



**RiverOaks**  
Baptist Church  
**Morning Worship**  
May 15, 2022

**Prelude to Worship**

**Kathleen Wilkins**, organist

**Call to Worship**

*All Creatures of Our God and King*

All creatures of our God and King,  
Lift up your voice and with us sing  
Alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam,  
Thou silver moon with softer gleam!  
O praise Him, O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Thou rushing wind that art so strong,  
Ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,  
Ye lights of evening find a voice!  
O praise Him, O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

And all ye men of tender heart,  
Forgiving others, take your part,  
O sing ye! Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,  
Praise God and on Him cast your care!  
O praise Him, O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Let all things their Creator bless,  
And worship Him in humbleness,  
O praise Him! Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
And praise the Spirit, Three in One!  
O praise Him, O praise Him!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Morning Prayer**

**Christian Johns**, Youth Minister

**Welcome to Worshipers**

**Hymn of Unity**

*We Are Travelers on a Journey*

We are travelers on a journey,  
Fellow pilgrims on the road;  
We are here to help each other  
Walk the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold the Christ-light for you  
In the nighttime of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
Speak the peace you long to hear.

Sister, let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
Let you be my servant, too.  
Brother, let me be your servant,  
Let me be as Christ to you;  
Pray that I may have the grace to  
Let you be my servant, too.

I will weep when you are weeping,  
When you laugh, I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
Till we've seen this journey through.  
When we sing to God in heaven,  
We shall find such harmony,  
Born of all we've known together  
Of Christ's love and agony.

## **Lessons from Scripture**

**Acts 2:14-21**

**Parrish Kyle**, reader

## **Choral Worship**

### ***Come Home***

**Priscilla Salisbury**, soloist

**Dr. Sarah Spencer**, pianist

*text Will L. Thomson; music by Dan Forrest*

## **Hymn of Assurance**

### ***The Solid Rock***

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

#### ***Chorus:***

On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
All other ground is sinking sand,  
All other ground is sinking sand.

When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace;  
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

#### ***Chorus***

When He shall come with trumpet sound,  
Oh, may I then in Him be found,  
Dressed in His righteousness alone,  
Faultless to stand before the throne.

***Chorus***

## **Sermon**

### ***The Essence of Church***

Acts 2:38-47

Dr. Steve Laufer, Pastor

## **Closing Song**

### ***Wherever He Leads I'll Go***

“Take up thy cross and follow me,” I heard my Master say;  
“I gave my life to ransom thee, surrender your all today.”

***Chorus:***

Wherever He leads, I'll go, wherever He leads, I'll go,  
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so,  
Wherever He leads, I'll go.

He drew me closer to His side, I sought His will to know,  
And in that will, I now abide, wherever He leads, I'll go.

***Chorus***

## **The Call of Dr. Steven Laufer to be Senior Pastor River Oaks Baptist Church, Houston, Texas**

### **Greg Stahl, Leader:**

*Dr. Laufer*, you have been sent to live among us as *a bearer* of the Word of God;  
*a minister* of the Ordinances; *a builder and encourager* of God's Kingdom;  
and *a sustainer* of the love, order, service and discipleship of the people of God.

### **Pastor:**

**Today I affirm this commitment in the presence of this congregation.**

### **Leader to congregation:**

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service, will you who celebrate this new beginning, support and uphold Dr. Laufer in these ministries?

### **Congregational response:**

***We reaffirm our commitment to support Dr. Laufer with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.***

### **Leader:**

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

### **Congregation:**

***who announces peace, who brings good news, who proclaims salvation.***

### **Doxology: Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow**

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;  
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;

## **A Prayer of Blessing and Thanksgiving**

Joyce Ahearn

### **Choral Worship**

#### ***Make My Life an Alleluia***

Make my life an alleluia, a song of praise to You each day.  
To proclaim Your grace and glory, fill my heart with your praise, I pray.  
When I stand at the mountaintop, Or the valley of despair,  
This will be my cry, my song, my prayer:  
Lord, make my life an alleluia.

Make my life an alleluia, a gift of love to you, my King.  
I will join with all creation in the song that the heavens sing!  
The earth will turn, and the planets spin, as the seasons ebb and flow;  
Still, Your grace surrounds me as I go,  
Lord, make my life an alleluia.

Make my life an alleluia, this offering of myself I give to you.  
I will share Your grace and mercy for as long as I shall live.  
When I come to my journey's end, may those left behind be reminded,  
This has been my cry, my song, my prayer:  
Lord, make my life an alleluia.

### **The Call to the Ministries**

**Brandt Leibe**, presenter

Dr. Laufer, accept this Bible, as one who proclaims The Word of God.

**Tracy Livingston**, presenter

Dr. Laufer, accept this book of sacred song, and guide us in worship and praise of God.

**Joe Poff**, presenter

Dr. Laufer, take this water for baptism, and lead us to reach new believers for Christ.

**Jennifer & Corby Martinez**, presenters

Dr. Laufer, take this bread and cup, and keep us in communion with Christ and His Church.

**Czarena Siebert**, presenter

Dr. Laufer, receive this globe, and lead us in our mission to this community and all the world.

**Leanne Reynolds**, ROBS Head of School

Dr. Laufer, take this book of knowledge and lead our school to fulfill its call to Christian education.

**Jennifer Martinez**, Chair of ROBC Deacons

Let us pray. Lord God, bless the ministries of this, Your Church. We thank You for the variety of gifts You have bestowed upon us. Draw us together in One Spirit, that each of us may use our differing gifts as members of one body. May Your Word be proclaimed with faithfulness, and may we be doers of Your Word and not hearers only. As we, who have died and risen with Christ in baptism, gather at His table and then scatter into the world, may we be one in service to others, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**Dr. Steven Laufer and Members of ROBC**

*The Lord bless us and keep us;*

*The Lord make His face to shine upon us, and be gracious to us;*

*The Lord lift up His countenance upon us and give us peace. Amen*

**Dr. Laufer:**

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

**Congregation:**

And also, with you.

**A Song of Witness**

*The Church's One Foundation* (p. 246)

**Postlude**