

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 29, 2018

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude “Three Settings of American Folk Hymns” Wilbur Held

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)

from Psalm 22

LEADER: From you comes my praise in the great congregation;

PEOPLE: **my vows I will pay before those who fear God.**

LEADER: The poor shall eat and be satisfied;

PEOPLE: **those who seek the Lord shall sing praise. May your hearts live forever!**

LEADER: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord;

PEOPLE: **and all the families of the nations shall worship before God.**

LEADER: For dominion belongs to the Lord,

PEOPLE: **who rules over the nations.**

LEADER: To God, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;

PEOPLE: **before God shall bow all who go down to the dust, and I shall live for the Lord.**

LEADER: Posterity will serve the Lord; future generations will be told about the Lord,

PEOPLE: **and proclaim deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that God has done it.**

The Invocation

Trey Davis

*The Hymn of Praise, 340

FOREST GREEN

“Amid the Thronging Worshipers”

The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 8:26-40 (p. 892)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

1 John 4:7-21 (p. 991)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer and Lord’s Prayer

The Gospel

John 15:1-8 (p. 878)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 379

AR HYD Y NOS

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“The Significance of Growth and Ways to Pursue It”

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, 442

KINGSFOLD

“O Come to Me, the Master Said”

*The Offertory Prayer

Wes Fulk

The Offertory Anthem

“I Am the Vine”

Bob Burroughs

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia. Alleluia.

Praise God above, ye heavenly host:

praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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

Flor Peeters

“Hymn Prelude on *Let Us, With a Gladsome Mind*”

*The congregation may stand.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Maddrey by their children.

FLOWERS in the Lewis Welcome Center are given in honor of Mary Barham's 91st birthday with much love by her family.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS are Charles Blanchard and Cameron Creekmore.

DEACON ON CALL is Wes Fulk. A 23-year member and first-term deacon, Wes is a member of the Formations class. He and his wife Renee have two children, Owen and Chloe.

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.

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

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Today is the Fifth Sunday of Easter, a season in which we celebrate the good news of resurrection and reflect upon its significance for our lives and world. We are called to worship by the closing words of Psalm 22, a psalm that begins with feelings of frustration and forsakenness but ends with words of praise and celebration, movement that foreshadows Jesus’ experience of death and resurrection. The first hymn is rooted in this psalm. The other hymns and anthem are tied to the reading from John and the image of Jesus as the true vine and us as branches called to abide in him. The sermon, which is rooted in this text as well, explores this imagery and its underlying assumption that growth is a central part of the journey of faith. We are sent forth to pursue growth every way that we can, to bear fruit in God’s bountiful vineyard.

SYMPATHY to **Joan Speir** on the April 25 death of her husband, **Monty Speir**.

SUNDAY VESPERS SERVICE will take place tonight at 6:00 p.m. at the Pollinator Garden of the Gregg Museum of Art and Design, 1903 Hillsborough Street. We invite you to join us for this special Celtic service; bring a guest. For those needing a ride to the museum, a shuttle will run from the church parking lot at 5:30 p.m.

FACILITIES ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE will host two listening sessions on **Sunday, May 6**, at 9:00 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall and at 12:15 p.m. in Room 302. On **Sunday, May 20**, a dialogue facilitated by New City Design will be held at 5:30 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. A meal will be served and childcare is offered (notify Lynn Lingafelt of childcare needs by May 14). A space utilization questionnaire is available on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org) and in the office; please complete one by May 13. We encourage your participation in this process.

MEAL RESERVATIONS: Please make or cancel reservations by **noon on Mondays** on the website (www.fbcraleigh.org) under the Food and Faith section, by email (firstbaptist@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the office (919-832-4485). Menu: Mediterranean Night! Shredded Lamb and Mjadara (Lentils), Roasted Veggies, Greek Salad, and Couscous. Non-meat Option: Mock Chicken/Tzatziki. Children's Menu: Chicken Pita.

CENTERPOINT SEMINAR: *ACEs in a Faith-Based Community*. Allison Strickland, FBC member and Chief Development Officer for InterAct, an organization dedicated to ending the cycle of domestic and sexual violence in Wake County, will introduce us to a growing area of study on adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) and their impact on lifelong health and opportunity.

SILENT AUCTION: The auction to benefit student mission teams begins on Wednesday, May 2, and will conclude at the Music Celebration on Sunday, May 6. For donation information, contact Trey Davis (tdavis@fbcraleigh.org or 919-832-4485, ext. 208).

MAY IS ART MONTH AT FBC: The Outreach Committee is collecting art work by FBC members for display during May in the Lewis Building Lobby. Place works in the labeled cabinet. See Lynn Lingafelt for storage prior to display if your work is too large or fragile. On **May 12**, at 3:00 p.m. you are invited to join us for a tour of "You Are Here," a new exhibit at the NC Museum of Art. Tickets are \$12.00. Email or text Valerie Cumbea (valerie_cumbea@hotmail.com or 919-624-9543) to reserve your ticket. We plan to go to dinner following the tour. On **May 20**, we'll meet in the Lewis Building Lobby after worship and walk to Artspllosure for lunch and art appreciation.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED to help with our dental clinic on Friday, May 18, from 7:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Choose between morning or afternoon shifts or volunteer for the entire event. If interested, contact John Rusher (919-510-4120 or jmnrusher@gmail.com). There is also a sign-up sheet in the church office.

TORNADO DISASTER RELIEF: CBFNC is encouraging churches to help with Tornado Disaster Relief by donating to the effort being coordinated by FBC Greensboro. Go to this link <http://fbcgso.org/disaster-response/> and click the blue Donate button, then the Give Now button to make your donation. Select Tornado Response fund.

FAMILY PROMISE: Working with Family Promise the week of May 20–27, FBC will be hosting families experiencing homelessness. Contact Holly Ivel (919-628-9850 or hi2810@bellsouth.net) to volunteer.

Calendar Highlights April 29 – May 6, 2018

Sun, April 29	9:45 Sunday School
11:00	Worship (S) Japanese Worship (227)
4:00	Youth Bells (307)
5:00	Youth Choir (310)
6:00	Vespers Service (Gregg Museum)
Mon, April 30	9:30 Weekday Preschool (M-F)
11:00	Sisters in Grace (P)
6:30	HS Bible Study (Blanchards' home)
Tues, May 1	10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (CR)
10:30	WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
6:00	Theology on Tap
7:30	HS Bible Study (Helms' home)
Wed, May 2	10:00 Clothing Ministry open
3:45	Works in Progress (P)
4:45	Children's Bells (S)
5:00	Meal Served (FH) WMU Group 6 (108)
6:00	Announcements and Prayer Time (FH) Missions and Music Evening Bells (S)
6:20	Centerpoint Seminar (FH)
7:30	Sanctuary Choir (310)
Thu, May 3	7:00 Band of Brothers (CR)
10:30	Thirty-Niners (FH)
11:00	Library Committee (L)
1:00	Clothing Ministry open
Friday, May 4	1:00 Japanese-American Cultural Exchange Planning (CR)
Sun, May 6	9:00 Facilities Assessment Listening Session (FH)
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Worship, Communion (S) Japanese Worship (227)
12:15	Facilities Assessment Listening Session (302)
5:00	Silent Auction Dinner (FH)
6:00	Music Celebration (S)

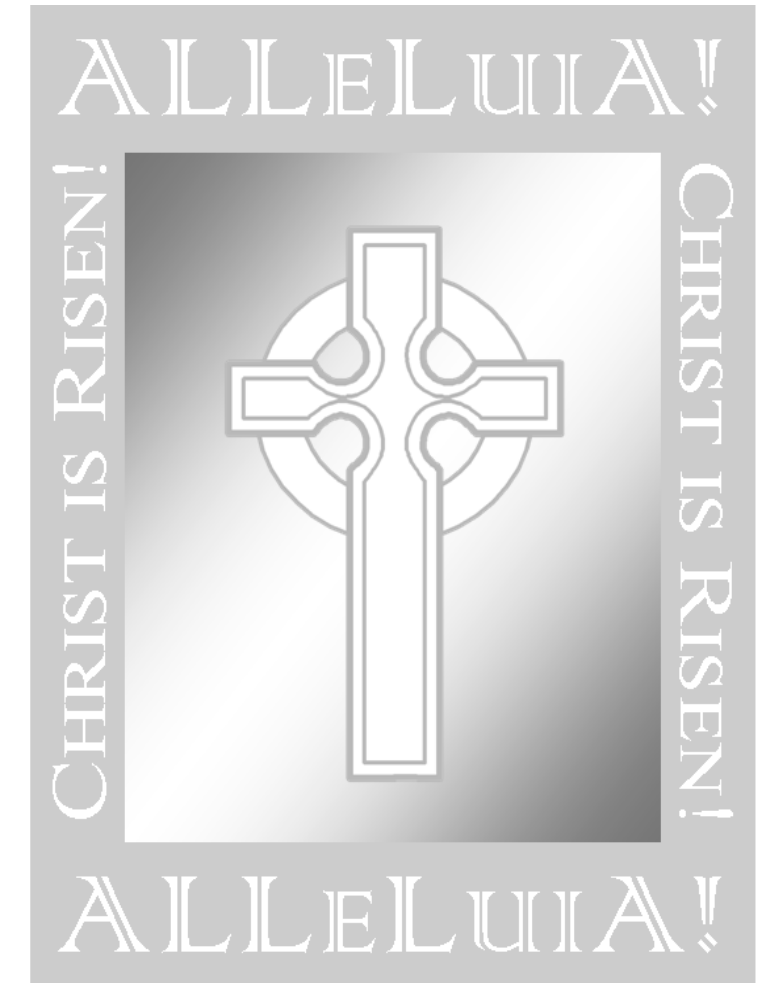
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor
Trey Davis, Youth/College
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator
Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Lynn Lingafelt, Children
Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 29, 2018