11:20 English Worship
March 8, 2020

The Great Criterion
by Rev. Sebastian Ong

First Chinese Baptist Church
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Welcome & Sharing of FCBC Life and Events (Pg. 4)

Opening Prayer & Praise
Gathered | Imagine That

Offering & Doxology
Prayer of God's People/The Lord’s Prayer
(We invite your prayer concerns and celebrations)

Scripture (Pg. 3)
Matthew 25:31-46

Anthem (Pg. 4)
Grace

Message
The Great Criterion

Closing Hymn
W&R #559 Here I Am, Lord

Benediction

Today’s Flowers were Given by Alan & Charlene Fong in Loving Memory of Andy & Rose Fong.

Ushers: Luke Kwan, Laura Pang, Lester Hom, Lea Wong
Worship Team: Joy Shih Ng, Rodney Tom, Nelson Wong & Eva Ung
Accompanist: Joy Ng
Resources for Worship

GATHERED by Rich Roberts, Jr.

CHORUS
Gathered, gathered, God’s people are gathered,
Lift up your prayers to the Lord.
Gathered, gathered, God’s people are gathered,
Lift up your prayers to the Lord.

Lift up a prayer for justice.
Lift up a prayer for peace.
Lift up a prayer for the hungry.
Pray that the world will find release.
Gathered...

Lift up a prayer for mercy.
Lift up a prayer for life.
Lift up a prayer for the hurting.
Pray that the world will end its strife.
Gathered...

IMAGINE THAT by Steve Edwards

Think about a dream that would make you happy,
Something that would bring a smile.
Now imagine that it really happened,
Imagine with me for awhile.

CHORUS
What can you do to make it happen?
What can you do to make that dream come true?
It will never be if you don’t imagine
Just what it is that you can do.

Think about a friend who you need to talk to,
Someone you have caused to cry.
Now imagine that it is forgiven
Imagine that the tears have died.
(Chorus)

Think about a child who lives with hunger
Never knowing what can be.
Now imagine that someone is caring
Imagine that the child is free. (Chorus)

Think about the world that our God created
How it’s beauty is destroyed.
Now imagine that we pull together
And save the world we all enjoy.
(Chorus)

Think about a world of peace with justice
Being what we’re called to be.
Now imagine that the Spirit’s presence
Is making peace through you and me.
(Chorus)

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

31 When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 35 for I was hungry and
you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Anthem

Grace - by Mark Hayes

Men's Chorus | Director – Wendy Quan | Accompanist – Joy Shih Ng

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound; that saved a wretch like me
I once was lost, but now am found; I once was blind, but now I see
’Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and that same grace my fears relieved
How precious did that grace appear the hour when I first believed!
Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already safely come
This grace hath brought me safe thus far, and surely grace will lead me home
I shall go home

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the glorious sun
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than since the day we first begun

Life & Events at FCBC

Our Brother Arnold Mew Passed Away. Arnold Mew, our former FCBC choir bass singer, truly generous and always seeking opportunities to do good, suffered a heart attack and passed on early morning this past Tuesday to return to the Lord. To send your condolences by card, please note his son Kenley’s address: 14813 Crosby Street, San Leandro, CA 94579. The Celebration of Life Service will be held at Pathway Community Church,
1055 Serpentine Lane, Pleasanton, CA on Sunday, March 15, 2020 at 3 pm.

Let us Not be Weary of Doing Good—Give to the America For Christ Offering in March! Marginalized children, victims of hurricanes, Christian leaders and chaplains will thank us for our donation. Our 2020 annual goal is $4,100. As of last Sunday we collected $277. Please give on Sundays in March at worship or by send your check to the office making it out to FCBC with memo “AFC Offering.”

Let Us Celebrate Pastor Lydia’s Ordination! Mar 22, 1:30 PM, FCBC. We thank God that Pastor Lydia, after completing her ordination requirements and exams, will be Reverend Lydia come next month. As a church we want to honor the choosing of God’s own servant and pastor Lydia’s steadfastness in responding. Let us rejoice and express our solidarity with one another!

2020 FCBC Men’s Retreat, “Falling Upwards,” Mar 27, 4PM – Mar 28, 4PM, Redwood Glen. FCBC men plan to have an overnight retreat during which Pastor Sebastian will lead three sessions of discussion on the two halves of life: how we transition from the first half when we build the “container” to the second half when we put “content” in the container. For more details, please see Alan Fong or Pastor Sebastian.

Day Camp 2020: Driven by Love - It is that time of year again! Day Camp Counselor applications are now available online at the link to our website. Counselor applications are due March 17th. Camper registration will be available at the end of March. For any questions please contact Curtis Ung, Eryn Lum, Eva Ung or Pastor Chris.

Once in a lifetime: Tour the Holy Land and Grow your faith! Finally, back by popular demand, our next trip is Nov 9-18, 2020. Pastor Sebastian is the Tour host/Teacher and Pastor Don is the administrator. Brochures for the tour are available in the vestibule.
TODAY AT FCBC

Daylight Saving starts

NO Joe’s Café today

10:00  SS Classes for All Ages
10:00  Cantonese Worship – Pastor Peter preaching
11:20  English Worship – Pastor Sebastian preaching
12:45  Senior Retreat comm. 350A
1:00   Deacons, L
1:00   CE, 402

NEXT SUNDAY (3/15)

8-10   Joe’s Café
10:00  SS Classes for All Ages
10:00  Cantonese Worship – Pastor Lydia preaching
11:20  English Worship – Pastor Sebastian preaching

UPCOMING EVENTS

3/13-15  Women’s Retreat
3/17    Staff retreat, office closed
3/22    Pastor Lydia’s Ordination
3/27-28  Men’s Retreat

“Justice for Rizpah’s Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty”

Poverty is the greatest threat to a child’s welfare. According to the National Center for Children in Poverty, approximately 15 million children in the United States live in families with incomes below the federal poverty threshold. What is God calling you to do about children who experience poverty? In “Justice for Rizpah’s Children: Radical Responses to Childhood Poverty,” the Rev. Dr. Marilyn P. Turner-Triplett inspires us to action.

Grounded in a sermon delivered by Turner-Triplett about the biblical Rizpah, who advocated for the seven slain children of Saul (2 Samuel 21:1–10), this book urges readers to follow Rizpah’s example, refusing to remain idle while children are consumed by systems that prey upon the poor.

978-0-8170-1798-9 paperback 168 pages $15.99

Available from Judson Press  800-458-3766  www.judsonpress.com
Transforming the Lives of Children, Families Affected by Poverty

American Baptist Home Mission Societies (ABHMS) Rizpah’s Children Freedom School program is a literacy program that serves kindergarten through second-grade students who may not otherwise have access to books and structured learning opportunities. Freedom Schools use an integrated reading curriculum that reduces summer learning loss and prepares students to enter the school year at or above the reading level of their peers.

The program’s five essential components are as follows:

- high-quality academic enrichment;
- parent and family development;
- civic engagement and social action;
- intergenerational servant-leadership development; and
- nutrition, health and mental health.

The Freedom School program’s impact on young scholars is apparent. One 9-year-old boy said, “The future I want is for the world to be a better place,” while another said, “You can be like a mustard seed and move a mountain.”

Your gifts to America for Christ support ABHMS’ Rizpah’s Children, a network focused on strategically addressing childhood poverty in the United States and Puerto Rico.

ABHMS is licensed to sponsor and operate CDF Freedom Schools.

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Welcome to Sunday Worship!

We are glad you’re here! Our Deacons and Pastors would like to meet you. The ushers are ready to answer any questions that you may have. Join us for youth, young adult and adult Sunday school classes after worship! We hope you are enjoying the warm fellowship of First Chinese Baptist and pray that the good news of the Risen Christ is in your life!

All parking meters including yellow truck loading ones are free on Sundays. If you need to park in a garage, parking stickers for 2 hours are available to all visitors and members at St. Mary’s Garage on the corner of California (entrance) and Kearny Streets. Bring your ticket to one of our ushers for a sticker when you leave the service. The sticker has a $6.00 value. The hourly fee is: $3/hour on Sundays. Golden Gateway Garage at 250 Clay St. is $3 all day on Sundays by using a stamp in our vestibule. It’s easy to worship at FCBC in the heart of Chinatown where new friendships are developed with Jesus Christ and with each other! The passenger loading (white-zone) on Sacramento Street and Waverly Place is from 8 AM to 3PM. Please observe the 5-minute parking limit.

Vision/Mission Statement

The First Chinese Baptist Church, San Francisco is a multi-generational bilingual bicultural church. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, we are called to be a people so transformed by God’s gracious love in Jesus Christ that we joyfully commit ourselves in worship, witness, discipleship, and ministry.

2020 Church Theme: Unity in Christ
And in Him you too are being built together to become a dwelling in which God lives by his Spirit. Ephesians 2:22 (NIV)

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An American Baptist church founded in 1880