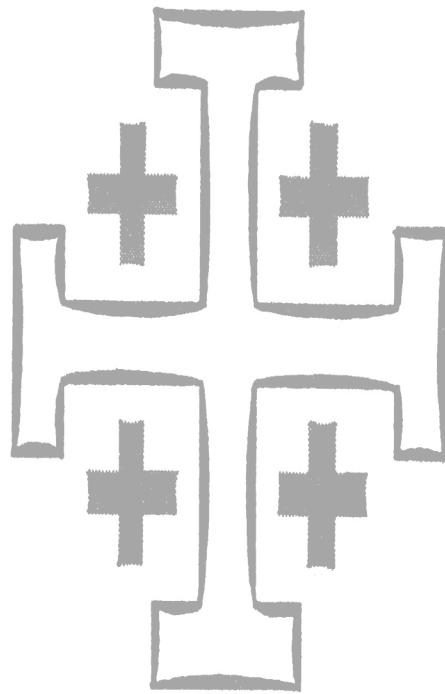


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



February 21, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT

February 21, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the First Sunday in Lent — “in” and not “of” because each Sunday is a little Easter, even in Lent, offering a glimpse of the resurrection hope that lies on the other side of suffering and sacrifice. It is a season of penitence and reflection, as we follow Jesus on the way to the cross. Thus, we include time for confession, sing hymns that underscore the nature of this season, and wear purple stoles. The Lenten texts for Year B include a series of readings from the Hebrew Bible that describe various covenants God makes. We will ponder each of these covenants in relationship to the new covenant God establishes through Christ. In today’s reading from Genesis, God establishes a covenant not just with human beings but with every living creature. The sermon will explore the implications of this story, how it might relate to Jesus’ call to repentance recorded in Mark 1. This covenant, like all covenants with God, inspires a spirit of humility within us.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

The Prelude

“Love Consecrates the Humblest Act”  
Sue Crocker, organ

arr. David Cherwein

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 25

LEADER: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

PEOPLE: **O my God, in you I trust;**

LEADER: do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me.

PEOPLE: **Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame.**

LEADER: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

PEOPLE: **Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.**

The Invocation

Michael Hood

Descant

2. Ah, \_\_\_\_\_ O

1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to  
 2. His law he en - forc - es the stars in their cours - es and

sun in its or - bit, o - be - dient - ly shine. Ah, \_\_\_\_\_

God the Cre - a - tor tri - um - phant - ly raise, who fash - ioned and  
 sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the

the deeps of the o - cean pro -

made us, pro - tect - ed and stayed us, who guides us and leads to the  
 moun - tains, the riv - ers and foun - tains, the deeps of the o - cean pro -

claim him di - vine. Re - joice, re -

end of our days. His ban - ners are o'er us, his light goes be -  
claim him di - vine. We too should be voic - ing our love and re -

joice! With glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us

fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing forth in the  
joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a song let us

raise. Ah,

night, till shad - ows have van - ished and dark - ness is  
raise, till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -

to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise.

ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.  
giv - ing: to God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession

Leah Reed

The Prayer of Confession (unison)<sup>2</sup>

**Holy God, we often claim that your way is mysterious and thus we are uncertain how to follow it. We don't understand the fast that you choose. You call us to loose the bonds of injustice, to let the prisoners go free, to break every yoke, to bring the homeless into our house, to feed our neighbors and pray for our enemies. We claim that it is a difficult metaphor so we don't have to act on your word. Forgive our apathy, our willful ignorance, our false modesty, and our unexamined privilege. Create in us a clean heart, and lead us into a Holy Lent and beyond, to abundant life for all your creation. In Christ's name we pray.**

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Forgiveness

The Act of Praise

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

ARISE

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "I will a-rise and go to Je - sus; he will em-brace me in his arms;". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "in the arms of my dear Sav - ior, O, there are ten thou - sand charms." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with clear note values and rests.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 9:8-17

Lynn Lingafelt

<sup>8</sup>Then God said to Noah and to his sons with him, <sup>9</sup>“As for me, I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, <sup>10</sup>and with every living creature that is with you, the birds, the domestic animals, and every animal of the earth with you, as many as came out of the ark. <sup>11</sup>I establish my covenant with you, that never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

<sup>12</sup>God said, “This is the sign of the covenant that I make between me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all future generations: <sup>13</sup>I have set my bow in the clouds, and it shall be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I bring clouds over the earth and the bow is seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>I will remember my covenant that is between me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh. <sup>16</sup>When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and every living creature of all flesh that is on the earth.” <sup>17</sup>God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and all flesh that is on the earth.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>18</sup>For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, <sup>19</sup>in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, <sup>20</sup>who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water.

<sup>21</sup>And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, <sup>22</sup>who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God**

## The Morning Prayer

Christopher Chapman

## 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, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## The Gospel

Mark 1:9–15

<sup>9</sup>In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. <sup>11</sup>And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. <sup>13</sup>He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him.

<sup>14</sup>Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, <sup>15</sup>and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Solo

“The Call”  
Stan Crocker, tenor

Ralph Vaughan Williams

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:  
Such a Way, as gives us breath:  
Such a Truth, as ends all strife:  
Such a Life, as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:  
Such a Light, as shows a feast:  
Such a Feast as mends in length:  
Such Strength as makes his guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love my Heart:  
Such a Joy as none can move:  
Such a Love, as none can part:  
Such a Heart, as joys in love.

*-George Herbert, 1633*

The Sermon

“Implications of the First Covenant”

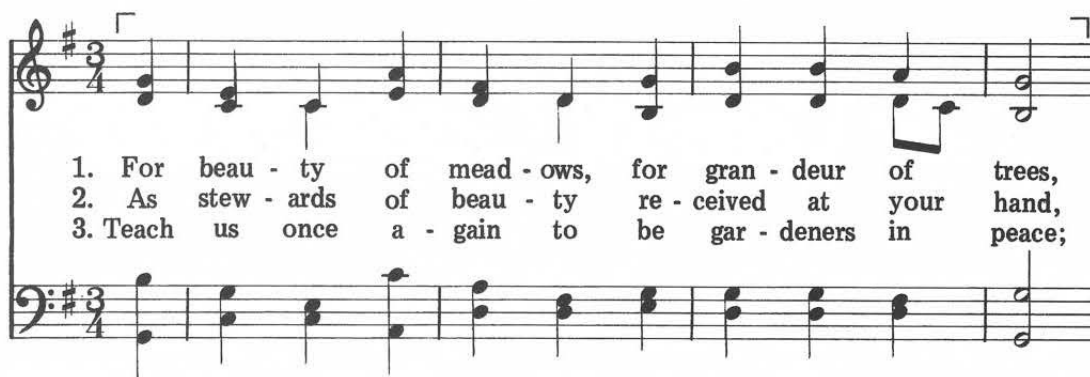
Christopher Chapman

RESPONDING IN FAITH

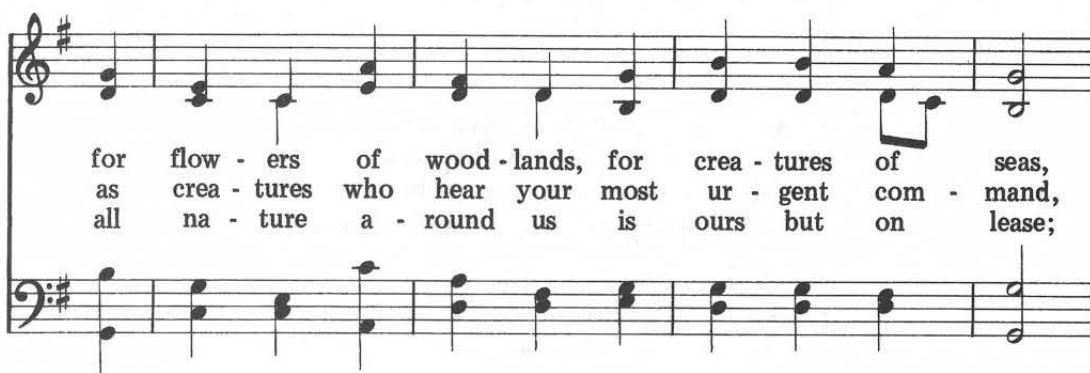
The Hymn of Discipleship

For Beauty of Meadows<sup>3</sup>

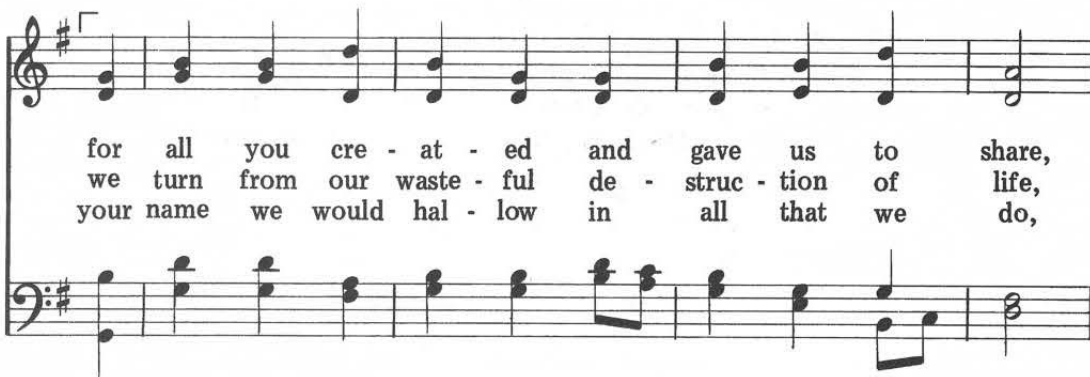
ST. DENIO



1. For beau - ty of mead - ows, for gran - deur of trees,  
2. As stew - ards of beau - ty re - ceived at your hand,  
3. Teach us once a - gain to be gar - deners in peace;



for flow - ers of wood - lands, for crea - tures of seas,  
as crea - tures who hear your most ur - gent com - mand,  
all na - ture a - round us is ours but on lease;



for all you cre - at - ed and gave us to share,  
we turn from our waste - ful de - struc - tion of life,  
your name we would hal - low in all that we do,



we praise you, Cre - a - tor, ex - tol - ling your care.  
con - fess - ing our fail - ures, con - fess - ing our strife.  
ful - fill - ing our call - ing, cre - at - ing with you.



## 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

“Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus”  
Sue Crocker, organ

arr. Paul Manz

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<sup>2</sup>From LiturgyLink.net

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Our annual stewardship emphasis continues with the theme *In the wilderness prepare a way for the Lord... And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed*. Please help us to meet our budget goal by returning your pledge card to the church office (you may also pledge online at: <https://fbcraleigh.org/pledgecard/>). As of February 18, we have received 174 pledges totaling \$1,133,541 for the 2021 budget.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider your support of these missionaries. As of February 18, we have received \$15,050.

## **Calendar Highlights • February 21–27, 2021**

Sunday, February 21

- 10:00 6th Grade Sunday School (Virtual)  
7th and 8th Grade Sunday School (Zoom)  
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 Deacons' Meeting (Zoom)
- 6:30 Youth Group (Zoom)

Monday, February 22

- 5:00 Church Council (Zoom)

Tuesday, February 23

- 10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (Library or Zoom)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Zoom/In-person TBD)
- 6:15 Middle School Gathering (Ellis home)
- 6:30 High School Boys Bible Study (Carter home)  
High School Girls Bible Study (Helms home)
- 7:30 Pathfinders Sunday School (Zoom)

Wednesday, February 24

- 5:30 Church Conference (Zoom)  
1st–5th Grade Boys Music and Missions (Pegram yard)

Thursday, February 25

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 7:30 College Gathering (Zoom)