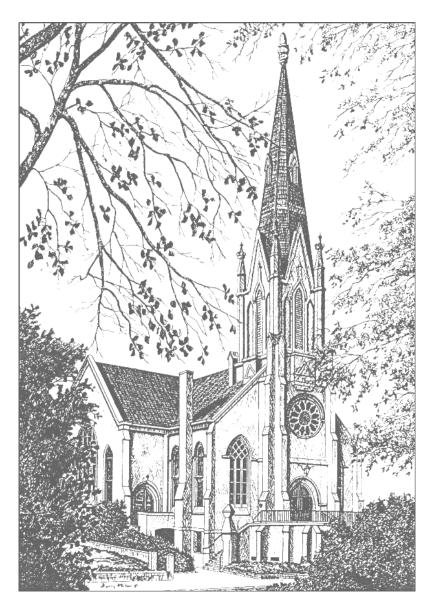
# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812



October 4, 2020

# THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

#### October 4, 2020

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is World Communion Sunday, a day set aside to celebrate Christian unity around the world. This celebration began in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was adopted by the U.S. Presbyterian Church in 1936 and then endorsed by the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) in 1940. We offer prayers today for the church universal, lifting up special concerns for our sisters and brothers who live in contexts of persecution and suffering. We sing of the church's one foundation in Christ and long for a way to provide a unified witness in a deeply divided time. The prelude allows us to experience music from another part of the global church and we experience the Lord's Prayer not only in English, but in other languages from various parts of the world. The sermon reflects upon the things we have in common, as identified in our texts today, and then we celebrate one of these things, communion, for the first time during COVID-19, virtually, inviting you to prepare bread or crackers and juice at home. Seeking unity and celebrating communion present challenges in this time, but in God's grace we will meet these challenges.

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#### GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

The Prelude

"Siyahamba (We Are Marching in the Light of Truth)" arr. John Behnke Sue Crocker, organ; Stan Crocker, djembe

#### 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)

- LEADER: O come, let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord, the Creator of us all,
  PEOPLE: Who makes of one blood all the peoples of the earth!
  LEADER: O come, let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord, the Redeemer of us all,
- PEOPLE: Who makes all peoples one that we might seek and find God.
- LEADER: O come, let us make a joyful noise unto the Lord, the Sustainer of us all,
- PEOPLE: Who makes all peoples one that we might know and serve God!
  - ALL: O come, let us praise God, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer!

The Invocation

Lynn Lingafelt

LAUDES DOMINI



#### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

#### Exodus 20:1-20

Mary Nash Rusher

<sup>1</sup>Then God spoke all these words: <sup>2</sup>I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; <sup>3</sup>you shall have no other gods before me. <sup>4</sup>You shall not make for yourself an idol, whether in the form of anything that is in heaven above, or that is on the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. <sup>5</sup>You shall not bow down to them or worship them; for I the Lord your God am a jealous God, punishing children for the iniquity of parents, to the third and the fourth generation of those who reject me, <sup>6</sup>but showing steadfast love to the thousandth generation of the Lord your God, for the Lord will not acquit anyone who misuses his name. <sup>8</sup>Remember the sabbath day, and keep it holy. <sup>9</sup>Six days you shall labor and do all your work. <sup>10</sup>But the seventh day is a sabbath to the Lord your God; you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your livestock, or the alien resident in your towns. <sup>11</sup>For in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, but rested the seventh day; therefore the Lord blessed the sabbath day and consecrated it.

<sup>12</sup>Honor your father and your mother, so that your days may be long in the land that the Lord your God is giving you. <sup>13</sup>You shall not murder. <sup>14</sup>You shall not commit adultery. <sup>15</sup>You shall not steal. <sup>16</sup>You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. <sup>17</sup>You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or male or female slave, or ox, or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

<sup>18</sup>When all the people witnessed the thunder and lightning, the sound of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking, they were afraid and trembled and stood at a distance, <sup>19</sup>and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, or we will die." <sup>20</sup>Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid; for God has come only to test you and to put the fear of him upon you so that you do not sin."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord. PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Christian Testament

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless. <sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ

<sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead. <sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. <sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God

#### Philippians 3:4b–14

<sup>33</sup>"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. <sup>34</sup>When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. <sup>35</sup>But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. <sup>36</sup>Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. <sup>37</sup>Finally he sent his son to them, saying, They will respect my son.' <sup>38</sup>But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, 'This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance." <sup>39</sup>So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. <sup>40</sup>Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" <sup>41</sup>They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." <sup>42</sup>Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes?<sup>43</sup>Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. <sup>44</sup>The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." <sup>45</sup>When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. <sup>46</sup>They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

The Morning Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in English and other languages)

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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen. Jun Matsuzaki - Japanese Divine Kumah — Twi David Guzman — Spanish Ebele Saint Louis — Igbo Rose Dammann — German

The Sermon

"Things that Unite Us"

Christopher Chapman

Leah Reed



The Invitation to the Table The Prayer of Thanksgiving The Bread Is Broken The Cup Is Shared

#### 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

"Allegro Maestoso (Organ Sonata No. 2)" Sue Crocker, organ Felix Mendelssohn

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The text and tune of "When Morning Gilds the Skies" and "The Church's One Foundation" are in the public domain.

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Our acolytes today are Hannah and Abby Hinson.

Honoring our veterans: The church maintains a list of members who are military service veterans and those on active duty having connections to First Baptist. If you know of eligible individuals whose names have not previously been on these lists, please contact Jennie Herrick (<u>jherrick@fbcraleigh.org</u> or 919-832-4485).

Hurricane Laura Relief Offering: As happened last year, instead of the usual breakdown for the fall NC Mission Offering, all money collected will go to Baptists On Mission and CBF of NC Disaster Response Teams to help our neighbors who are victims of Hurricane Laura, both near and far. Please join CBF in praying for those affected by the Hurricane Laura and please give generously to this offering to support CBF Disaster Response's relief and long-term recovery efforts. As of September 29, we have received \$765.00.

# Calendar Highlights • October 4–10, 2020

Friday, October 2 – Monday, October 5

Middle School Retreat (Caraway)

# Sunday, October 4

- 10:00 High School Sunday School (Zoom/In-person TBD)
- 11:00 Virtual Worship Service (YouTube)
- 2:00 1st and 2nd Grade Sunday School (Zoom) 3rd–5th Grade Sunday School (Zoom)
- 4:00 Three-year-olds–Kindergarten Sunday School (Ellis yard)
- 5:30 Youth Group (FBC parking lot and Zoom)

# Tuesday, October 6

- 10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (Library or Zoom)
- 5:30 Properties Committee Meeting (Conference Room)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Virtual)
- 6:30 High School Bible Study (Helms' home)
- 7:30 Pathfinders Sunday School (Virtual)

### Wednesday, October 7

5:30 Centerpoint Intergenerational Program (Zoom/FBC Garth)

# Thursday, October 8

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Virtual)
- 7:00 Nominating Committee Meeting (Virtual)