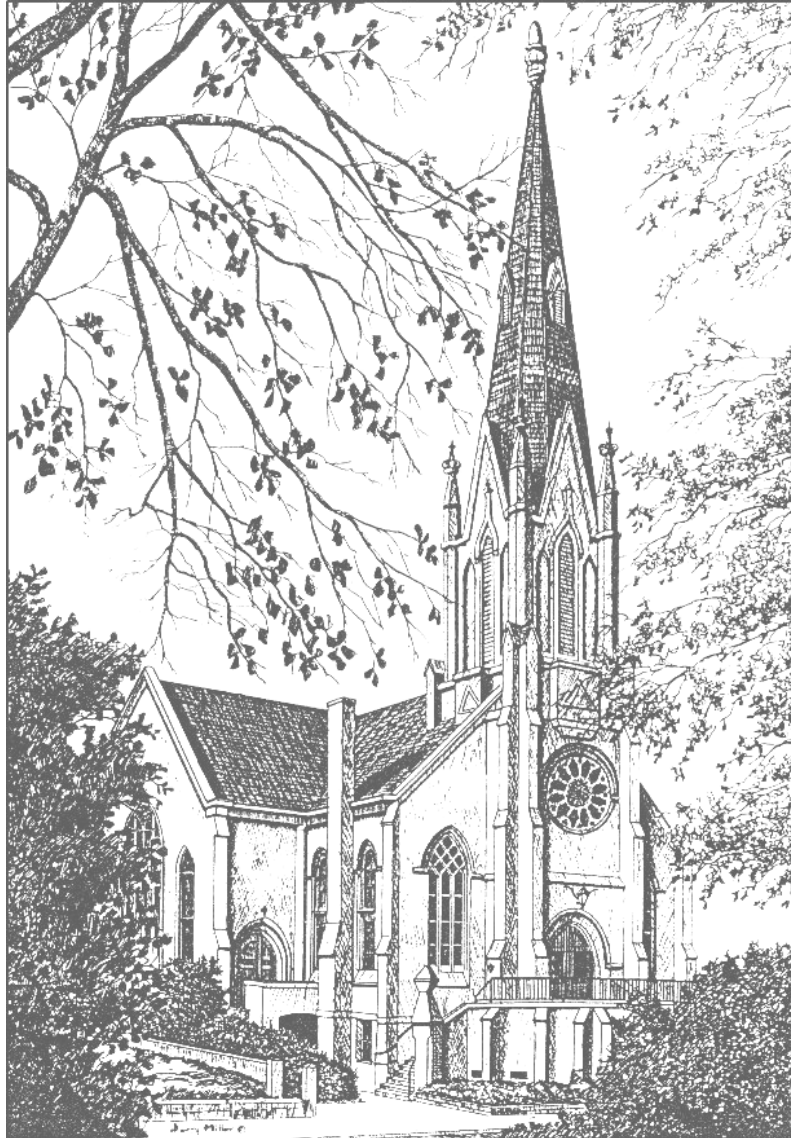


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 25, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE NINTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 25, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Ninth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called ordinary time in the Christian year, a season in which we ponder possibilities for growth. We continue to focus on the historical narratives about King David, today exploring the troubling passage in which this king, who is referred to in scripture as a man after God's own heart (1 Samuel 13:14), takes advantage of a woman named Bathsheba and then sends her husband, Uriah, to his death. The sermon examines this story from the husband's perspective. It may seem like a terrible story to be in scripture, much less read in worship, but the central problems described — the abuse of power, the exploitation of women, the failure to take responsibility, the blaming of the victim, and the snowballing consequences of sin — are all problems we struggle with to this day. Through Uriah's eyes, we see David's problems more clearly, deliver Bathsheba from unfair criticism, and discover that qualities like loyalty and faithfulness can exist even in a world like ours. We sing hymns that invite us to pursue these qualities and offer prayers for a world that has many flaws yet still much potential. We conclude worship with child dedication, a sacred ritual that reminds us of what is most precious and encourages us to rededicate our lives to helping children learn what it means to follow Jesus in the ways of love and justice, righteousness and peace.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

"Joyful, Joyful"  
Maureen Howell, organ

Diane Bish

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 145

LEADER: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

PEOPLE: **They shall speak of the glory of your reign, and tell of your power.**

LEADER: The Lord is faithful in all words, and gracious in all deeds.

PEOPLE: **The Lord upholds all who are falling, and raises up all who are bowed down.**

LEADER: The eyes of all look to you, and you give them their food in due season.

PEOPLE: **You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing.**

LEADER: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord,

PEOPLE: **and all your faithful shall bless you.**

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-lect 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

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Cindy DeFoor

<sup>1</sup>In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. <sup>3</sup>David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." <sup>4</sup>So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. <sup>5</sup>The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

<sup>6</sup>So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. <sup>7</sup>When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. <sup>8</sup>Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. <sup>9</sup>But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. <sup>10</sup>When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" <sup>11</sup>Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." <sup>12</sup>Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, <sup>13</sup>David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

<sup>14</sup>In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. <sup>15</sup>In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Ephesians 3:14-21

<sup>14</sup>For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, <sup>15</sup>from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. <sup>16</sup>I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, <sup>17</sup>and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. <sup>18</sup>I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, <sup>19</sup>and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. <sup>20</sup>Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, <sup>21</sup>to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer†

“Christ Be in My Waking”

arr. Larry Shackley

Sanctuary Choir

Elaine Holley, violin; Emma Tyndall, solo

Christ be in my waking, as the sun is rising,  
in my day of working, with me every hour.  
Christ be in my resting as the day is ending,  
calming and refreshing, watching through the night.

Christ be in my thinking and my understanding,  
guarding me from evil, walking in the light.  
Christ be in my speaking, every word a blessing,  
pure and not deceiving, grace to all who hear.

Jesus, this is my devotion, all my life to know you,  
every day to walk with you.  
Savior, you're my deepest longing; you're the one I live for,  
teach me, Lord, to walk with you.

Christ be in my gladness, for the joy of living,  
thankful for the goodness of the Father's hand.  
Christ be in my sorrow, in my day of darkness,  
knowing that I follow in the steps he trod.

Christ when hope has faded, nothing left to cling to,  
every pleasure jaded, every well is dry.  
Christ the loving Shepherd draws me with his kindness  
leads me from the desert to the streams of life.

The Morning Prayer

Michael Hood

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.**

<sup>1</sup>After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup>A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. <sup>3</sup>Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup>Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup>When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” <sup>6</sup>He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. <sup>7</sup>Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” <sup>8</sup>One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup>“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” <sup>10</sup>Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup>Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. <sup>12</sup>When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” <sup>13</sup>So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup>When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

<sup>15</sup>When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself. <sup>16</sup>When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, <sup>17</sup>got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. <sup>18</sup>The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. <sup>19</sup>When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. <sup>20</sup>But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” <sup>21</sup>Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

1. Dear Lord and Fa - ther of man - kind, for - give our fool - ish  
 2. In sim - ple trust like theirs who heard, be - side the Syr - ian  
 3. O sab - bath rest by Gal - i - lee! O calm of hills a -  
 4. Drop thy still dews of qui - et - ness, till all our striv - ings  
 5. Breathe through the heats of our de - sire thy cool - ness and thy

ways! Re - clothe us in our right - ful mind; in  
 Sea, the gra - cious call - ing of the Lord, let  
 bove, where Je - sus knelt to share with thee the  
 cease; take from our souls the strain and stress, and  
 balm; let sense be dumb, let flesh re - tire; speak

pur - er lives thy serv - ice find, in deep - er rev - erence, praise.  
 us, like them, with - out a word, rise up and fol - low thee.  
 si - lence of e - ter - ni - ty, in - ter - pre - ted by love!  
 let our or - dered lives con - fess the beau - ty of thy peace.  
 through the earth - quake, wind, and fire, O still small voice of calm!

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

"An Overlooked Part of the Story Worth Remembering"

The Prayer of Response (unison)

**Teach us, good Lord, to serve you as you deserve; to give and not to count the cost; to fight and not to heed the wounds; to toil and not to seek for rest; to labor and not to ask for any reward, except that of knowing that we do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

—*Ignatius of Loyola, 16th century*

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                      “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian”                      I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

(Children are asked to join Susan Stevens in the narthex so they may participate in the dedication of Vivi Rohrbaugh.)

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I  
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I  
3. Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I  
4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart, Lord, I

*Refrain*

want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.                      In my heart,                      in my  
want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
want to be more ho - ly in my heart.                      In my heart,  
want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

heart,                      Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in my heart.  
   Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart.  
   Lord, I want to be more ho - ly in my heart.  
in my heart, Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It features a treble and bass clef. The lyrics are printed below the notes, with some lines starting on a new line of music. The word 'Refrain' is written above the second system. The score ends with a double bar line.



The Dedication of Vivian Grace Rohrbaugh, daughter of Daniel and Laura Rohrbaugh

Leader: The nurture of children in faith is a sacred privilege and awesome responsibility. It begins with the commitment of parents and includes the love of the whole congregation. Today we present Vivian Grace Rohrbaugh to the church and dedicate her to God. Who brings this child for this holy purpose?

Parents: *We, her parents, do.*

Leader: What can we affirm about Vivi?

People: **That she is a child of God by creation, made in the image of God.**

Leader: As Vivi grows in her understanding of God and herself, how will we help her to learn about her true status as beloved?

People: **We will give her our love and include her in the life of the congregation.**

Leader: As Vivi grows through different stages of life, what will we tell her about her story?

People: **We will tell her about Abraham and Sarah, about Mary and Joseph, about Jesus and the people who have sought to follow him in this place.**

Leader: What will we expect of Vivi?

People: **We will look to the day when she will sit with us at the Lord's Table, declare faith in Jesus Christ, and confirm the heritage we seek to pass on to her.**

Leader: Daniel and Laura, do you, as parents, embrace your primary responsibility to nurture your child in faith?

Parents: *Yes, we do, for we long to pass on our heritage to her.*

Leader: Do you, the members of First Baptist Church, pledge to work toward creating a nurturing environment for Vivi and all the children God entrusts to our care?

People: **Yes, we do, for these children belong to us as well.**

Leader: Then may God be with us and help us.

All: **Amen.**

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

"Fanfare"  
Maureen Howell, organ

William Mathias

\*\*\*\*\*

† Words & Music by Stuart Townend, Simon Brading; Larry Shackley, arr. © 2011, 2014 Thankyou Music/Lorenz Publishing.

The tunes and texts of “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee,” “Dear Lord and Father of Mankind,” the Prayer of Response, and “Lord, I Want to Be a Christian” are in the public domain.

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.

The Deacon on Call is Cindy DeFoor. A 14-year member, Cindy is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School Class. She and her husband David live in Garner.

Our acolytes today are Jane and Jonathan Kelley.

The sanctuary flowers are given by Shirley and John Hobson; Lauren, Nick, Caroline and Savannah Bradley; Joanne and Randy Canady; and Donna and Keith Hardin in memory of Polly Wilkins Garrard, Sam Garrard and John Wilkins.

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 22, we have received \$1,510.

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](mailto:crystal.bacon3@gmail.com).

## Calendar Highlights • July 25–August 1

Sunday, July 25

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)
- 5:30 Youth Group (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, July 26

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

Tuesday, July 27

- 10:00 Ministerial Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 10:45 WMU Group II (Springmoor)

Wednesday, July 28

- 10:00 Clothing Ministry Volunteer Orientation (Fellowship Hall)  
High School Bible Study Breakfast (TBD)
- 11:00 High School Bible Study (Blue Room)
- 7:00 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, July 29

- Ministerial Staff Planning Day
- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 6:30 College Group (TBD)

Saturday, July 31

- 11:00 Jean Finch Memorial Service, Reception Following (Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, August 1

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Clothing Ministry Commissioning (Sanctuary & YouTube)
- 12:00 Clothing Ministry Open House (Clothing Ministry)
- 3:00 Elaine Holley Violin Recital (Sanctuary)
- 5:30 Youth Group (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)