

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 26, 2017

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "Largo from Sonata V" J.S. Bach

The Trinity Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit. As we gather, we present ourselves "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship."

The Call to Worship (responsive) Psalm 23

LEADER: The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

PEOPLE: **He makes me lie down in green pastures;**

LEADER: He leads me beside still waters; he restores my soul.

PEOPLE: **He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.**

LEADER: Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;

PEOPLE: **for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me.**

LEADER: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;

PEOPLE: **you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.**

LEADER: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

PEOPLE: **and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.**

The Invocation Lynn Lingafelt

*The Hymn of Praise, 70 ABBOT'S LEIGH
"God Is Love, Let Heaven Adore Him"

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession (unison)¹

(text omitted)

The Silent Confession

The Words of Assurance (responsive)²

(text omitted)

The Act of Praise, 472 "Grace Greater than Our Sin" MOODY
(The congregation is invited to sing the refrain only of Hymn 472.)

The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer for Illumination (unison)

Gracious and loving God, you know us through and through. Speak to us in the Word read and proclaimed, that in the shelter of your love we may find the courage to face the parched places in our lives and find life in your spring of living water. Amen.

The Hebrew Bible 1 Samuel 16:1-13 (p. 226)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament Ephesians 5:8-14 (p. 951)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer "You Are Mine"³ David Haas

(music omitted)

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Gospel John 9:1-41 (p. 871)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*The Hymn of Devotion, 557 SCOTT
"Open My Eyes, That I May See"

The Sermon Christopher Chapman
"Acknowledging the Limits of Our Vision"

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself during the singing of the Hymn of Discipleship. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a confession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to reflect upon their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

*The Hymn of Discipleship, 499 "Lord, I Was Blind" O WALY WALY

*The Offertory Prayer John Rusher

The Offertory Anthem "Open Thou Mine Eyes"⁴ John Rutter
Anna Moxley, soprano

(text omitted)

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings OLD HUNDREDTH

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host:
praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Benediction

*The Chimes

Three chimes are sounded, sending us into the world with the love of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. As you go, remember, "you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people."

*The Postlude "Voluntary in D Major" William Croft

*The congregation may stand.

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SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given by Betty Purser and her daughters, in memory of Jim Purser.

GOSPEL READERS are Daniel Harper, Blair Houtz and Kelly Rusher.

DEACON ON CALL is John Rusher. A 28-year member, John serves on the Community Ministries committee and is a member of the Unity Sunday School Class. He and his wife Mary Nash have three children: David, Tom and Kelly.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP: Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent, a season of penitence and reflection, as we follow Jesus on the way to the cross. A central theme of the biblical texts and thus our worship has to do with blindness and sight, both physical and spiritual. Thus, we confess the limits of our vision, we sing hymns about blindness and sight, and we hear three different scripture passages which talk about blindness and sight, darkness and light. The sermon, which is rooted in the readings from 1 Samuel and John, explores the many different ways in which our vision can be limited, as well as our need to acknowledge these limits. We respond to our hearing of God's word with a renewed desire to lean upon God's wisdom which is greater than our own, as the offertory anthem asks God to open our eyes, incline our hearts toward God, and order our steps towards God's ways.

SYMPATHY to the family of **John Holley**, who died on March 20; and to the family of **Carolyn Holloway**; who also died on March 20.

BE IN PRAYER for 37 of our high school students and chaperones returning from their retreat at Ridgecrest.

THOSE WHO ARE VISITING are invited to the Gathering Room after worship to receive information about the church. Use the door to the left of the pulpit; church members will greet you.

FRESH FLOWERS in our sanctuary for Sunday morning worship are a lovely addition. They are donated by family members in memory or honor of a special person's birthday or anniversary. If you would like to know open dates and be added to the list for flower donation, please contact Jamie Petty, Margaret Clary or Mary Alice Seals to make arrangements.

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING: We have received \$19,417 towards our goal of \$22,000.

CHURCH CONFERENCE will be held this Wednesday, March 29, at 6:15 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall.

MEAL RESERVATIONS may be made on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org), by email (jgilbert@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the office (919-832-4485), all by noon on Mondays. Menu: Mac and Cheese, with and without Ham, Peas, Fruit, Garden Salad, Rolls and Butter, Dessert.

GREEN FABRIC: Don't forget to turn in your green fabric to be used in making a new set of green stoles for Ordinary Time. It can be any material, any shade of green at least 3"x 5". Place your fabric in the marked bin in the Lewis Building Lobby by this Friday.

CLOTHING MINISTRY: Turn-Around Day, April 1. Afternoon volunteers are needed from 12:30 until 3:00 p.m. for sorting and hanging, not heavy lifting. For additional information, contact Mary A. Tetro (919-271-0708 or matetro@gmail.com).

EASTER GIFTS in honor or memory of a loved one are being received through Monday, April 3. With your gift of \$10 or more an acknowledgement will be printed in an insert on Easter Sunday. Use the form in SS boxes or *First Foundations*.

ROCK 'N' ROLL MARATHON will be next Sunday, April 2. Follow the guidelines on the inserted dashboard pass for easier access to the church. Please add a little extra time to your drive.

FREE YOGA CLASS will be offered at FBC on Thursdays, April 20 through May 25, from noon until 1:00 p.m. The 6-week class, led by certified yoga instructors, is open to the community. Please bring your mat and water bottle and a friend.

A NIGHT OUT WITH FBC: The Outreach Committee is organizing an outing to see Burning Coal Theatre's production of *The Royale* on Saturday, April 8. Curtain is at 7:30 p.m., tickets are \$15 each with a group of 10 or more. Look for sign-up sheets in SS boxes or contact Ryan Willis (gryanwillis@gmail.com).

Calendar Highlights • March 26–April 2, 2017

Sun, March 26	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship (S) Japanese Worship (227)
	12:15	Deacons' Meeting (220)
	5:00	Pathfinders Soup 'n Supper (301/302)
	5:00	MS Choir (310)
	6:00	MS Youth Group (FH)
Mon, March 27	9:30	Weekday Preschool (M-TH)
	11:00	Sisters in Grace (CR)
	2:00	Carolyn Holloway Memorial Service (S) followed by a reception
Tues, March 28	7:30	Men's Bible Study (Metro Productions)
	10:00	Ministerial Staff Meeting (CR)
	10:30	WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
	6:00	Theology on Tap (Raleigh Times)
	6:30	High School Bible Study (Yexas' home)
Wed, March 29	10:00	Clothing Ministry open
	3:45	Works in Progress (P)
	4:30	Children's Bells (307)
	5:00	Meal Served (FH)
	5:45	Announcements and Prayer Time Missions and Music Evening Bells (307) Backpack Buddies packing (301) Common Grounds (110)
	6:15	Church Conference (FH)
	7:30	Sanctuary Choir (310)
Thu, March 30	7:00	Band of Brothers (CR)
	10:30	Thirty-Niners (FH)
	11:00	Library Committee (L)
	1:00	Clothing Ministry open
	3:00	Backpack Buddies delivery
Fri, March 31		CBF General Assembly at FBC-Hickory (through 4/1)
Sat, April 1	9:00	Clothing Fair
Sun, April 2	9:45	<i>Rock 'n' Roll Marathon</i> Sunday School
	11:00	Worship (S) Japanese Worship (227)
	5:00	Youth Choir (310)
	6:00	Youth Group (FH)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH

Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

99 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603

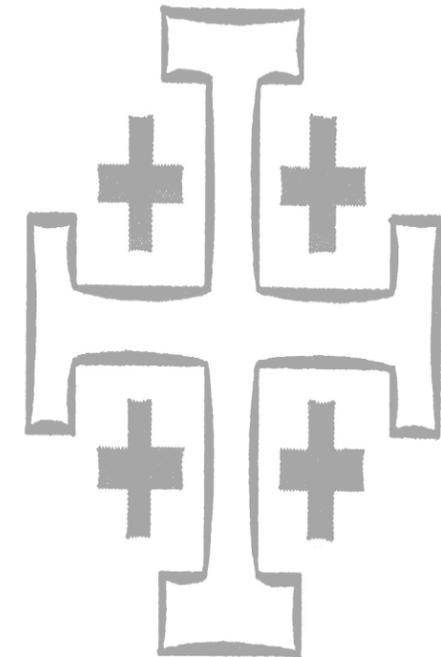
(919) 832-4485 Fax: (919) 832-6726 www.fbcraleigh.org

Lin Carter, Christian Education/Outreach	Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor	Lynn Lingafelt, Children
Trey Davis, Youth/College	Daniel Ray, Youth/College Assistant
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus	Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator	

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



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