



Burlington

Baptist Church

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Sunday, September 1, 2024

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Welcome to Burlington Baptist Church today!

* You are invited to stand.

WE APPROACH GOD

Creator God,
we thank you for the long days of summer:
for bright mornings and walks along the waterfront;
for daisies and ball games and swimming at the beach;
for picnics and vacations and visits with family and friends.
Loving God, we come to church to praise you,
but remind us that you are always with us:
in the warmth of your love;
in the light of your life;
in the length of our days.
For this day, and the beauty of all your gifts, we thank you.
Amen.

Prelude

“Be Thou My Vision”
(arr. Melody Bober)

Cameron

Welcome and Announcements

Dave

Prayer and Preparation

WE PRAISE GOD

Invitation to Worship

* **Hymn of Praise** “God, You Spin the Whirling Planets” 23 - GG

*1. God, you spin the whirling planets,
fill the seas and spread the plain,
mold the mountains, fashion blossoms,
call forth sunshine, wind, and rain.
We, created in your image,
would a true reflection be
of your justice, grace, and mercy
and the truth that makes us free.*

2. *You have called us to be faithful
in our life and ministry.
We respond in grateful worship
joined in one community.
When we blur your gracious image,
focus us and make us whole.
Healed and strengthened as your people,
we move onward toward your goal.*
3. *God, your word is still creating,
calling us to life made new.
Now reveal to us fresh vistas
where there's work to dare and do.
Keep us clear of all distortion.
Polish us with loving care.
Thus, new creatures in your image,
we'll proclaim Christ everywhere.*

* Prayer of Approach

WE GIVE OURSELVES TO GOD

Responsive Reading "Psalm 45" - paraphrase by Leslie F. Brandt.

LEADER: My heart is full of joy today.
I reach almost frantically for the sounds
that might express that joy,
the words that would proclaim
the exuberance that I feel at this moment.
I am heavy with praise,
and I must express it lest I succumb to it.

PEOPLE: You, my dear friend,
were the channel of this joy.
You touched me with love
and awakened my sleeping heart
to the beauty and fragrance of life about me.

LEADER: God reached out through your devotion
and your concern
to kindle anew a fire within me,
to fan embers into flames of light and passion.

PEOPLE: You marched into my jungle of despair
and made a path for me to walk in once more.
You sliced through my confusion
and gave order and motivation
to my purposeless gropings.

LEADER: I am so very grateful – to God and to you.
I pray that I may be used,
as God has so abundantly used you,
to transmit joy to the joyless, despairing lives
of God’s children who cross my path.

PEOPLE: And I pray that God may bless you
and keep you, and use you forever.

ALL: Amen!

Sunday Morning Friends

A Gift of Song “I Saw the Light” (Hank Williams)

Prayers of the People of God

Offering Invitation

* Offering Hymn “God Whose Giving Knows No Ending” 716 - GG

- God, whose giving knows no ending,
from your rich and endless store:
nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom,
costly cross, grave's shattered door,
gifted by you, we turn to you,
offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall rise forever,
gracious donor of our days.*

2. *Skills and time are ours for pressing
toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom,
races joined, the Church made one.
Now direct our daily labor,
lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants
fit to answer at your throne.*

3. *Treasure, too, you have entrusted,
gain through powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred,
and to spread the Gospel Word.
Open wide our hands in sharing,
as we heed Christ's ageless call,
healing, teaching, and reclaiming,
serving you by loving all.*

GOD SPEAKS TO US

The Scriptures

Sylvia

Epistle Lesson: James 1: 19 - 27

Gospel Lesson: Mark 7: 1 - 8

Sermon: *“Mirrors”*

GOD SENDS US FORTH

* Hymn of Response

“Go to the World!”

295 - GG

1. *Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Alleluia. Alleluia.*

2. *Go to the world! Go struggle, bless, and pray:
The nights of tears give way to joyous day.
As servant church, you follow Christ's own way.
Alleluia. Alleluia.*

3. *Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you till the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"
Alleluia. Alleluia.*

* **Benediction**

Postlude

"Sine Nomine"

(Ralph Vaughan Williams)