



“Ours the Journey”

**Worship service for the Twenty-fifth Anniversary
of five American Baptist congregations
disfellowshipped on January 6, 1996**

January 27, 2021 • 5:30 pm (PST)

Hosted on Zoom by Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church (Oakland, CA)

Greeting and opening words

***Brian Henderson (Pastor, First Baptist Church of Denver
National Coordinator, Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists)***

Hymn – “Be Thou My Vision”

Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church Ensemble

Call to worship and Epiphany scripture reading, John 1:1–14

***Shavon Walker (Berkeley School of Theology Seminarian in Residence
at First Baptist Church of Berkeley)***

Testimony and leadership in song – “Pride and Spirit”

D. Mark Wilson (former pastor of McGee Avenue Baptist Church, Berkeley)

Reflections on the past

from pastors during the time of disfellowshipping

Esther Hargis (First Baptist Church of Berkeley)

Kay Wellington (San Leandro Community Church)

Words from Dick Taylor (New Community of Faith, San Jose) shared by Dale Edmondson

Song – “We are a Gentle, Angry People”

First Baptist Church of Denver Music Staff

Reflections on the present

***Jim Hopkins and Allison Tanner (Senior Pastor and Pastor of Public Witness,
Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church)***

Hymn – “Affirmed By Our Maker”

Text written for this occasion by Dale Edmondson (Member, Lakeshore Avenue Baptist)

Led by Nancy Hall (Pastor, First Baptist Church of Berkeley)

(continued)

Vision for the future

***Rick Mixon (Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists
and a founder of American Baptists Concerned
Interim Pastor, Fairview Community Church, Costa Mesa, CA)***

Hymn – “Ours the Journey”

Led by D. Mark Wilson

Litany for the journey

***David Ball and Kim Keethler Ball
representing United Church of Granville, Ohio***

- David:** This is only one day in the journey, but every day is made holy by God’s abundant love. Today we continue to embody God’s rainbow of grace and radical welcome.
- Kim:** We represent the past, the present, and the future in the struggle for justice and inclusion. We thank God for what has been accomplished by churches and organizations and individuals who stood up for sisters and brothers oppressed by hatred.
- David:** We know the journey is not over, but today we who have come through the fire can proclaim, “God is good!”
- Kim:** Where there is life, there is hope. Where there are those who seek to live out the ministry of reconciliation, there is joy. We claim this hope and this joy today and for all the days to come.
- Together:** Thanks be to God, and may our journey as a beloved community continue to be blessed. Alleluia!

Blessing

Scott Pegues (Pastoral Associate, First Baptist Church of Denver)



Planning Committee: *Brian Henderson, Jim Hopkins, Nancy Hall, and Rick Mixon*

***Special thanks to Jerry Wolf, Zoom worship producer
Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church***

and to all who contributed to this evening’s service!