

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 11, 2018 Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "O Man, Bewail Thy Grievous Fall" 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) from Psalm 107

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord, who is good; whose steadfast love endures forever.

PEOPLE: **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,**

LEADER: those redeemed from trouble and gathered in from the lands,

PEOPLE: **from the east and the west, from the north and the south.**

LEADER: Some were fools because of their sinful ways; they suffered because of their wickedness.

PEOPLE: **They had absolutely no appetite for food, they arrived at death's gates.**

LEADER: Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble and God saved them from distress.

PEOPLE: **The Lord sent word and healed them and delivered them from destruction.**

LEADER: Let them thank the Lord for steadfast love, for wonderful works to humankind.

PEOPLE: **And let them offer thanksgiving sacrifices and tell of God's deeds with songs of joy.**

The Invocation Trey Davis

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

CONFESSON AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession "Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" ARISE
Wyatt Yelverton, soloist
The congregation is invited to sing the refrain.



I will a-rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms;



in the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O, there are ten thou - sand charms.

The Prayer of Confession (unison)

God our Redeemer, we confess that we are people of ashes and dust. We grumble and complain when you have provided all we need. We continue to walk in darkness when you have given light to the world. Forgive us, God of grace. Help us to trust in you so that we may not perish but may have eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness

LEADER: The truth is this: God's love and mercy are never-ending. God knows us in our inward being; God cleanses us from our sins and shortcomings, and restores to us the joy of salvation.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God!**

The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible Numbers 21:4-9 (p. 122)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament Ephesians 2:1-10 (p. 949)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Gospel John 3:14-21 (p. 864)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 193 PUER NOBIS
"O Love, How Deep, How Broad"

The Sermon Christopher Chapman
"Taking the Verse in Context"

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, 477 EBENEZER
"O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus"

(Children are asked to join Susan Stevens in the narthex so they may participate in the dedication of Martha Collins.)

*The Offertory Prayer Sarah Lingafelt

The Offertory Anthem "God So Loved the World" John Stainer

*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.**

The Dedication of Martha Collins, daughter of Matt and Sarah Collins

LEADER: The nurture of children in faith is a sacred privilege and awesome responsibility. It begins with the commitment of parents and includes the love of the whole congregation. Today we present Martha Walker Collins to the church and dedicate her to God. Who brings this child for this holy purpose?

PARENTS: *We, her parents, do.*

LEADER: What can we affirm about Martha?

PEOPLE: **That she is a child of God by creation, made in the image of God.**

LEADER: As Martha grows in her understanding of God and herself, how will we help her to learn about her true status as beloved?

PEOPLE: **We will give her our love and include her in the life of the congregation.**

LEADER: As Martha grows through different stages of life, what will we tell her about her story?

PEOPLE: **We will tell her about Abraham and Sarah, about Mary and Joseph, about Jesus and the people who have sought to follow him in this place.**

LEADER: What will we expect of Martha?

PEOPLE: **We will look to the day when she will sit with us at the Lord's Table, declare faith in Jesus Christ, and confirm the heritage we seek to pass on to her.**

LEADER: Matt and Sarah, do you, as parents, embrace your primary responsibility to nurture Martha in faith?

PARENTS: *Yes, we do, for we long to pass on our heritage to her.*

LEADER: Do you, the members of First Baptist Church, pledge to work toward creating a nurturing environment for Martha and all the children God entrusts to our care?

PEOPLE: **Yes, we do, for these children belong to us as well.**

LEADER: Then may God be with us and help us.

ALL: **Amen.**

DEPARTING TO SERVE

The Benediction (responsive) Church Covenant

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 "To Thee, Lord Jesu, Thanks We Give" J.S. Bach

*The congregation may stand.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS are Hudson and Heath Pressley.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given in loving memory of our mother by William and Robyn Boyd, Patrick and Jennifer Diehl, Candice Diehl, and Matthew and Jenna Diehl.

DEACON ON CALL is Sarah Lingafelt. A 12-year member and first-term deacon, Sarah serves as co-leader for the youth Bible study on Monday nights and as a chaperone for the youth group. She is a member of The Wilderness Class.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP: Today is the Fourth Sunday in Lent and the day we celebrate our 206th anniversary as a church (FBC Raleigh was organized on March 8, 1812). Somehow it seems appropriate that one of the lectionary readings for this day contains one of the most familiar and one of the most beloved verses in all of scripture – John 3:16. How many times has this verse been read and preached from our pulpit over the course of 206 years? We explore it again this day in its larger context and as we do, we ponder the nature of God’s love for the world and our response to that love. We sing hymns that celebrate the scope of God’s love, we confess the frailty of our love, and we renew our commitment to love, offering a special word of blessing on Martha Collins as well as an affirmation of our desire to prove faithful in nurturing all the children God entrusts to our care.

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: Loaded Taco Bar, Mexican Rice, Beans, Taco Salad with all the extras. Non-Meat Option: Non-meat Tacos. Children’s Menu: Queso Blanco and Chips.

CENTERPOINT SEMINAR: Christ Church Change Ringers will describe the English folk art of change ringing on church tower bells.

EGG HUNT, for toddlers through 5th Grade and their parents, will be held on Saturday, March 24, 10:00–11:30 a.m. at the Facilities Management Building (431 N Salisbury Street). Contact Lynn Lingafelt (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org) by Friday, **March 16.**

EASTER GIFTS in honor or memory of a loved one are being received through Wednesday, March 21. 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*.

MINISTER WITH COMMUNITY position has recently been listed on CBF and divinity school job boards throughout the southeast. If you know of someone interested in this ministry position, encourage them to visit www.fbcraleigh.org/fbcsearch.

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.

DRUGS UNCOVERED WORKSHOP, cohosted by FBC Youth Ministry and the Poe Center, will be held on Sunday, March 25, from 5:00-7:00 p.m. This program is designed for parents of students and is open to the community. Please register at <http://bit.ly/2A3VUOm>.

MARCH MISSION PROJECT: We are collecting Bibles and Christian books (new and gently used) to be donated to Christian Library International which distributes literature to prisons in all 50 states. Place donations in the Lewis Building Lobby cabinet drawer.

MISSION PROJECTS: Applications for funding for mission projects are being accepted through **March 14.** Written proposals may be submitted to the church office or by emailing Denise Arnold (darnold@fbcraleigh.org). For information and applications, visit <https://fbcraleigh.org/fbc-mission-projects/>.

KAY HUGGINS GOLF CLASSIC will be held on Friday, April 27, at 1:00 p.m. at River Ridge Golf Course. Information and registration may be found at <https://fbcraleigh.org/kayhugginsgolfclassic/>.

Calendar Highlights • March 11–18, 2018

Sun, March 11	Daylight Saving Time Begins
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Worship (S) Japanese Worship (227)
12:15	GA Tea (FH) Discipleship Training Committee (CR)
4:00	Youth Bells (307)
5:00	Youth Choir (310)
6:00	Youth Group (FH) Pathfinders’ Soup Supper (Wilson’s home)
Mon, March 12	
9:30	Weekday Preschool (M-F)
11:00	Sisters in Grace (P)
6:30	High School Bible Study (Blanchards’ Home)
Tues, March 13	
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 (Helms’ Home)
Wed, March 14	
10:00	Clothing Ministry open
3:45	Works in Progress (P)
4:45	Children’s Bells (307)
5:00	Meal Served (FH)
5:30	Backpack Buddies packing (301)
6:00	Announcements and Prayer Time (FH) Missions and Music
6:20	Centerpoint Seminar (FH)
7:30	Sanctuary Choir (310)
Thu, March 15	
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 CBFNC at Knollwood Baptist, Winston-Salem (through 3/17)
Fri, March 16	
10:00	High School Retreat at Ridgecrest (returning 3/18)
Sun, March 18	
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Worship (S) Children’s Worship (224) Japanese Worship (227)
12:15	Nominating Committee (301)
5:30	MS Youth Group (FH)

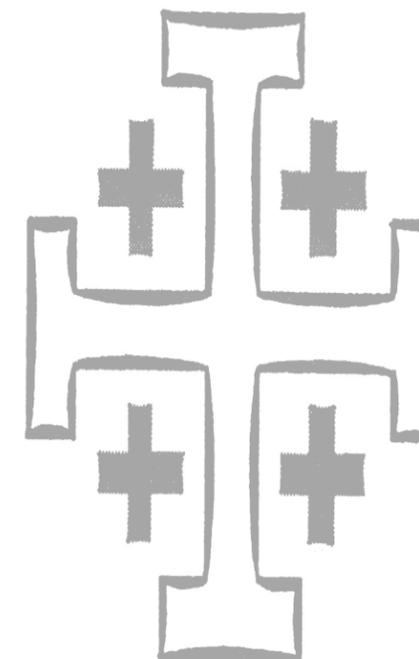
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor	Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Trey Davis, Youth/College	Lynn Lingafelt, Children
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus	Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator	

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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