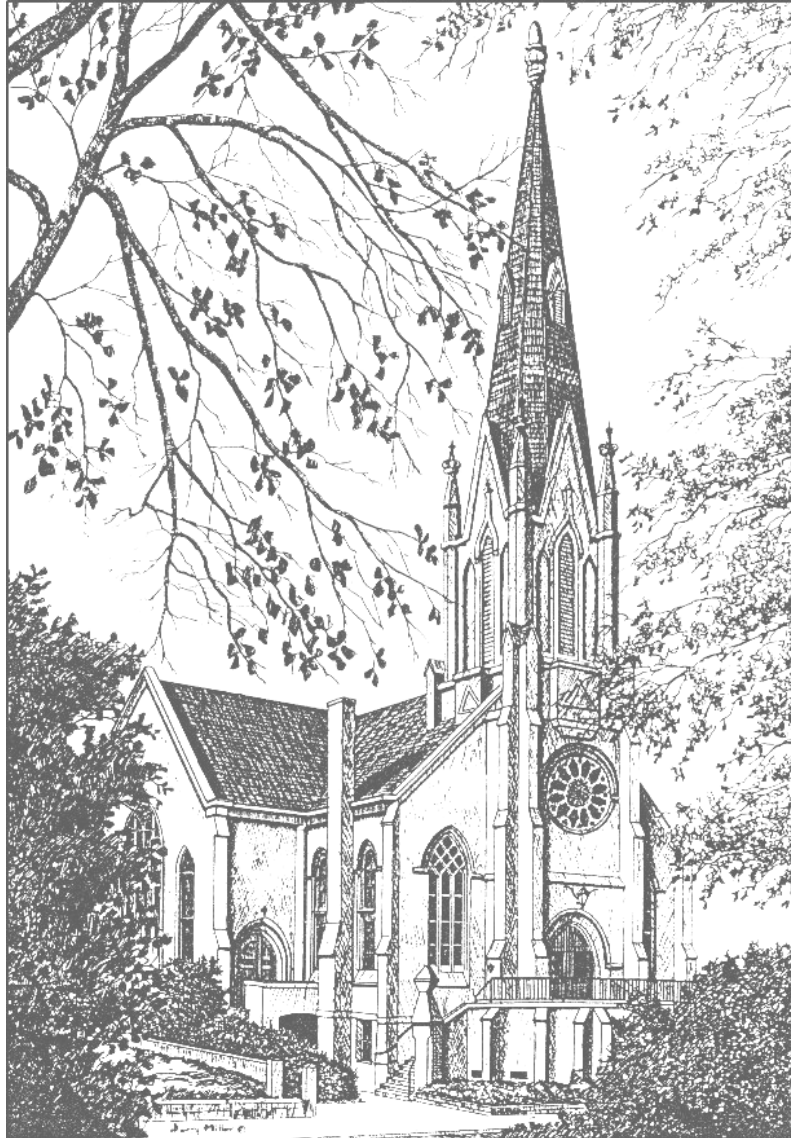


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



June 28, 2020

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 28, 2020

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. As symbolized by the green stoles we wear, it is a season to consider our opportunities for growth, and in this time of COVID-19 and renewed awareness of racial inequities, we have many such opportunities as individuals and as a church. We continue with the lectionary readings from Genesis, Romans, and Matthew, but focus on the familiar words of Jesus about sharing a cup of cold water with *these little ones*. In a time of many difficult challenges which seem to have no straightforward solutions we can all agree upon, perhaps we might pursue some simple acts of kindness and compassion. Yet before we become too comfortable with this calling, we need to consider exactly which *little ones* Jesus is referring to and what kind of water he would have us to share. As we worship the God who will sustain us through these challenging days, we lift up songs of praise, we offer prayers for this world of many needs, and we ask for guidance as to what water we should share with whom.

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 13

LEADER: How long, O Lord? Will you forget me forever? How long will you hide your face from me?

PEOPLE: **How long must I bear pain in my soul, and have sorrow in my heart all day long?
How long shall my enemy be exalted over me?**

LEADER: Consider and answer me, O Lord my God! Give light to my eyes, or I will sleep the sleep of death,

PEOPLE: **and my enemy will say, “I have prevailed”; my foes will rejoice because I am shaken.**

LEADER: But I trusted in your steadfast love; my heart shall rejoice in your salvation.

PEOPLE: **I will sing to the Lord who has dealt bountifully with me.**

The Invocation

Leah Reed

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 22:1-14

Trey Davis

¹ "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ²He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

³So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. ⁴On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. ⁵Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." ⁶Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. ⁷Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" ⁸Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together. ⁹When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. ¹⁰Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son.

¹¹But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." ¹²He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." ¹³And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. ¹⁴So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Romans 6:12-23

¹²Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. ¹³No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. ¹⁴For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace. ¹⁵What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! ¹⁶Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? ¹⁷But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, ¹⁸and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. ¹⁹I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification. ²⁰When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. ²²But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. ²³For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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 10:40–42

⁴⁰“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. ⁴¹Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; ⁴²and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Sermon

“Stop Preaching These Heavy Sermons”

Christopher Chapman

The Musical Response

“For Everyone Born”†
Catherine Carter, soprano

arr. Tom Trenney

For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born, clean water and bread,
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing, for everyone born, a star overhead.

*And God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy, compassion and peace:
yes, God will delight when we are creators of justice, justice and joy!*

For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a part in the song.
The hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled, for young and for old, the right to belong.

For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and simply to be,
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for everyone born, the right to be free!

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

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The tune and text of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” are in the public domain.

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Our acolytes today are Bella and Olivia Kumah.

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 23, we have received \$3,995 toward our goal of \$10,000.

VBS is going virtual this summer! Join us July 26–30, 6–8 p.m., via ZOOM or MEET platforms. Register now for great Bible study and really cool electives — the deadline is June 28. Find the registration link in the *Rose Window Weekly* or contact Lynn (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org).

There will be a virtual Church Conference via Zoom on Sunday, June 28, at 5:30 p.m. The link will be sent out by email.