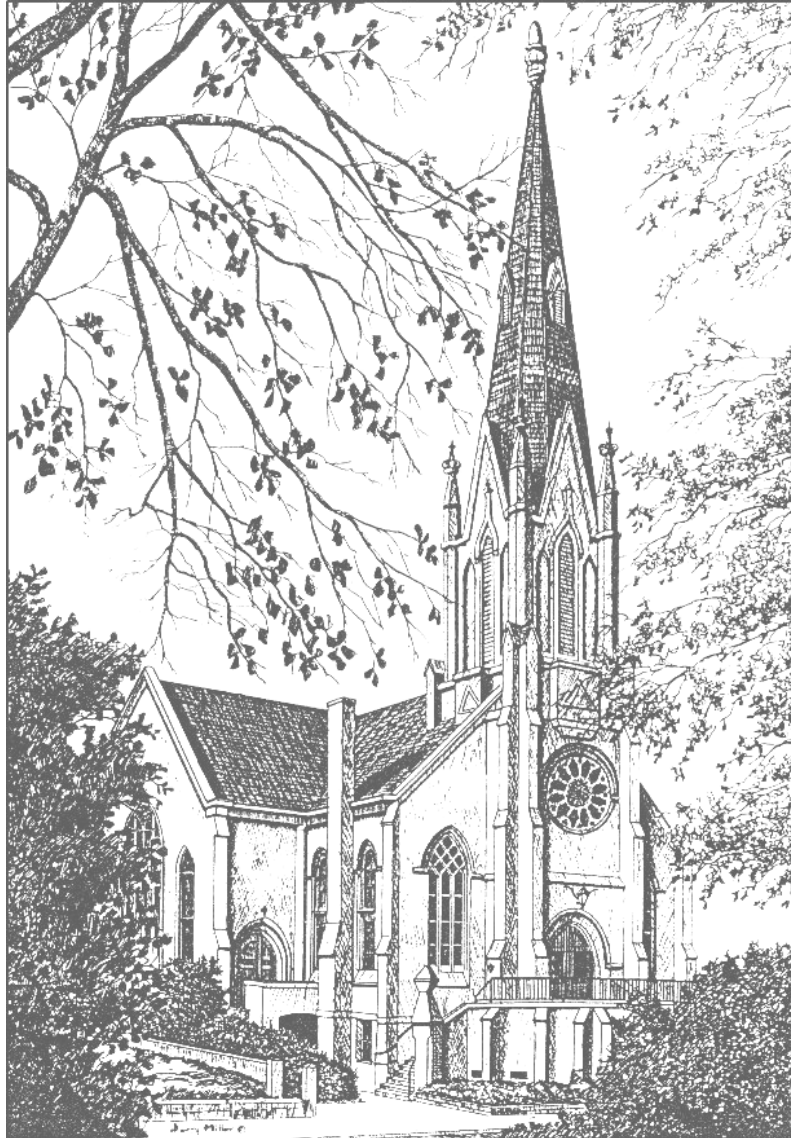


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 18, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 18, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, part of a season in which we ponder the possibilities of growth. We continue with readings from 2 Samuel, Ephesians, and Mark, and with a particular focus on the historical narrative which follows the journey of King David. In today's reading, David decides to build a house for God, and the prophet Nathan at first offers words of encouragement, but then God expresses opposition. The story offers a lens through which to view our relationship to physical space, especially sacred space. After a over a year of being unable to gather in our worship and educational spaces, we have deepened our appreciation for sacred space, but we have also found ways to remain connected to each other and God without being in this space. What might we learn from this experience and David's story? As we consider such questions, we lift up songs of praise and offer prayers for the world. Then, we depart to continue our worship of and devotion to a God who is not bound to this sacred time and space but is found in all times and places.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Leah Reed

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 Prelude and Introit¹

"Now Let Us All Praise God and Sing"

Gordon Young

Sanctuary Choir; Maureen Howell, organ

Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise.
That we may all with one accord, our joyful voices raise. Sing alleluia!
All ye servants of the Lord, praise Him forever.
Sing Jehovah's mighty power; praise Him forever.
Sing of His righteousness, praise Him forever.

The Call to Worship (responsive)²

LEADER: We build high altars and raise high steeples, but in no one place is God found.

PEOPLE: **We sing inspiring hymns and preach sound doctrines, but in no one word can God be bound.**

LEADER: Our God is not bound, but our God shall build:

PEOPLE: **Not temples but truth, not shrines but *shalom*.**

LEADER: Not rituals but rights, not dogmas but dreams.

PEOPLE: **Not a space we call sacred, not a time we call holy, shall confine the works of the Almighty! Let us break our bonds and offer praise to the God of all creation!**

The Invocation

Leah Reed

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the King of cre-a -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign -
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend
 4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a-dore

tion! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and sal-
 eth, shel-ters thee un-der his wings, yea, so gen-tly sus-
 thee, sure-ly his good-ness and mer-cy here dai-ly at-
 him! All that hath life and breath, come now with prais-es be-

va - tion! All ye who hear, now to his
 tain - eth! Hast thou not seen how thy de-
 tend thee. Pon-der a-new what the Al-
 fore him! Let the A-men sound from his

tem-ple draw near; join me in glad ad-o-ra-tion!
 sires e'er have been grant-ed in what he or-dain-eth?
 might-y can do, if with his love he be-friend thee.
 peo-ple a-gain: glad-ly for-ev-er a-dore him.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

2 Samuel 7:1-14a

Jessica Helms

¹Now when the king was settled in his house, and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, ²the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." ³Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the Lord is with you."

⁴But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan: ⁵Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? ⁶I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. ⁷Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" ⁸Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; ⁹and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. ¹⁰And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, ¹¹from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. ¹²When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. ¹³He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. ¹⁴I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Ephesians 2:11-22

¹¹So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called "the uncircumcision" by those who are called "the circumcision" —a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands— ¹²remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. ¹³But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ.

¹⁴For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. ¹⁵He has abolished the law with its commandments and ordinances, that he might create in himself one new humanity in place of the two, thus making peace, ¹⁶and might reconcile both groups to God in one body through the cross, thus putting to death that hostility through it. ¹⁷So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; ¹⁸for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. ¹⁹So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God, ²⁰built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the cornerstone. ²¹In him the whole structure is joined together and grows into a holy temple in the Lord; ²²in whom you also are built together spiritually into a dwelling place for God.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

“In the Lord I’ll Be Ever Thankful”

In the Lord I’ll be ever thankful,
In the Lord I will rejoice!
Look to God, do not be afraid;
Lift up your voices, the Lord is near.

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 6:30–34, 53–56

³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught.

³¹He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³²And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves. ³³Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. ³⁴As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things.

⁵³When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat.

⁵⁴When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, ⁵⁵and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. ⁵⁶And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

1. Sav - ior, like a Shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten - der care;
 2. We are thine, do thou be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3. Thou hast prom-ised to re - ceive us, poor and sin - ful though we be;
 4. Ear - ly let us seek thy fa - vor, ear - ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre -
 keep thy flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a -
 thou hast mer - cy to re - lieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to
 bless - ed Lord and on - ly Sav - ior, with thy love our bos-oms

pare: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we
 stray: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we
 free: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to
 fill: Bless - ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us

are; bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.
 pray; bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear, O hear us when we pray.
 thee; bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, ear - ly let us turn to thee.
 still; bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“The (Relative) Significance of Sacred Space”

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

“The Church’s One Foundation”

AURELIA

1. The Church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ her Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. Though with a scorn - ful won - der we see her sore op - pressed,
4. Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of her war,
5. Yet she on earth hath un - ion with God, the Three in One,

she is his new cre - a - tion, by wa - ter and the word:
her char - ter of sal - va - tion: one Lord, one faith, one birth;
by schisms rent a - sun - der, by her - e - sies dis - tressed:
she waits the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for - ev - er - more,
and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won:

from heaven he came and sought her to be his ho - ly bride;
one ho - ly name she bless - es, par - takes one ho - ly food,
yet saints their watch are keep - ing, their cry goes up, "How long?"
till with the vi - sion glo - rious her long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we,

with his own blood he bought her, and for her life he died.
and to one hope she press - es with ev - ery grace en - dued.
and soon the night of weep - ing shall be the morn of song.
and the great Church vic - to - rious shall be the Church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.

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

"Postlude in D"
Maureen Howell, organ

Healey Willan

¹ After Psalm 113, 150, RSV.

² Adapted from *Litanies and Other Prayers for the Common Lectionary, Year B*, by Everett Tilson and Phyllis Cole. Copyright © 1990 by Abingdon Press. Reprinted by permission.

³ Taizé Community © 1986, 1991 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications).

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The Deacon on Call is Jessica Helms. A 24-year member, Jessica serves as assistant church clerk and as the teacher for the Wilderness Sunday School Class. She is a Children's Ministry Council member and a member of the Grains of Sand Sunday School Class. Jessica and her husband Chase have two sons, Asher and Ryder.

The flowers for today’s worship service are given by Alvah Ward, Jr., in memory of Rachel T. Ward in honor of her July birthday.

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*. Our goal is \$10,000, to be split as needed between Habitat for Humanity and RISE Against Hunger; as of July 15, we have received \$360.

Please join us on Saturday, July 24, 9am–12pm, for a Clothing Ministry workday in preparation to open our doors to the community. We’ll be hanging pre-sorted clothing and doing some general organizing to get our new set up in order. You do not have to be a regular volunteer with the Clothing Ministry to come.

Clothing Ministry volunteers are invited to an orientation and training session on Wednesday, July 28, from 11am-1pm with a BBQ bag lunch from *And Also With 'Cue!* We will walk through the new space, go over new policies and procedures, and celebrate the reopening of this beloved ministry together. RSVP through the link found in the *Rose Window Weekly* by Monday, July 19!

We are in need of one greeter at the back parking lot door from 9:15-10:15am to offer welcome and to remind congregants to sign in and wear their masks in the common areas. Please sign up through the link found in the *Rose Window Weekly*. Questions? Contact Crystal Bacon at crystal.bacon3@gmail.com.

Calendar Highlights • July 18–25, 2021

Sunday, July 18

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)

5:30 Youth Group (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, July 19

1:30 Housing All Fund Training (Library/Pullen Memorial Church)

Tuesday, July 20

10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (Conference Room)

10:45 WMU Group II (Springmoor)

Wednesday, July 21

10:00 High School Bible Study Breakfast (TBD)

11:00 High School Bible Study (Blue Room)

7:00 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, July 22

7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

6:30 College Group (Zoom)

Friday, July 23

5:30 Youth to Durham Bulls Game

Saturday, July 24

9:00 Clothing Ministry Workday (Clothing Ministry)

Sunday, July 25

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)

5:30 Youth Group (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)