming God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Dayne Craig

Exodus 3:1-15: Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. Then Moses said, "I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up." When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." He said further, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

Then the LORD said, "I have observed the misery of my people who are in Egypt; I have heard their cry on account of their taskmasters. Indeed, I know their sufferings, and I have come down to deliver them from the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey, to the country of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. The cry of the Israelites has now come to me; I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them. So come, I will send you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" He said, "I will be with you; and this shall be the sign for you that it is I who sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall worship God on this mountain."

But Moses said to God, "If I come to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." He said further, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God also said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you': This is my name forever, and this my title for all generations.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Matthew.
People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Matthew 16:21-28: From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and on the third day be raised. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

Then Jesus told his disciples, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?"

"For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#507 *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*
I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

*Many of us sing this beloved spiritual while thinking, "but I **am** a Christian." This hymn serves as a constant prayer for us in helping to keep our hearts in our Christianity.*

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Johnelle Kennedy

(Children in preK-grade 4 will be led downstairs for Sunday School. Younger Children preK-K will go to Room #4 and older children grades 1-4 will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service.)

CALL TO PRAYER

#652 *Make Me a Servant*
SERVANT

**Make me a servant, humble and meek;
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be:
make me a servant, make me a servant,
make me a servant today.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Dr. Rod Kennedy

God of grace and glory, we thank you that you judge us not by the perfection of our actions, but by our readiness to live boldly by faith. Help us, as individuals and as a congregation, to trust you and follow you where you lead, and forgive us when we are reluctant to hear and obey your call, that in Christ your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Dr. Rod Kennedy

Pastor to People: In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven!

People to Pastor: In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven!

PASTORAL PRAYER Dr. Rod Kennedy
THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Debts & Debtors)*

MUSICAL OFFERING Summer Choir
Lord of the Dance Sydney Carter, arr. R. Landis

THE SERMON Dr. Rod Kennedy
"What Authority?"

The Response of God's People

THE OFFERTORY Greg Land & Debbie Lindley
He, Watching Over Israel Felix Mendelssohn

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #670 v.1 *Take My Gifts...*
MADILL

Take my gifts and let me love You,
God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter,
Gave me life and set me free.
Now because Your love has touched me,
I have love to give away, now the bread of love is rising,
loaves of love to multiply.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Dayne Craig

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

(Persons wishing to join First Baptist Church are invited to come forward while the organist plays the first verse of the recessional hymn. You may join First Baptist Church by confession of faith, transfer of letter, or statement of faith. The pastor will greet you as you come forward this morning.)

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #517 *Go Forth for God*
GENEVA

J. R. Peacey was an English pastor and theologian who wrote 18 hymns prior to his death in 1971. His hymns have only been recently discovered. Our closing hymn was written in 1968 to remind us to go forth in peace, love and joy for God.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL Dr. Rod Kennedy

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #523 v.1 *God Be With You*
GOD BE WITH YOU

God be with you till we meet again!
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
with His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again!

*POSTLUDE Greg Land & Debbie Lindley

O Worship the King Johann Michael Haydn
(To God Be the Glory!)



At the close of today's service, the Lord's Supper will be celebrated in the Chapel, located in the Beaver Wing. Immediately following the Lord's Supper, a Service of Healing will be held in the Chapel. The service consists of prayers for healing and wholeness, with anointing and laying on of hands. All are invited.

Worship Notes

The call of God to Moses in Exodus 3 raises the question of how God communicates with us. In what sense are we called? Does God only call preachers and missionaries? What does being called have to do with our sense of vocation? By what authority does one claim to be called to speak for God? In the Gospel text Jesus makes it clear that his calling is a calling "unto death." Peter objects so much that Jesus calls him, "Satan," and "a stumbling block" to the purpose of God. Then Jesus calls all of his followers to a life that is "unto death" but yet leads to life. Perhaps it is not such a bad idea to have serious questions when God calls.

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care and keeping all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.



Welcome to All

Before Worship: Children arriving with parents or grandparents at the 9:00 Sunday School hour may go downstairs to Room 3 for activities. A reminder to parents and grandparents: please pick up your children no later than 10:15 to give everyone enough time to prepare for worship.

Visiting the church today? Here's an invitation! Please join the congregation for Coffee Fellowship immediately after the service. We hope you'll stop by the Visitor's Table, say hello, and meet a few members of First Baptist Church.

If you are visiting, **please register your attendance** on a yellow information card and fill in any needs or concerns you might have. Members are also asked to sign the information card. Prayer concerns or event registrations may be marked on these cards.

Childcare for infants through two years of age is available during worship and church school and is located in the West hallway. For your peace of mind, our nursery is equipped with a call-system that allows nursery caregivers to page our ushers should there be a need to contact the parents of an infant or toddler.

All children are invited to come forward for the **Children's Message**. Following the message the children will be led downstairs for **Sunday School**. Young children (preK-K) will go to Room #4 and children (grades 1-4) will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service. If you have questions or comments, please speak with Rev. Jason Alspaugh.



(Please see insert for announcements.)

First Baptist Church of Dayton

11th Sunday After Pentecost



Burning Bush

Phillip and Dennis Ratner

Our Mission Statement:

To celebrate God's love as a community of believers in Jesus Christ through worship, education, fellowship, and outreach to others.

- Dr. Rodney Wallace Kennedy, *Lead Pastor*
- Rev. Jason Alspaugh, *Associate Pastor Children & Youth*
- Rev. C. Roland Marcus, *Associate Pastor*
- Rev. James Earnest, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*
- Ryan Gade, *Pastor Intern*
- Ray Landis, *Music Director*
- Gregory Land, *Organist*
- R. Alan Kimbrough, *Organist*
- Debbie Lindley, *Pianist*
- Linda Mullins, *Financial Secretary*
- Linda Blair, *Church Secretary*
- Jerry Cook, *Custodian*

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