

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 3, 2017

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "Basse de Trompette" Francois Couperin
"Elevation"

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 Choral Introit "Seek the Lord" Anna Laura Page

The Call to Worship (responsive) from Psalm 105

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God's name, make known God's deeds among the peoples.

PEOPLE: **Sing to God, sing praises to God, tell others about the Lord's wonderful works.**

LEADER: Seek the Lord, earnestly yearn for God's presence and strength.

PEOPLE: **Remember the wonderful works God has done, the miracles, the judgments God has uttered, O offspring of God's servant Abraham, children of Jacob, God's chosen ones.**

LEADER: For God is mindful of the covenant God made with Abraham, the promise sworn to Isaac and confirmed to Jacob as a statute, to Israel as an everlasting covenant.

PEOPLE: **Praise the Lord!**

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 77 LOBE DEN HERREN
"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible Exodus 3:1-15 (p. 44)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament Romans 12:9-21 (p. 923)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

The Gospel Matthew 16:21-28 (p. 798)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 215 ST. CHRISTOPHER
"Before the Cross of Jesus"

The Sermon Christopher Chapman
"A Message We Struggle to Hear"

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, 436 CHEREPONI
"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

*The Offertory Prayer Margaret Barham

The Offertory "Blest Be the Tie that Binds" Anna Laura Page

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings OLD HUNDRETH

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 Louis-Nicolas Clerambault
"Dialogue sur les grands jeux"

*The congregation may stand.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS are Dillon and Aidan Raynor.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Zua and Jack Moore by their children: Nancy, Richard and David.

DEACON ON CALL is Margaret Barham. A 40-year member, Margaret is a teacher for the Grade 6 Sunday School Class. She is a member of the Community Ministries Committee and the Youth Council. Margaret is also heading up the October 22, 2017, CROP Hunger Walk team from FBC. She has one son, David.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available in the Gathering Room. An usher can provide a device for you.

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.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP: Today is the Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost in the Christian Year, part of Labor Day weekend in our culture and the first weekend after public schools have started their new year. All of these calendars affect us and shape the concerns we bring to worship. And so, while our service is shaped by lectionary texts connected to the Christian year, our prayers and offerings of praise and devotion in word and song grow out of many different needs and concerns. The sermon is rooted primarily in the reading from Romans 12, though the reading from Matthew is looming in the background. On the surface, it is a straightforward text about themes that lie at the heart of Christian faith – love for all, patience in suffering, perseverance in prayer, hospitality for strangers – but when the Apostle Paul's attention turns to overcoming evil with good, we begin to grow uncomfortable, especially if we think about specific evil we confront. How can we bless those who persecute us? How can we not seek retribution when we have been harmed? How can we be expected to deny ourselves, take up our cross, and follow Jesus in practical, everyday circumstances? It is a tough request, but it is Christ's request, a request that comes from the One we worship here and are sent forth to serve.

SYMPATHY to **Stephen Godwin** on the August 23 death of his father, Terry Watson Godwin of Dunn.

AN OFFERING for the Mike Morris Fellowship Fund is received the first Sunday of each month. This fund helps persons seeking emergency aid. Collection baskets are at each exit.

CENTERPOINT SEMINAR: *Evensong*. At 6:20 p.m. this Wednesday, the Discipleship Committee will lead an evening prayer service, including lighting of candles, Scripture reading, shared litanies, silent reflection, hymn singing, and guided prayers.

DEACON NOMINATIONS will be received on Sunday, September 24. If you are eligible but do not wish to be considered, contact Denise Arnold (919-832-4485, ext. 200) by noon on Wednesday, September 6.

MEAL RESERVATIONS may be made on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org) under the Food and Faith section, by email (jgilbert@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the office (919-832-4485), all by **noon on Fridays (please note the new deadline)**. Menu for **September 13**: Chicken Fajitas and toppings, Black Beans, Tortillas, Fresh Fruit and Dessert.

SHOWING OF THE FILM, *The Ties that Bind*, will be held on Sunday, September 17, at 5:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. Please see "From the Pastor" in the August 4 issue of *First Foundations* for more details.

CHURCH CONFERENCE will be held on Wednesday, September 27, at 6:15 p.m.

FLU SHOT CLINIC, Thursday, September 28, in the Lewis Building lobby from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Call the church office (919-832-4485) by Monday, September 25, to sign up.

SEPTEMBER MISSION PROJECT: We are collecting donations of 60 watt light bulbs, toilet paper, kitchen trash bags, paper towels, and air filters (20" x 20" x 1") for Family Promise to use at the Day Center and for the clients' apartments. Place donations in the marked cabinet drawer in the Lewis Building lobby.

HURRICANE HARVEY RESPONSE: Our church has a long history of responding to natural disasters with financial gifts, needed supplies, and volunteer labor. We will want to respond in all of these ways to the vast array of needs created by Hurricane Harvey in the Gulf Coast Region. Those who want to respond immediately are encouraged to do so by giving through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (www.cbf.net/harveyvolunteer/) or Baptists on Mission (baptistsonmission.org/Missions/By-Type/Disaster-Relief/Hurricane-Harvey).

We will also organize disaster response teams and/or cooperate with other churches to send teams as soon as the voices guiding our help indicate that it is safe to go and people on the ground are ready to receive our help. In the meantime, we can pray for all affected by the storm, all first responders, and all who are already planning strategies to respond to long-term needs.

Calendar Highlights • September 3-10

- Sun, September 3
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship (S)
Japanese Worship (227)
1st Grade Worship Prep (231)
- Mon, September 4
Labor Day—Office closed
- Tues, September 5
9:30 Weekday Preschool
10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (CR)
10:30 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
6:00 Theology on Tap (**Clouds Brewing**)
- Wed, September 6
9:30 Weekday Preschool
10:00 Clothing Ministry open
5:00 Meal served (FH)
WMU Group 6 (108)
6:00 Announcements and Prayer Time (FH)
Music and Missions
6:20 Evensong (FH)
6:30 Outreach Committee (CR)
6:45 Evening Bells (307)
7:30 Sanctuary Choir (310)
- Thu, September 7
7:00 Band of Brothers (CR)
9:30 Weekday Preschool
10:30 Thirty-Niners (FH)
11:00 Library Committee (L)
1:00 Clothing Ministry open
- Fri, September 8
10:00 Japanese-American Cultural Exchange
Welcome Tea (302)
- Sun, September 10
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship, Communion (S)
Japanese Worship (227)
1st Grade Worship Prep (231)
5:00 Youth Choir (310)
6:00 Youth Group (FH/Blue Room)

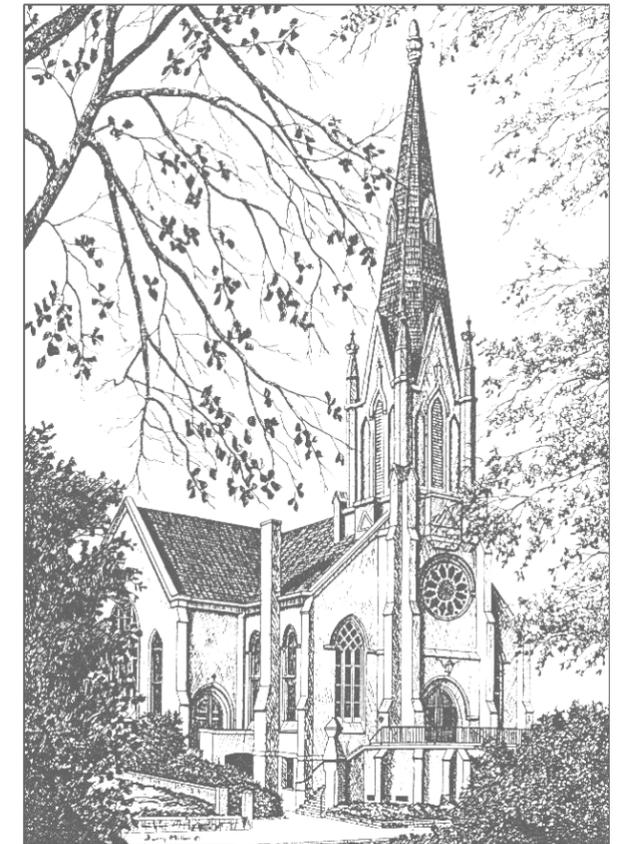
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor
Trey Davis, Youth/College
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator
Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Lynn Lingafelt, Children
Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults

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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