

The First Baptist Church at Worship

2nd Sunday in Lent

March 20, 2011 10:30 AM

*A guide to your meditation as you listen to the prelude,
prepare your minds and hearts for worship,
and sit amazed in the presence of the Lord:*

*“What we Christians have lost is just how radical our practices are,
since they are meant to free us from the excitement of war and the lies so
characteristic of the world. The difficulty is that the church, for some quite
understandable reasons, is constantly tempted to imitate the false politics
of the world for its own life. Such politics, based as they are on fear and
envy, undermine the joy that Christians should find in the difficult but
rewarding tasks of being church.*

*“I should not hide the fact that informing this account of the church is
a quite different understanding of salvation than is assumed by many
Christians today. I have little use for the current fascination with individual
salvation [like being ‘born again’] assume that God has done something for
each person which may find expression in the church. I do not assume that
salvation is first and foremost about my life having ‘meaning’ or insuring
‘my’ eternal destiny. Rather, salvation is being engrafted into practices
that save us from those powers that would rule our lives making it
impossible for us to truly worship God.”*

*Stanley Hauerwas,
In Good Company: The Church as Polis*

The Gathering

THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist
Debbie Lindley, Pianist

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

God So Loved the World Stainer
There Is No Greater Love Peterson
O How He Loves You and Me Kaiser
Blessed Assurance Knapp

In Praise to the Lord

CHORAL INTROIT

Chancel Choir

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days - #169

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

#349 *To God Be the Glory*
TO GOD BE THE GLORY

*To give God the glory should be what all Christians aspire to do, but we
have a problem in that we want the glory to be for us! The venerable
Fannie Crosby understood this when she wrote this hymn in 1875.
Although she was one of the most celebrated of hymn writers, she knew
that her talent was a gift from God to be shared with us.*

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. Jim Earnest

**Forgive us, O Lord, for our self-centeredness that makes
salvation more about “me” than “us.” Save us from “being born
again” into the ways of this world and pretending they are your
ways. Renew in us the spirit of willing and hungry conversation
about you, your will, your purposes, your invitation for us to
participate in your new world. Clean away the chaff of paganism
that often clings to our religious activities and clothe us in the
robes of faith and obedience through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.**

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

The Lord God is merciful and gracious, endlessly patient, loving, and
true, showing mercy to thousands, forgiving iniquity, transgression,
and sin, and granting pardon. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #183 v.1 *In the Cross of Christ* RATHBUN, alt.

**In the cross of Christ I glory, towering o'er the wrecks of time:
all the light of sacred story gathers round its head sublime.**

*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

Shannon Brown

Reading & Proclaiming God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Gina Greenwood

Genesis 12:1-4a: Now the LORD said to Abram, "Go from your
country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I
will show you. I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you,
and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless
those who bless you, and the one who curses you I will curse; and in
you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." So Abram went, as
the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him.

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

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

For God So Loved the World Alan Pote

THE NEW TESTAMENT EPISTLE LESSON

Gina Greenwood

Romans 4:1-5, 13-17: What then are we to say was gained by
Abraham, our ancestor according to the flesh? For if Abraham was
justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before
God. For what does the scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and
it was reckoned to him as righteousness." Now to one who works,
wages are not reckoned as a gift but as something due. But to one

who without works trusts him who justifies the ungodly, such faith
is reckoned as righteousness. For the promise that he would
inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants
through the law but through the righteousness of faith. If it is the
adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the
promise is void. For the law brings wrath; but where there is no
law, neither is there violation. For this reason it depends on faith, in
order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all
his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to
those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of
us, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations") --
in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to
the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist.

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

*THE GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. C. Roland Marcus

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

John 3:1-10: Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a
leader of the Jews. He came to Jesus by night and said to him,
"Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God;
for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence
of God." Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can
see the kingdom of God without being born from above." Nicodemus
said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can
one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?"
Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the
kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. What is
born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit.
Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from
above.' The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound
of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes.
So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." Nicodemus
said to him, "How can these things be?" Jesus answered him, "Are
you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these
things?"

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

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#55 *Give to the Winds Your Fears*
FESTAL SONG

*John Wesley, in addition to preaching and editing his brother Charles'
hymns, translated many German reformation hymns for use in the
English Methodist church. Our fellowship hymn is an example,
originally written by Paul Gerhardt and translated into English in
1731.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Amy Radachi

(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

#388 *Rain Down*
RAIN DOWN

**Rain down, rain down, rain down Your love on Your people.
Rain down, rain down, rain down Your love, God of life.**

PASTORAL PRAYER
THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Debts & Debtors)*

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

THE SERMON

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

“Coming Out of the Cave”

*RESPONSE

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; the third day he rose from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Response of God's People

THE OFFERTORY

Connie Holmen & Sharon Kohnle

In This Very Room Ron & Carol Harris

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #665 v.1 *Because I Have Been Given Much*
SEMINARY

**Because I have been given much, I, too, must give;
because of Thy great bounty, Lord, each day I live,
I shall divide my gifts from Thee with every person that I see
who has the need of help from me.**

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Gina Greenwood

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 #619 *Blessed Assurance, Jesus Is Mine*
ASSURANCE

Fanny Crosby hymns are a great way to begin and end a service. Most of Crosby's hymns were born of her great spirituality but this hymn is different. As she was listening to a friend, Phoebe Knapp, playing an original composition she was inspired to write our closing hymn. As we depart, let us always know of that blessed assurance given by our Lord and Savior.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL

Dr. Rodney Kennedy

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #512 *We Go In Peace*
EDWARDS

**We go in peace, we go in love, we go with grace and mercy
from the Lord above to tell the world this very thing:
that Jesus Christ is Lord and King,
Jesus Christ is Lord and King!**

*POSTLUDE

Greg Land & Debbie Lindley

Fantasy in A Minor E. L. Ashford



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

In the second Sunday of Lent, the scripture lessons emphasize faith and obedience. In Genesis God calls Abraham from his home to be a blessing to the earth. He follows this command, even in the face of uncertainty. In John's gospel, Jesus tells Nicodemus that he must be born again. Perhaps no biblical teaching has been more misunderstood than the theology of being "born again." Jesus teaches Nicodemus, though he's a leader among the Pharisees, he does not yet understand true obedience which grows from loving trust in the living God. There is always a radical obedience attached to being "born again". To miss that is to have an emotional experience without substance or meaning.

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.



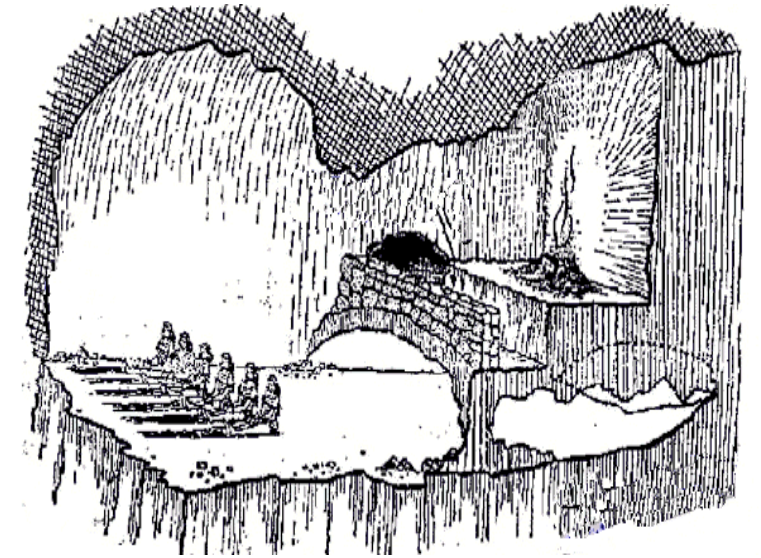
Welcome to All

- ✓ **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

2nd Sunday in Lent



Plato's Cave

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*
- Rev. C. Donald Thrash, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*
- 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*

111 W. Monument Avenue
Dayton OH 45402
937-222-4691
Fax: 937-222-0649

fbcbdayton.org
www.fbcbdayton.org