Hold to God’s Unchanging Hand

Verse 1
Time is filled with swift transition
Naught of earth unmoved can stand
Build your hopes on things eternal
Hold to God’s unchanging hand  (Chorus)

Verse 2
Trust in Him who will not leave you
Whatsoever years may bring
If by earthly friends forsaken
Still, more closely to Him cling  (Chorus)

Verse 3
Covet not this world’s vain riches
That so rapidly decay
Seek to gain the heavenly treasures
They will never pass away  (Chorus)

Verse 4
When your journey is completed
If to God you have been true
Whatsoever years may bring
Your enraptured soul will view  (Chorus)

CHORUS
Hold to His hand, God’s unchanging hand
Hold to His hand, God’s unchanging hand
Build your hopes on things eternal
Hold to God’s unchanging hand

We’ve Come This Far by Faith

We've come this far by faith, leaning on the Lord
Trusting in His Holy Word
He never fail me yet
Oh, oh, oh, oh, oh, oh
Can’t turn around
We've come this far by faith

Responsive Reading
Matthew 16:16-26

And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.

And I will give unto thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.

Then charged he his disciples that they should tell no man that he was Jesus the Christ.

From that time forth began Jesus to shew unto his disciples, how that he must go unto Jerusalem, and suffer many things of the elders and chief priests and scribes, and be killed, and be raised again the third day.

Then Peter took him, and began to rebuke him, saying, Be it far from thee, Lord: this shall not be unto thee.

But he turned, and said unto Peter, Get thee behind me, Satan: thou art an offence unto me:

For thou savourest not the things that be of God, but those that be of men.

Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.

For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it.

For what is a man profited, if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?

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REVEREND DENNIS EARL THOMAS, M.Div. – PASTOR/SHEPHERD/TEACHER
Deacon Jesse J. Moses
Chairman of Deacon Ministry
Deaconess Cheryl D. Wesson
Administrative Assistant

Deaconess Marcella Bonner
Church Clerk

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From Our Shepherd’s Heart:

HAPPY 80TH ANNIVERSARY
FIRST CORINTHIAN BAPTIST CHURCH!

Greetings in the thrill of living for Jesus!

We welcome to our pulpit today, the Reverend Dr. Walter Edward Fauntroy, one of the key soldiers of America’s Civil Rights Movement. We give thanks unto the Lord for your historical visit with us as we look forward to your inspirational, informative and memorable messages on the occasion of this, our 80th Church Anniversary.

The theme for this momentous Church Anniversary celebration is: “Embracing our Past – Enriching our Present – Envisioning our Future!”

We salute Sis. Doris Baggart, General Chairperson – Envisioning our Future!”

...or 100th church anniversary!

They truly laid a firm foundation upon which we attempt to build upon with 20/20 Vision (our 10 year long range planning)! It is up to us to continue where they left off. In their memory, we strive to further their efforts with more enthusiasm, more hard work, and even more self-sacrifice. In their honor, we continue to serve the Lord with gladness as soldiers in His army. In this season, “we’re gonna hold up the blood-stained banner. We’re gonna hold it up until we die!”

In the face of religious competition, compromise, and cultural indifference, we are not ashamed of the gospel of Jesus Christ! May the Lord raise a hedge of protection around our valiant Christ-centered endeavors knowing that the gates of hell shall not prevail against us! Pray daily that over the next ten, to twenty years we witness great numbers of conversions and baptisms; a greater number of believers being added to the kingdom of God to come and the will of God to be done in our lifetime!

Happy 80th Church Anniversary, First Corinthian Baptist Church!

- Reverend Dennis Earl Thomas
  Pastor/Shepherd/Teacher

Shalom.

OUR CHURCH LOYALTY PLEDGE

This is My Church!
It is God’s Church by Ownership.
It is My Church by Stewardship.
I love My Church by Attending.
I Care For My Church by Praying.
I Support My Church by Giving.
I Thank God for MY CHURCH!

This Week on Campus

MONDAY
7:00 – STOP (SISTERS TAKING OFF POUNDS) GYM
7:00 – Dance Ministry (ADULTS) rehearsal – ($5 Aud.)

TUESDAY – DAY OF PRAYER
11:30 a.m. – Mid day Prayer Meeting
7:00 – Pastor Thomas will be recipient of the 2010 Next Generation Fellowship Ministries “MINISTRY of EXCELLENCE” Award. This service will be held at the Ford Memorial Temple (4031 Germantown Avenue). The Thomas Chorus & Y V A Mass will sing.
Keynote Speaker: Prophet Todd Hall

WEDNESDAY
7:00 – FAITH SCHOOL (BIBLE STUDY)
8:00 – PRAYER MEETING

THURSDAY
7:00 – FCCC Executive Board mtg. (5109 Pine)

SATURDAY
7:30 – Saints Cafeteria
10:00 – Dance Ministry (YOUTH) rehearsal (Gym)
11:00 – Children’s Choir rehearsal

SUNDAY
7:45 & 11:00 – Morning Worship Services
Bring your Mom to church service with you!

MOTHERS DAY FLOWERS
Available on Mothers Day
May 9, 2010

Honor your Mom with a gift of a corsage or a live plant on her special day.
Orders taken in the dining room after FCBC at 10:00 Services
Presented by the Host, Ministry
Nominal fee

Off-Campus Events:

- Reverend Alfred “Al” Sharpton
  Founder, National Action Network

Special Guest:

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Off-Campus Events:

Saturday, May 22, 2010 – Loyal Boosters Awards Banquet at the City Line Hilton
See Deacon Moses for further details & tickets.

Upcoming Events

Friday, May 14th 7:30 p.m.
FCBC Night at the Theatre
A SONG FOR CORETTA
Memories of Coretta Scott King

Bushfire Theatre – 52nd & Locust Streets
FCBC Tickets: 2 for $25 (Ages 7-17 - $5 each)
To purchase your special price tickets, please see Sis. Julia Davis, any member of the Community Center Executive Board or the Church Office staff. Please note that this special price is NOT available at the door.

Saturday, May 22nd
The Hospitality Club will present the play
“SISTERS”

Sunday, May 30th
YOUTH POWER HOUR
Presented by the 80th Anniversary Committee

Lauderdale Baptist Church
FCCC Executive Board mtg.
(5109 Pine)

80th Anniversary Committee

See Julia Davis, any member of the Community Center

FCBC Tickets: 2 for $25

The Hospitality Club will present the play
“SISTERS”

First Corinthian Baptist Church

EIGHTIETH ANNIVERSARY
Celebration Banquet
Friday, October 8, 2010 – 6:30 p.m.
Drexelbrook Grand Ballroom
4700 Drexelbrook Drive, Drexel Hill, PA

Special Guest:
Reverend Alfred “Al” Sharpton
Founder, National Action Network

Tickets: $49.30 (incl.
Reverend Alfred E. Sharpton, M.Div., a Pastor
Presented by the Deaconess Ministry in conjunction with the 80th Anniversary Committee
Celebrating Our Past – Enriching Our Present – Envisioning Our Future

& Locust Streets

Friday, May 22, 2010
Dance Ministry (Gym)

Sunday, May 30
7:00 – Prayer Meeting

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Founder, National Action Network

Tickets: $49.30 (incl.
Our Guest Preacher:
Reverend Robert M. Preston

Pastor Robert M. Preston accepted the Lord as his personal Savior at an early age under the pastorate of the late Reverend R. L. Thomas at Second Pilgrim Baptist Church. His educational experience includes the Philadelphia Public School System, Community College of Philadelphia, and Allegheny Hahnemann University where he received clinical pastoral education and counseled patients, families, and hospital staff in his role as Assistant Chaplain.

In January of 1987, after answering the call to preach the word of God, Preston became a licensed ambassador for Christ. He has traveled across the country preaching, teaching, and conducting workshops and served as Associate Minister at Tenth Memorial Baptist Church for several years under the leadership of Pastor William B. Moore. On July 27, 1997, he received his ordination in preparation for elevation to the pastoral ministry, and on November 23, 1997 he was installed as Pastor of the Universal Missionary Baptist Church located in the Germantown-Nicetown section of Philadelphia. Under his leadership, the church has elevated spiritually and grown tremendously in membership. An anointed preacher and teacher he is deeply concerned with those who are lost in sin, the empowerment of the church through the word of God, worship, and praise, and providing a training environment for the enlightenment and advancement of those desiring to answer God’s call to ministry. The “love for Christ” and his people has given Pastor Preston the vision and desire to guide Universal to new levels of Christian ministry that include the undertaking of a move to a bigger more community oriented edifice, participation in community involvement as a member of the Nicetown Clergy Association and the African American Ministry Conference of Southern Baptist Churches, and serves as chairman and spiritual advisor of the Delaware Valley Hospitality Circle. Pastor Preston acknowledges that no matter what, come what may, the Lord is his shield, glory, and the lifter up of his head (Psalm 3:3).

Our Church History

Rev. Clarence Mickens (1930-1932) along with a group of like-minded believers founded and organized what is now the First Corinthian Baptist Church. In 1932, Rev. Mickens resigned as Pastor in order to establish other churches.

The late Rev. Kennedy (1933) was the new successor to the pastorate. Under his leadership the congregation was able to secure their first permanent church home at 772 North 38th Street. Rev. Kennedy’s tenure as pastor was brief as he relinquished his pastorate to return to Virginia.

Rev. Thomas Cowan (1934-1935), pastor of Warren Street Baptist Church agreed to have joint services with First Corinthian. The Lord blessed the two churches and they merged under the name of First Corinthian. Rev. Cowan died suddenly in 1935.

Early 1936 when the late Rev. Thomas W. Wilson (1936) was called as pastor. Within a few months of his administration, the church underwent a “split”. Rev. Wilson took the majority of the members and started another church.

The dwindling members called Rev. J.W. Thomas (1937-1982) as pastor. He accepted. Under Pastor Thomas’ leadership the church began to grow.

In September, 1944 the First Corinthian Baptist Church moved to 533-35 N. 36th Street. Within a few years renovations were begun to expand the facility which were completed in 1953. Later that same year the mortgage was burned and the church was incorporated.

In 1961, the church moved to 51st & Locust Sts. Growth continued to be rapid. The mortgage on this property was burned on Sunday, May 15, 1967.

By this time church services were filled to capacity and it was evident that even larger facilities were needed. On Sunday, March 11, 1973, there was a grand and triumphant march to our present location at 5101 Pine Street.

In 1977, Rev. Silas Thomas (1977-2004), the youngest son of Rev. J.W. Thomas was called as Co-Pastor of First Corinthian. In September of 1982, after pastoring this great church for over 45 years, Rev. J.W. Thomas was called from labor to reward. Rev. Silas Thomas was continued as Pastor after his father's death. On May 25, 1986 the mortgage for this building was burned.

Pastor Silas Thomas' thrust was toward a more spiritual and a more enlightened membership. Great efforts increased and improved our Christian education programs, Home Missions and Foreign Missions. As a result, First Corinthian became one of the country’s highest giving churches to Foreign Missions through the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. Several ministries and outreach programs were developed over his pastorate. Two additional properties were secured as annexes.

On December 23, 2004, the Lord in His sovereign will, called Pastor Silas Thomas home to his reward. The church continued on under the leadership of Chairman Jesse J. Moses. He was assisted in this tremendous undertaking by Reverend Vernel McDonald, Rev. Ernesto Barrett and the ministerial staff of First Corinthian.

On Sunday, January 1, 2007, history was made as the third generation of Thomas preachers began his pastoral duties in the pulpit of First Corinthian. Under the Reverend Dennis Earl Thomas, the church continues to thrive and draw more souls unto the Lord!
Welcome to the First Corinthian Baptist Church!
We are striving to make our church family, your church family and
our church home, your church home!

The Call to Worship:
"Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to
the power that worketh in us, unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages,
world without end. Amen."
(Ephesians 3:20-21)

7:30 & 10:45 - Devotional/Praise & Worship
11:00 - Children's Church (Sunday School Auditorium)
11:00 - Youth Church (Sunday School Break-out Room)

The Call to Worship
*****
Morning Hymn: "Hold to God's Unchanging Hand"*
The Invocation and the Disciple's Prayer
*****
"We've Come This Far by Faith"
Responsive Reading
*****
We Talk to God
May Birthday Celebrants

Meditation Hymn
Choir
*****
Consecration Mission Offering
*****
Welcome to Visitors
Hospitality Ministry
Civic Leader Remarks
*****
Announcements
Deaconess M. Bonner
*****
Introduction of Preacher
*****
Worship in Song
Choir
*****
Sermon
Rev. Walter E. Fauntroy

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship
The Offertory Period
Trustees
God Loves a Cheerful Giver!

Benediction
*****
Let us reverence the House of the Lord

Let's reverence the House of the Lord

9:30 - Sunday School Classes & New Members Class
(New Member Class held in JW Thomas Hall/Gym)

This Morning's Service Participants

7:45 am
Worship Leader: Sis. Natasha Pollard
Responsive Reading: Trustee Herbert Gray
Prayer: Rev. Terrell McCray
Welcome: Hospitality Ministry
Intro of Preacher: Sister Mary Morris
Preacher's Plate: Trustee Aide Deborah Manley
Civic Representative:
PA State Representative Vanessa Lowery Brown
190th Legislative District

10:45 am
Worship Leader: Sis. Frances Gadson
Responsive Reading: Trustee Aide Debbie Roberts
Prayer: Hospitality Ministry
Intro of Preacher: Bro. Kory Wayns
Preacher's Plate: Trustee Aide Deborah Manley
Civic Representative:
PA State Representative Ronald G. Waters
191st Legislative District

After 11:00 Service:
A fellowship dinner will be held downstairs immediately after service. Come down, eat, relax, and fellowship with each other and our guests for this afternoon.

This Afternoon:
3:30 - Rev. Robert M. Preston and his choir
and congregation from Universal Missionary
Baptist Church will worship here as we
close out our church anniversary celebration.
Let's Celebrate!!!

Our Guest Morning Speaker:

Reverend Walter Fauntroy
First elected U.S. House of Representative
delgate to serve the District of Columbia, Home
Rule advocate, Civil and Human rights proponent.
The Honorable Reverend Walter E. Fauntroy
pastored New Bethel Baptist Church in
Washington, D.C. for six decades.
He also helped to shape public policy that
"declares Good News to the poor, that binds up
the broken hearted and sets at liberty them that are
bound" in the United States and around the world.
A native of Washington, D.C. Reverend Fauntroy
is a product of its public schools and a graduate of
Virginia Union University (B.A. 1955) and Yale
University Divinity School (B.D. 1958).

In the decade of the 1960's, as pastor New Bethel
Baptist Church, he served as Dr. Martin Luther
King, Jr.'s personal representative to presidents
John F. Kennedy and Lyndon Baines Johnson,
the leadership of the U.S. House and Senate, and the
 cabinet level agencies of the federal government
that had relevance to the civil rights struggle at
that as D.C. Coordinator of the Historic March in
1965 as well as the Meredith Mississippi Freedom
March in 1966 and Vice Chairman of the D.C.
City Council in 1967.

In the decade of the 60's he also founded and led
the MICCO, a community planning and
neighborhood development group in Washington,
D.C. that established and began to implement the
Shaw Urban Renewal Project.

In 1981, as chair of the Congressional Black Caucus,
he launched both the first Constructive Alternative
Budget of the Caucus and the National Black
Leadership Roundtable, which served as the CBC
national network vehicle.

Congressman Fauntroy also found time to serve as
cchair of the Congressional Task Force on Haiti, a
bipartisan group of members of the House and
Senate that, under his leadership, forged a new U.S.
policy toward that struggling nation. He was also a
member of the Select Committee on Narcotics
Abuse and Control.

Honorarium Fauntroy's most challenging work in the
suites of the Congress was as a member of the
House Banking, Finance and Urban Affairs
Committee where he rose to be the second ranking
Democrat on the Committee. He served for six years
as chair of the subcommittee on Domestic Monetary
Policy, and four years as chair of the Banking
Subcommittee on International Development,
Finance, Trade and Monetary Policy shaping U.S.
participation in the multilateral development banks:
the World Bank, the IMF, the Inter-American
Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank,
and the Africa Development Bank.

He is currently president of the National Black
Leadership roundtable (NBLR), the national
network vehicle of the Congressional Black Caucus
that he founded in 1977. In that capacity, as a part
of the NBLR’s Seven Point Program, he is Co-chair
of the Sudan Campaign, chairman of the Business
Enterprise Development, LLC and currently heads
up a U.S. based private sector effort to cure extreme
poverty in Africa by the year 2025 in pursuit of the
United Nations Millennium Challenge Goals. The
drive is undertaken by the Roundtable in partnership
with the Zimbabwe Progress Fund (ZPF) and is
known as the as the Millennium Villages Project. Its
focus is upon villages in sub-Saharan Africa. In
recognition of his distinguished record of
humanitarian service, both his alma maters, Virginia
Union University and Yale University have
conferred honorary doctor of Law Degrees.

He is married to the former Ms. Dorothy Simms
of Petersburg, VA They have two children: Marvin
Keith and Melissa Alice.