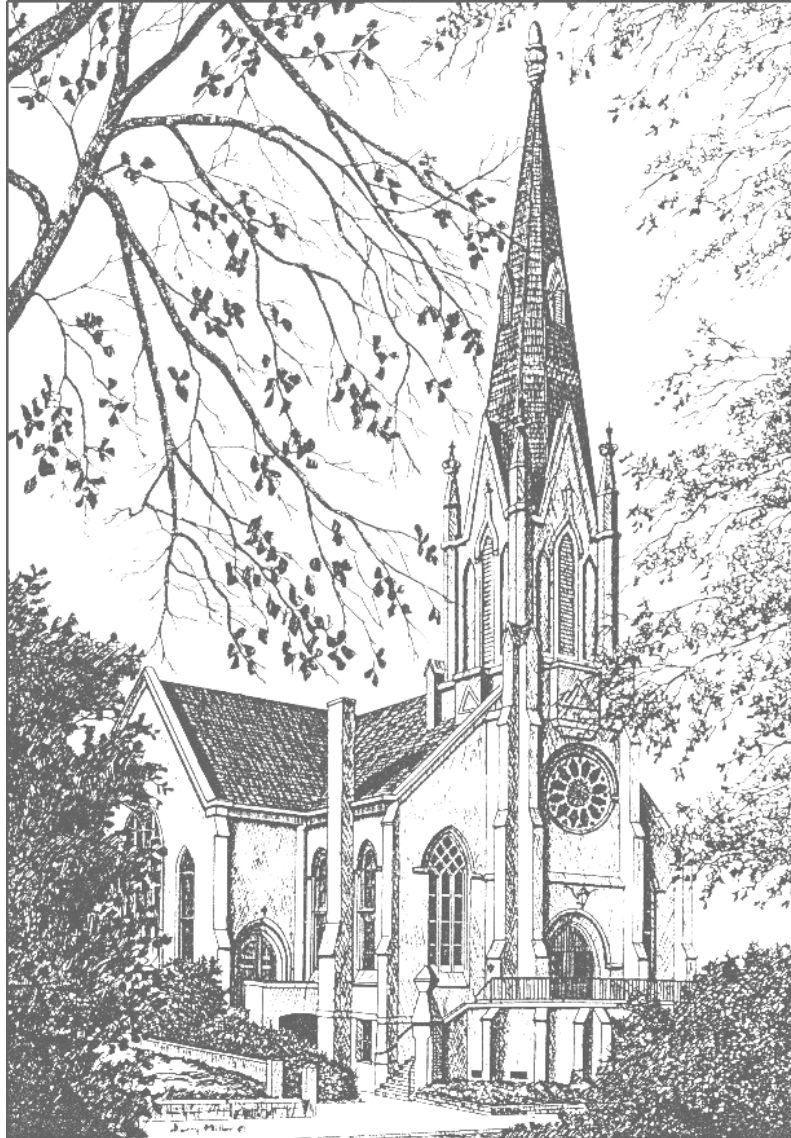


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



September 26, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 26, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today's reading from James begins with these words. "Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them..." As we gather for worship on this Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost, all of these words apply to us, and we are responding accordingly — by lifting up our prayers, by singing songs of praise, and by gathering not just elders but all of us together to seek healing and hope. We center ourselves in the presence of God; we listen for the voice of God speaking through all of the readings, indeed every aspect of worship; and we respond with worship and praise, service and devotion, the substance of our lives and the love of our hearts.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Lynn Lingafelt

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

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
J.D. Frizzell

Evening Bells

The Introit

Make a joyful noise unto the Lord, all you lands:
Serve the Lord with gladness. Alleluia.

— Psalm 100:1-2

Sanctuary Choir

The Call to Worship

adapted from Psalm 19

Refrain

Lord, you have the words; Lord, you have the words;

Lord, you have the words of ev - er - last - ing life.

Your law, O Lord, is perfect, It renews the soul.
Your decrees are sure, they delight in the heart **(Refrain)**
Your commandments are worth more than gold,
They are sweeter than honey, than honey fresh from the comb. **(Refrain)**
Let the words of my mouth and the thoughts of my heart
Find favor with you, O Lord, my redeemer and rock. **(Refrain)**

The Invocation

Warren Howell

1. Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther, there is no
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest, sun, moon and
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth, thy own dear

shad - ow of turn - ing with thee; thou chang - est not, thy com -
 stars in their cours - es a - bove join with all na - ture in
 pres - ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright

pas - sions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 man - i - fold wit - ness to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy and love.
 hope for to - mor - row, bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!

Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see; all I have need - ed thy

hand hath pro - vid - ed - great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Numbers 11:4–6, 10–16; 24–29

Felicia Gore Hoover

⁴The rabble among them had a strong craving; and the Israelites also wept again, and said, “If only we had meat to eat! ⁵We remember the fish we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers, the melons, the leeks, the onions, and the garlic; ⁶but now our strength is dried up, and there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.”

¹⁰Moses heard the people weeping throughout their families, all at the entrances of their tents. Then the Lord became very angry, and Moses was displeased. ¹¹So Moses said to the Lord, “Why have you treated your servant so badly? Why have I not found favor in your sight, that you lay the burden of all this people on me? ¹²Did I conceive all this people? Did I give birth to them, that you should say to me, ‘Carry them in your bosom, as a nurse carries a sucking child,’ to the land that you promised on oath to their ancestors? ¹³Where am I to get meat to give to all this people? For they come weeping to me and say, ‘Give us meat to eat!’ ¹⁴I am not able to carry all this people alone, for they are too heavy for me. ¹⁵If this is the way you are going to treat me, put me to death at once—if I have found favor in your sight—and do not let me see my misery.”

¹⁶So the Lord said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tent of meeting, and have them take their place there with you.

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord; and he gathered seventy elders of the people, and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders; and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad, and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, and so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men, said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord’s people were prophets, and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

James 5:13–20

¹³Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. ¹⁴Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. ¹⁶Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. ¹⁷Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

¹⁹My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, ²⁰you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner’s soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Many Gifts, One Spirit”

Sanctuary Choir

Allen Pote

Many gifts, one spirit, many songs, one voice
Many reasons, one promise, many questions, one choice.
O, God, we pray for unity, give guidance from above.
In our differences unite us in the circle of your love.

O, God, remind us we are not alone.

Though we move on different pathways,
we are walking to your throne.

Help us learn to love each other, show us ways to understand.
We are members of one family, growing strong by joining hands.

O, God, remind us we are not alone.

Though we move on different pathways,
we are walking to your throne.

Take our many ways of working, blend the colors of each soul
into the beauty of a rainbow.

Give us life, Lord, make us whole.

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.**

³⁸John said to him, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” ³⁹But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. ⁴⁰Whoever is not against us is for us. ⁴¹For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

⁴²“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. ⁴³If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. ⁴⁵And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. ⁴⁷And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, ⁴⁸where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

⁴⁹“For everyone will be salted with fire. ⁵⁰Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

“We Cannot Measure How You Heal”

YE BANKS AND BRAES

John Holley, viola

1. We can - not meas - ure how you heal or an - swer ev - 'ry
 2. The pain that will not go a - way, the guilt that clings from
 3. So some have come who need your help, and some have come to

suf - f'rer's prayer, yet we be - lieve your love re - sponds when
 things long past, the fear of what the fu - ture holds are
 make a - mends as hands, which shaped and saved the world, are

faith and doubt u - nite to care. Your hands, though blood - ied on the
 pres - ent as if meant to last. But pres - ent too is love which
 pres - ent in the touch of friends. Lord, let your Spir - it meet us

cross, sur - vive to hold and heal and warn, to car - ry
 tends the hurt we nev - er hoped to find, the pri - vate
 here to mend the bod - y, mind, and soul, to dis - en -

all through death to life and cra - dle chil - dren still un - born.
 ag - o - nies in - side, the mem - o - ries that haunt the mind.
 tan - gle peace from pain, and make your bro - ken peo - ple whole.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 and Graham Maule, b. 1958; © 1989, WGRG, c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent
 Tune: YE BANKS AND BRAES; Scottish traditional

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

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

“If You Will Trust in God to Guide You”

1. If you will trust in God to guide you and place your
2. What gain is there in fu - tile weep - ing, in help - less
3. In pa - tient trust a - wait his lei - sure, in cheer - ful
4. Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your

con - fi - dence in him, you'll find him al - ways there be -
an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in his care and
hope, with heart con - tent to take what - e'er your Fa - ther's
ser - vice faith - ful - ly, and trust his word; though un - de -

side you, to give you hope and strength with - in. For those who
keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For he who
plea - sure and all - dis - cern - ing love have sent. Doubt not your
serv - ing, you'll find his prom - ise true to be. God nev - er

trust God's change - less love build on the rock that will not move.
took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - ery loss.
in - most wants are known to him who chose you for his own.
will for - sake in need the soul that trusts in him in - deed.

WORDS: Georg Neumark, 1641; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
MUSIC: Georg Neumark, 1657

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
9.8.9.8.8.8.

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

“Psalm XIX”
Benedetto Marcello

Maureen Howell, organ

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The Deacon on Call is Becky Mercer. A 20-year member, Becky serves on the Personnel Committee, co-directs the Children's Choirs, and is a member of the Sanctuary Choir and the Grains of Sand Sunday School class. She and her husband Jeff have two children: Will and Cady.

The acolytes today are Lucy and Ryan Willis.

The sanctuary flowers are given today in loving memory of Richard Gene Puckett by Robbie and family.

The State Missions Offering goal is \$10,000; we have received \$7,010 so far. Your gifts will help those in need by supporting various agencies including Baptist Retirement Homes, NC Baptist Hospital, Baptist Children's Homes, and Baptists on Mission.

September Mission Project: We are collecting school supplies for Southeast Raleigh Elementary. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for a Sign-up Genius link with a list of needed supplies. Place in the marked drawer in the Lewis Lobby cabinet.

Church Conference: Wednesday, September 29, in person and via Zoom; meal served at 5:00 p.m., meeting at 6:15 p.m. You can find the Zoom link in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice), by email (dmast@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485), all by noon on Mondays. Menu for September 29: baked spaghetti and veggie medley.

Be in prayer for the 11 high school students and 4 chaperones returning from their retreats to Arapahoe and to the Outer Banks today, as well as the 8 middle school students and 4 chaperones going on retreat to Caraway Friday, October 1, and returning Sunday, October 3.

Our annual meal-packing event with Rise Against Hunger will be held Sunday, October 10, at the Rise warehouse at 3200 Wellington Court, Suite 111 (near Gresham's Lake) from 1:00-3:00 p.m. More information and the sign-up link are available in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

At the October 20 Centerpoint, Steve Pressley will be presenting a program on his book *Randall Lolley: Thanks for the Memories*. Copies are available for purchase in the church office for \$24 (please note "Lolley Biography" on any checks made out to the church). Steve will sign copies when he is with us. Copies of Dan Day's book *Finding the Gospel: A Pastor's Disappointment and Discovery* are also available (\$15, put "Dan Day Book" in the memo line). At this time, Dan is still planning to speak to us via Zoom on October 13.

The Crop Walk will be held Sunday, October 31. You can support the walk and the FBC team by "walking" or donating. Details may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

Calendar Highlights • September 26–October 3

Sunday, September 26

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese Worship (302)
- 5:00 Youth Choir (310)
- 5:30 Deacons' Meeting (Zoom)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, September 27

- 10:00 Clothing Ministry Open
- 6:00 Music Made in Heaven Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)

Tuesday, September 28

- 10:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 7:30 Pathfinders Sunday School Class (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 29

- 5:00 Meal Served (Parking Lot/Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Music for Children
- 6:15 Church Conference (Fellowship Hall/Zoom)
- 6:45 Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)
- 6:50 Mission Friends/RAs/GAs
- 7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, September 30

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 6:30 College Group (TBD)

Friday, October 1–Sunday, October 3

Middle School Retreat (Caraway)

Sunday, October 3

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship—World Communion Sunday, Deacon Elections (Sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese Worship (off-site)
- 5:00 Youth Choir (310)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)