

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

March 18, 2018

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee" Georg Boehm

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 51

LEADER: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

PEOPLE: **and put a new and right spirit within me.**

LEADER: Do not cast me away from your presence, and do not take your holy spirit from me.

PEOPLE: **Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and sustain in me a willing spirit.**

LEADER: Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.

PEOPLE: **O Lord, open my lips, and my mouth will declare your praise.**

The Invocation Mary Alice Seals

*The Hymn of Praise, 558 BEECHER
"Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession "Come Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy" ARISE
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. You write your law in our hearts, yet we pretend we do not know you. You lifted up Christ for all to see, yet we turn away from your glory. Forgive us, God of grace. Teach us to delight in your way, to seek you with all our hearts, and to trust in your saving love; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness (responsive)

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 Jeremiah 31:31-34 (p. 642)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament Hebrews 5:5-10 (p. 973)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Gospel John 12:20-33 (p. 875)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 648 ANGEL'S STORY
"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

The Sermon Christopher Chapman
"How We Begin the Journey of Faith Matters"

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, 213 HAMBURG
"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

*The Offertory Prayer Bob Bailey

The Offertory Anthem "Lift High the Cross" arr. Robert Lau
(The anthem text may be found at Hymn 229.)

*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.

WORSHIP ASSISTANTS are Nathan and Savannah Bacon.

SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given in loving memory of Gertrude and William Lassiter by sons, John and Charles Lassiter.

DEACON ON CALL is Bob Bailey. A 5-year member and first-term deacon, Bob is a teacher for the John Hiott and Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School classes. He also serves as chair of the Ministry to Internationals Committee. Bob and his wife Dolores have three children and six grandchildren.

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 in Lent. The further we travel on this journey with Jesus, the closer we get to the cross, and thus the more its reality shapes our worship and shared life. In part, the cross means an exposure of our frailty and sin, as well as an assurance of God's mercy and love; and so, we make time for confession and assurance. In part, the cross means God's identification with us in suffering; and so, we offer prayers for all who suffer in the world today, that they too might know God's companionship. But in part, the cross also means our way of life in following Jesus, it is what we sign up for, it is what we say "yes" to in baptism; and so, we ponder today the meaning of this distinctive way. The sermon, hymns, anthem, and prayers all provide space for us to reflect on the cross and all that it means for us. We are sent forth, then, to live in this distinctive way.

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

TODAY, 1st-5th graders are remaining in the children's suite, experiencing worship by reflecting on and responding to our scripture lesson through different art mediums. Visiting children may join us in Room 224.

CENTERPOINT SEMINAR: Michael Abramson of Temple Beth Or will walk us through the liturgy of the Seder, the Jewish feast that marks the beginning of Passover.

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: Chicken or Shrimp Alfredo, Broccoli, Salad and Bread. Non-Meat Option: Alfredo. Children's Menu: Popcorn Shrimp.

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*.

DEVOTIONAL BOOKS for Holy Week, created by and for our First Baptist family, will be available on Palm Sunday, March 25, before and after worship.

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>.

MAUNDY THURSDAY COMMUNION SERVICE will be held on March 29 at 7:00 p.m. in the sanctuary.

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.

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.

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/>.

20TH ANNIVERSARY COOKBOOKS have arrived and will be available on Sundays and Wednesday evenings. This book will be \$15.00. Reprints of the 1997 cookbooks are available for \$10.00. Both may be bought as a set for \$20.00.

Calendar Highlights • March 18-25, 2018

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)
Mon, March 19	9:30	Weekday Preschool (M-F)
	11:00	Sisters in Grace (P)
	6:30	High School Bible Study (Blanchards' Home)
Tues, March 20	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 21	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)
	5:45	ITC Board (108)
	6:00	Announcements and Prayer Time (FH) Missions and Music Evening Bells (307)
	6:20	Centerpoint Seminar (FH)
	7:30	Sanctuary Choir (310)
Thu, March 22	7:00	Band of Brothers (CR)
	10:30	Thirty-Niners: Navigate NC (FH)
	11:00	Library Committee (L)
	1:00	Clothing Ministry open
	3:00	Backpack Buddies delivery
	6:15	Finance Committee (CR)
Fri, March 23	10:00	Japanese-American Cultural Exchange (302)
Sat, March 24	9:00	Clothing Ministry Fair
	10:00	Egg Hunt (Facilities Management Courtyard)
Sun, March 25 <i>Palm Sunday</i>	9:45	Sunday School
	11:00	Worship, Baptism (S) Japanese Worship (227)
	12:15	Deacons' Meeting (220)
	4:00	Youth Bells (307)
	5:00	Youth Choir (310)
	6:00	Youth Group (Blue Room) Drugs Uncovered Workshop (FH)

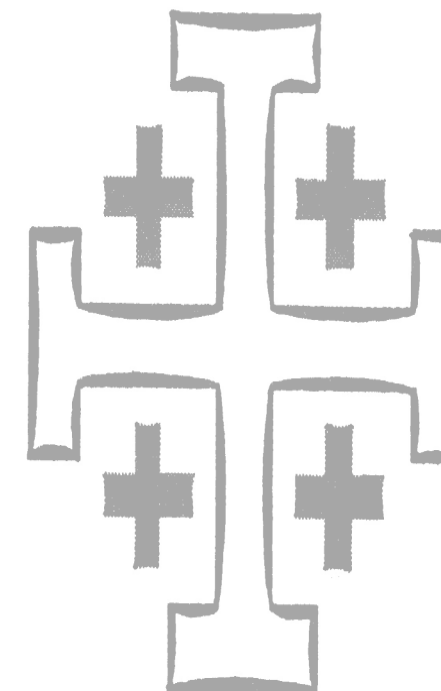
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor	Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Trey Davis, Youth/College	Lynn Lingafelt, Children
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus	Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator	

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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