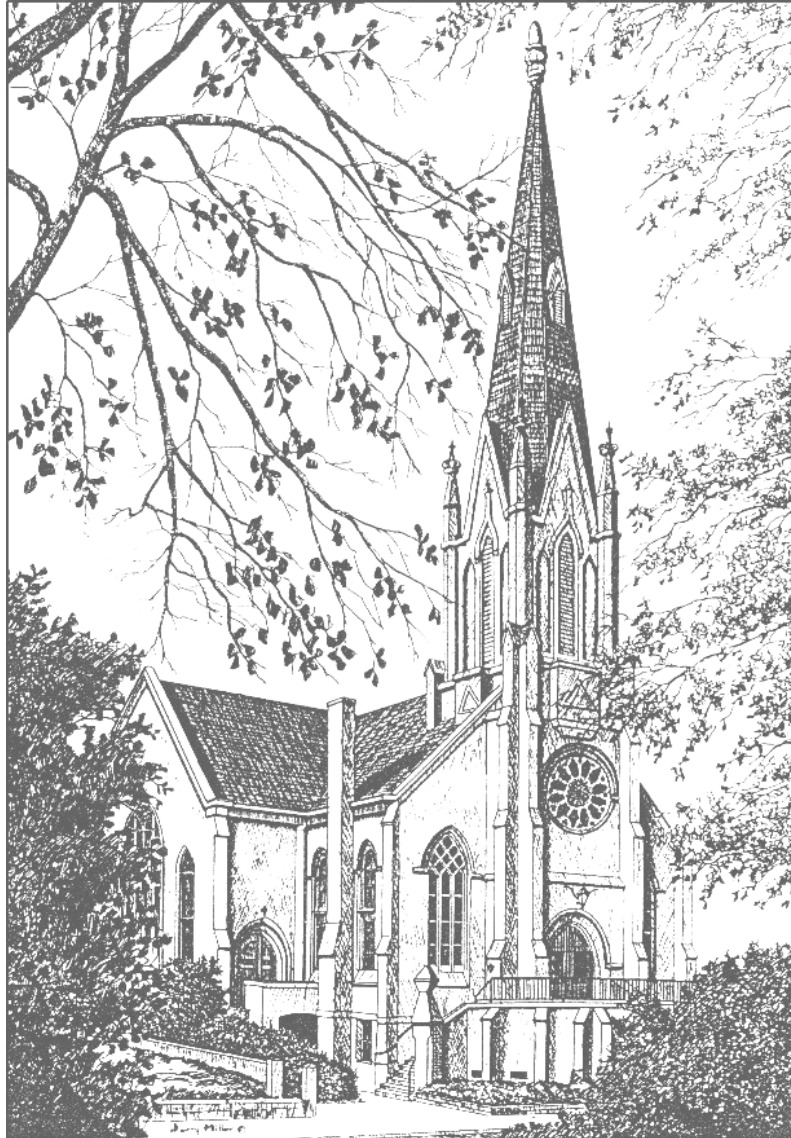


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



June 14, 2020

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 14, 2020

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Second Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is often called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. The liturgical color changes to green, a symbol of growth — for individuals and the church — and we wear our community stoles which were assembled by church members using fabric contributed by church members. The lectionary readings in this season create space for many different themes related to spiritual growth, but given the current realities of COVID-19 and resurgent concerns about racial inequality, the reading from Matthew seems particularly helpful. Jesus preaches about the kingdom and heals the sick, then calls his disciples to do the same. This is the calling of his followers in any time — to proclaim God's reign and all that this implies and to be about the work of healing in the world — but precisely what does it mean in this time? The sermon addresses this question as we offer songs of praise and devotion and lift up prayers for our deeply troubled world, ever claiming the hope we have in Christ.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

The Prelude

“The Church's One Foundation”
Mary Alice Seals, piano

arr. Anna Laura Page

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 100

LEADER: Make a joyful noise, to the Lord, all the earth.

PEOPLE: **Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.**

LEADER: Know that the Lord is God.

PEOPLE: **It is God who has made us, to whom we belong; we are God's people, and the sheep of God's pasture.**

LEADER: Enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

PEOPLE: **Give thanks and bless God's name.**

LEADER: For the Lord is good;

PEOPLE: **God's steadfast love endures forever, God's faithfulness to all generations.**

The Invocation

Leah Reed

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
 there is no shadow of turning with thee;
 thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;
 as thou hast been thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness!
 Morning by morning new mercies I see;
 all I have needed thy hand hath provided –
 great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.*

Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,
 sun, moon and stars in their courses above
 join with all nature in manifold witness
 to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. *Refrain.*

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
 thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide:
 strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
 blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain.*

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 18:1–15

Lynn Lingafelt

The LORD appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, “My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.” So they said, “Do as you have said.” ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, “Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.” ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, “Where is your wife Sarah?” And he said, “There, in the tent.” ¹⁰Then one said, “I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.” And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. ¹¹Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. ¹²So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, “After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?” ¹³The LORD said to Abraham, “Why did Sarah laugh, and say, ‘Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?’ ¹⁴Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.” ¹⁵But Sarah denied, saying, “I did not laugh”; for she was afraid. He said, “Oh yes, you did laugh.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer

Trey Davis

The Lord’s Prayer

**Our Father,
who art in heaven.
Hallowed be thy Name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Gospel

Matthew 9:35—10:8

³⁵Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

¹Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: “Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, ‘The kingdom of heaven has come near.’ ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the pris'ners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

Will you love the “you” you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

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

“Blest Be the Tie That Binds”
Mary Alice Seals, piano

arr. Anna Laura Page

¹ Words: Thomas O. Chisholm, © 1923; Music: William M. Runyan © 1923. Copyright 1923, Renewal 1951 Hope Publishing Company. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-708116. All rights reserved.

² Words: John L. Bell and Graham Maule; Tune KELVINGROVE, arr. by John Bell © 1987, Wild Goose Resource Group, The Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. Reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-708116. All rights reserved.

All scripture quotations contained herein are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Our acolytes today are Megan and Thomas Archer.

Sympathy to **Barbara Jacobs** on the death of her brother Ben Henderson on Saturday, June 6.

The Heck-Jones offering provides a way for our congregation to connect to great mission work with ties to our church. Details may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*. As of June 9, we have received \$2,445 toward our goal of \$10,000.

All church activities are cancelled until further notice.