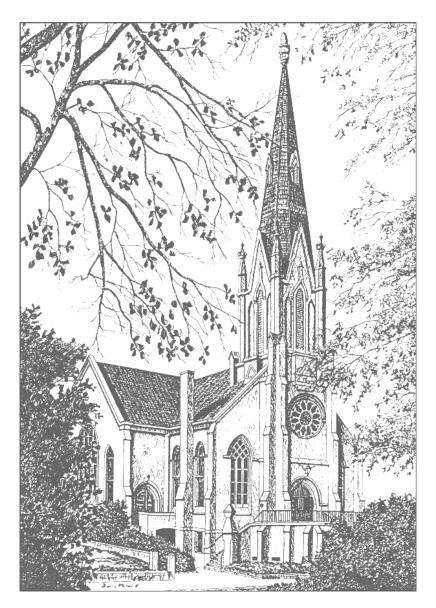
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812



November 21, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP **REIGN OF CHRIST**

November 21, 2021

About our Worship: Today is the Reign of Christ, the last Sunday of the Christian year, a day in which we celebrate the sovereignty of Christ over all of human history, indeed all of creation. This is also the week of Thanksgiving and the last Sunday we will have a stewardship speaker. All of these emphases shape our worship today as we sing praise to the Christ who reigns, lift up prayers of thanksgiving, and hear thoughtful words about stewardship which challenge us to consider whether Christ reigns over all of our lives, including our financial commitments. The sermon explores the language we use to talk about our faith in Christ and what this language conveys. The conversation between Pilate and Jesus, described in the reading from John, provides a focal point for reflection. What words does Jesus use when asked about his kingship or sovereignty? What might this suggest to us about our life and witness?

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

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 "Celebration" **Evening Bells** Fred Gramann The Invocation The Introit "Now Thank We All Our God" Youth Choir Michael Rosewall, arr. (text may be found at Hymn 374) Psalm 93 The Psalm of Praise (responsive) The Lord is sovereign and robed in majesty; the Lord is robed and girded with strength. LEADER: God has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is PEOPLE: established from of old; you are from everlasting. The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift LEADER: up their roaring. More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the PEOPLE: waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord! ALL: Your decrees are very sure; holiness befits your house, 0 Lord, forevermore.

Eleven o'clock

Lynn Lingafelt

CORONATION



LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Karen Poteat

⁹As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹³As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Christian Testament

⁴Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem

"Psalm 100" Robert N. Roth Sanctuary and Youth Choirs

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness,

and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us,

and not we ourselves. We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise;

be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;

and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen.

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

³³Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice." ³⁸Pilate asked him, "What is truth?"

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

*The Hymn of Devotion

"I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say"

KINGSFOLD

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light; look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright." I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun; and in that Light of life I'll walk, till traveling days are done.

> Text: Horatius Bonar, 1846 Tune: Traditional English melody

> > Christopher Chapman

The Sermon

"Words Worthy of the One We Follow"

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 Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy"†

HANOVER



The Stewardship Moment

Philip Lingafelt

DEPARTING TO SERVE

The Benediction

The Response of Gratitude

Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices. Who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices. Now thank we all our God, who still is ours today.

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

Maureen Howell, organ

"Now Thank We All Our God" (from *Cantata 79*) J. S. Bach

*The congregation may stand.

†Words: Used by permission of Mrs. Morfydd Rees.

The tune and text of "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" are in the public domain.

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The Deacon on Call is Kent Dickens. Kent has been a member of First Baptist for 44 years and is a member of the Sanctuary Choir and the Pathfinders Class. He and his wife Carolyn have two married children and four grandchildren.

Today's banner was selected by Mike and Courtney Selna in loving memory of Courtney's mother, Patricia Motz-Frazier, with a donation to the Day Mission Fund.

Our annual stewardship emphasis with the theme "First Fruits" has begun. Pledge cards were mailed last week. We encourage you to respond by November 30 by mailing in a pledge card or by pledging online. As of November 18, we have received 22 pledges totaling \$180,480.

The State Missions Offering goal is \$10,000; we have received \$8,100 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.

Visit the table in the Lewis building lobby for the church library book give-away. Please feel free to take one or more books the library can no longer use.

Centerpoint: next Wednesday, December 1 (no program this week); meal served at 5:00 p.m., program at 6:15 p.m. Next week, we'll be preparing for Hanging of the Greens!

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (<u>www.fbcraleigh.org/</u><u>foodservice</u>), by email (<u>dmast@fbcraleigh.org</u>), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485), all by noon on Mondays. Menu for December 1: Mexican casserole and corn.

During November, our mission project is collecting food (granola bars, cereal, juice boxes, or canned meat/ fish) for the Raleigh branch of the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Place your contributions in the marked drawer of the Lewis Lobby cabinet.

The Clothing Ministry is in dire need of children's coats, all sizes (infants through youth). Place your donations in the bin at the back parking lot door.

Hanging of the Greens will be held on Sunday, December 5, at 6:00 p.m., followed by a reception. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of holiday decorations for our sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes, on our website, or in the *Rose Window Weekly* — must be received with payment by Friday, December 3.

If you can make 2-3 dozen cookies for the Hanging of the Greens reception, please sign up through your Sunday School class. Contact Lynn Loomis (<u>lynn.loomis@gmail.com</u>) with any questions.

Calendar Highlights November 21–28

Sunday, November 21

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (S & YouTube) Japanese Worship (302)
- 5:00 Youth Choir (302)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, November 22

- 5:30 ITC Board Meeting (Conference Room
- 6:00 Music Made in Heaven Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)

Tuesday, November 23

- 10:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 7:00 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary)
- 7:30 Pathfinders Sunday School Class (Zoom)
- Wednesday, November 24–Friday, November 26 Church Office Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

Sunday, November 28

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (S & YouTube) Japanese Worship (302)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Choir/Hanging of the Greens Rehearsal (302)