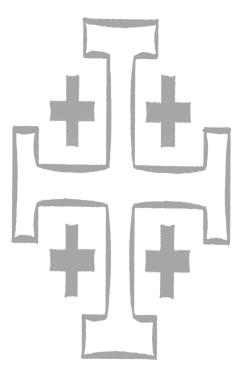
FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812



March 13, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT

March 13, 2022

About our Worship: Today is the Second Sunday in Lent, a season of penitence and reflection as we follow Jesus on the way to the cross. We create space for confession and assurance as we struggle to follow this difficult path. We read texts that point to the challenging nature of discipleship. We reflect upon the Pharisees' warning which anticipates Jesus' suffering and death, and consider the unusual image of God Jesus presents, trusting that there is something helpful and encouraging in this image. We are grateful for the leadership of the Concert Choir of Gardner-Webb University throughout this service.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

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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 and Introit

"Ain't Got Time to Die" Hall Johnson (1888–1970) Gardner-Webb University Concert Choir Joshua Cheney, dir.

from Psalm 27

"Precious Lord, Take my Hand" Roy Ringwald (1910–1995), arr.

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

PEOPLE: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

- LEADER: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after:
- PEOPLE: to live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
- LEADER: to behold the beauty of the Lord,
- PEOPLE: and to inquire in God's temple.
- LEADER: God will hide me and give me shelter in the day of trouble;
- PEOPLE: will conceal me under the cover of a tent; and will set me high on a rock.
- LEADER: Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in God's tent sacrifices with shouts of joy;
- PEOPLE: I will sing and make melody to the Lord.

Eleven o'clock

Warren Howell



*The Invocation

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession "Hide Thou Not Thy Face from Us" Richard Farrant (1530–1580) Hide not thou thy face from us, O Lord, and cast not off thy servant in thy displeasure; for we confess our sins unto thee and hide not our unrighteousness. For thy mercy's sake, deliver us from all our sins.

The Prayer of Confession (unison)

We know that our citizenship is in heaven, O God, but often we live as if our loyalties lie elsewhere. We set our minds on earthly things, we measure our lives by secular standards, we place our trust in realities we can see and touch. We want to trust in your promises, but as Abram begins to question in fear what a delay in blessing might mean, we struggle to stand firm in our faith in the absence of immediate fulfillment. Forgive our impatience and misunderstanding. Remind us that faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. Hear our confession as an expression of a deep yearning to grow in faith.

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Scripture says that everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. Everyone who seeks mercy will receive it. We are loved just as we are and forgiven for our every shortcoming. Thanks be to God!



LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

Charles Petty

¹After these things the word of the Lord came to Abram in a vision, "Do not be afraid, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." ²But Abram said, "O Lord God, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³And Abram said, "You have given me no offspring, and so a slave born in my house is to be my heir." ⁴But the word of the Lord came to him, "This man shall not be your heir; no one but your very own issue shall be your heir." ⁵He brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then he said to him, "So shall your descendants be." ⁶And he believed the Lord; and the Lord reckoned it to him as righteousness.

⁷Then he said to him, "I am the Lord who brought you from Ur of the Chaldeans, to give you this land to possess." ⁸But he said, "O Lord God, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" ⁹He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰He brought him all these and cut them in two, laying each half over against the other; but he did not cut the birds in two. ¹¹And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

¹²As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell upon Abram, and a deep and terrifying darkness descended upon him.

¹⁷When the sun had gone down and it was dark, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. ¹⁸On that day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your descendants I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Christian Testament

Philippians 3:17-4:1

¹⁷Brothers and sisters, join in imitating me, and observe those who live according to the example you have in us. ¹⁸For many live as enemies of the cross of Christ; I have often told you of them, and now I tell you even with tears. ¹⁹Their end is destruction; their god is the belly; and their glory is in their shame; their minds are set on earthly things. ²⁰But our citizenship is in heaven, and it is from there that we are expecting a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹He will transform the body of our humiliation that it may be conformed to the body of his glory, by the power that also enables him to make all things subject to himself. ¹Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord. PEOPLE: Thanks be to God. The Anthem

"Molytva za Ukrayinu (Prayer for Ukraine)" Mykola Lysenko (1842–1912)

Lord, oh the Great and Almighty, Protect our beloved Ukraine, Bless her with freedom and light Of your holy rays.

With learning and knowledge enlighten Us, your children small, In love pure and everlasting Let us, oh Lord, grow. We pray, oh Lord Almighty, Protect our beloved Ukraine, Grant our people and country All your kindness and grace.

Bless us with freedom, bless us with wisdom, Guide into kind world, Bless us, oh Lord, with good fortune For ever and evermore.

— Oleksandr Yakovych Konysky, 1885

Christopher Chapman

The Morning Prayer

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.

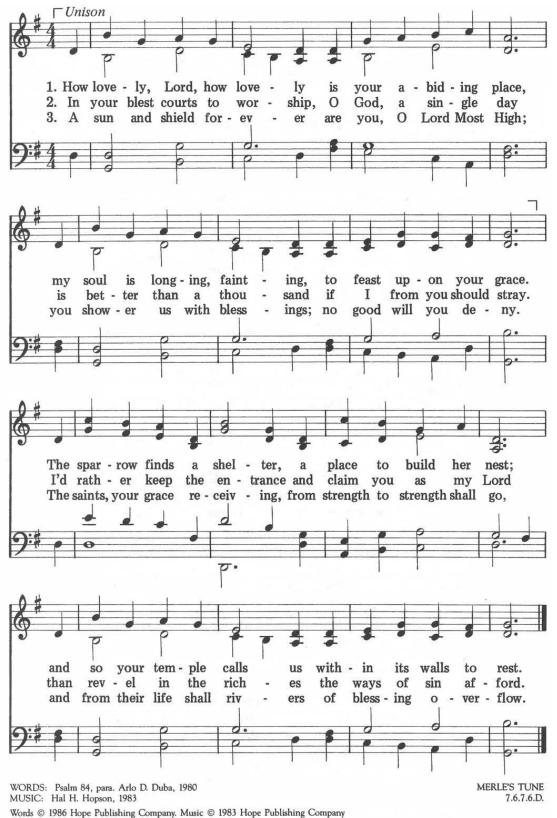
The Gospel

³¹At that very hour some Pharisees came and said to him, "Get away from here, for Herod wants to kill you." ³²He said to them, "Go and tell that fox for me, 'Listen, I am casting out demons and performing cures today and tomorrow, and on the third day I finish my work. ³³Yet today, tomorrow, and the next day I must be on my way, because it is impossible for a prophet to be killed outside of Jerusalem.' ³⁴Jerusalem, Jerusalem, the city that kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to it! How often have I desired to gather your children together as a hen gathers her brood under her wings, and you were not willing! ³⁵See, your house is left to you. And I tell you, you will not see me until the time comes when you say, 'Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.'"

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Luke 13:31–35



words @ 1900 Hope I dousining Company. Music @ 1909 Hope I dousini

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

"An Unusual yet Helpful Image of God"

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, We Confess We Turn Away"

O WALY WALY

Lord, we confess we turn away The very ones we need today. God's prophets speak out loud and clear, Yet prophets still aren't welcomed here.

You grieved for old Jerusalem For you were like a mother hen Who brought her brood beneath her wings — While they were drawn to other things.

Lord, call us out and draw us in when we would rather side with sin — Let the prophetic things you say still challenge how we live this day.

May we who listen to your voice, Be still, be wise, then make a choice. You call us to a life that's new; Lord, may we now return to you.

- Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2019

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Benediction (responsive)†

Church Covenant

In recognition of our church's 210th anniversary.

- LEADER: "As we trust we have been brought by divine grace to embrace the Lord Jesus Christ, and by the influence of His Spirit to give ourselves up to Him,
- PEOPLE: So we do now solemnly covenant with each other, that, God enabling us, we will walk together in brotherly love;
- LEADER: That we will exercise a Christian care and watchfulness over each other, and faithfully warn, rebuke, and admonish one another, as the case shall require;
- PEOPLE: That we will not forsake the assembling of ourselves together nor omit the great duty of prayer, both for ourselves and for others;
- LEADER: That we will participate in each other's joys, and endeavor with tenderness and sympathy, to bear each other's burdens and sorrows;
- PEOPLE: That we will earnestly endeavor to bring up such as may be under our care, in the nurture and admonition of the Lord;
- LEADER: That we will seek divine aid to enable us to walk circumspectly and watchfully in the world, denying ungodliness and every worldly lust;
- PEOPLE: That we will strive together for the support of a faithful evangelical ministry among us;
- LEADER: That we will endeavor, by example and effort, to win souls to Christ;

PEOPLE: And, through life, amidst evil report and good report, seek to live to the glory of Him who hath called us out of darkness into his marvelous light."

LEADER: "And may the God of peace, who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, that great Shepherd of the sheep, through the blood of the everlasting covenant, make us perfect in every good work, to do His will, working in us that which is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ to whom be glory, forever and ever. Amen."

*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

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" Gail Ann Wasson Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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†First Baptist Church Covenant, Adopted December 21, 1823; Revised February 27, 1873.

The Deacon on Call is Charles Petty. A 48-year member of First Baptist, Charles is a teacher of the John Hiott Fellowship class and is a member of the Properties Committee. He and his wife Jamie have two sons and six grandchildren.

The pulpit banner today is sponsored by Jim and Jennie Keown in honor of all front line medical workers who have worked tirelessly and faithfully during the pandemic. A donation has been made to the Day Mission Fund.

Sympathy to the family of Gerri Harris, who died Sunday, March 6.

We are led in worship today by the Concert Choir of Gardner-Webb University. A select ensemble of mixed voices, the Concert Choir is on their spring tour, offering performances in various regions of the state. They are under the direction of Dr. Joshua Cheney, director and accompanied by Mr. Timothy Scruggs. GWU is a Baptist-founded private liberal arts university in Boiling Springs, NC.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. We have received \$6,693 toward our goal of \$20,000.

CBF has established a relief fund in response to the crisis in Ukraine. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details; you may donate at their website (<u>www.cbfblog.com/2022/02/28/cbf-establishes-ukraine -relief-fund/</u>).

We are collecting children's clothes (Kindergarten through 12th grade) for *Note in the Pocket* all through March. Used clothing is welcome as long as it is clean and in good condition. Socks, underwear, or shoes need to be new. Put your donations in the marked bin in the Lewis Lobby anytime during the month.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, March 16, in person and via Zoom; meal served at 5:00pm, program at 6:15pm. We are continuing our series with Timothy Brock exploring the interaction between art and Christian spirituality. This week, Dr. Brock will facilitate a study of The Parable of the Prodigal Son using various artistic illustrations of the passage. See *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.

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 March 16: Salad Night (served with rolls).

The CBFNC Annual Gathering will be held Thursday, March 17, and Friday, March 18, in person at Trinity Baptist on Six Forks Road and online, with the theme of *The God Who Sees*. Find more information and the registration link in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

Easter is April 17. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of Easter lilies for our sanctuary, with the remaining funds benefitting the Day Mission Fund. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes, on our website, or by following the link in the *Rose Window Weekly* — must be received with payment by Wednesday, April 6.

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Calendar Highlights

March 13-20

Sunday, March 13	Daylight Saving Time Returns

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube) Japanese Worship (226)
- 12:00 Lunch for Gardner-Webb University Concert Choir (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 Youth Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, March 14

- 10:00 Clothing Ministry Open
- 6:00 MMiH Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)
- 6:15 Finance Committee Meeting (Conference Room/Zoom)

Tuesday, March 15

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

Wednesday, March 16

- 5:00 Meal Served (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Mission Friends/RAs/GAs
- Handbell Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Middle School Small Group (Blue Room)
- 6:45 Children's Music (302/Music Suite)
- 7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Sanctuary/Choir Room)

Thursday, March 17

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 6:30 HS Bible Study (Wade home)

Sunday, March 20

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube) Japanese Worship (226)
- 12:00 GA Tea (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:00 Youth Choir (Choir Room)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)