

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



May 22, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 22, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Sixth Sunday of Easter, a season in which we celebrate the good news of resurrection and ponder its implications for our lives. We find evidence of God's ongoing work of renewal in John's story about Jesus healing a man in the pool near the Sheep Gate in Jerusalem, Acts' narrative about the faith of Lydia, and Revelation's vision of the new city of Jerusalem in which there is only joy and light. The latter offers a spoiler on the human story, it tells us how it will end, but as the sermon asserts, there are times when it is "O.K." to know how a story ends; in fact, more than "O.K." We are led in music by children, youth, and adults, which is an inspiration yet also a sign of the reality that the good news is for all people of all ages. We lift up prayers for the world, that the powers of resurrection would bring new life and hope wherever there is darkness and despair.

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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

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"  
Michael Hassell

Maureen Howell

The Introit

"Rejoice in the Lord Always"  
Richard Gieseke

Grade-School Choir  
Becky Mercer, dir.

Rejoice in the Lord always; and again, I say rejoice.  
Let your moderation be known to all people. The Lord is at hand.  
— Philippians 4:4-5

"I Was Glad"  
Warren Howell

I was glad when they said unto me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord.  
This is the day that the Lord has made; I will rejoice and be glad!  
Make a joyful noise unto our God; worship God with gladness.  
Come into God's presence with a melody of praise!  
— from Psalms 122, 118, 100

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: May God be gracious to us, sisters and brothers.

PEOPLE: **As we continually praise our Lord, may God's blessing be upon us; may God's face shine upon us.**

LEADER: We have come together for worship, with music and voice, gathered in by God's hope and grace.

PEOPLE: **In the light of God's love, darkness and death are defeated. Praise God's holy name!**

The Invocation

1. Come, Chris-tians, join to sing Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 2. Come, lift your hearts on high, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 3. Praise yet our Christ a - gain, Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

loud praise to Christ our King; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 let prais - es fill the sky; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 life shall not end the strain; Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!

Let all, with heart and voice, be - fore his throne re - joice;  
 He is our Guide and Friend; to us he'll con - de - scend;  
 On heav - en's bliss - ful shore his good-ness we'll a - dore,

praise is his gra-cious choice: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 his love shall nev - er end: Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!  
 sing - ing for - ev - er - more, “Al - le - lu - ia! A - men!”

WORDS: Christian H. Bateman, 1843  
 MUSIC: Traditional Spanish melody; arr. David Evans, 1927  
 Music used by permission of Oxford University Press

MADRID  
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## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 16:9–15

Britt Cobb

<sup>9</sup>During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." <sup>10</sup>When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them. <sup>11</sup>We set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, <sup>12</sup>and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. <sup>13</sup>On the sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there was a place of prayer; and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. <sup>14</sup>A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. <sup>15</sup>When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5

<sup>10</sup>And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God. <sup>22</sup>I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. <sup>23</sup>And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. <sup>24</sup>The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. <sup>25</sup>Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. <sup>26</sup>People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. <sup>27</sup>But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life.

<sup>1</sup>Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb <sup>2</sup>through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. <sup>3</sup>Nothing accursed will be found there any more. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; <sup>4</sup>they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. <sup>5</sup>And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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 Anthem

“All Things Work Together for Good”  
John Carter

Youth Choir

All things work together for good to those who love the Lord; to those who are called according to his purpose.

— Romans 8:28

The Gospel

John 5:1–9

<sup>1</sup>After this there was a festival of the Jews, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>Now in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate there is a pool, called in Hebrew Beth-zatha, which has five porticoes. <sup>3</sup>In these lay many invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed. <sup>5</sup>One man was there who had been ill for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup>When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be made well?” <sup>7</sup>The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up; and while I am making my way, someone else steps down ahead of me.” <sup>8</sup>Jesus said to him, “Stand up, take your mat and walk.” <sup>9</sup>At once the man was made well, and he took up his mat and began to walk. Now that day was a sabbath.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

Congregation joins on stanza 2



|                             |                          |
|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. For ev - ery - one born, | a place at the ta - ble, |
| 2. For wom - an and man,    | a place at the ta - ble, |
| 3. For young and for old,   | a place at the ta - ble, |
| 4. For just and un - just,  | a place at the ta - ble, |
| 5. For ev - ery - one born, | a place at the ta - ble, |



|                           |                           |
|---------------------------|---------------------------|
| for ev - ery - one born,  | clean wa - ter and bread, |
| re - vis - ing the roles, | de - cid - ing the share, |
| a voice to be heard,      | a part in the song,       |
| a - bus - er, a - bused,  | with need to for - give,  |
| to live with - out fear,  | and sim - ply to be,      |



|                           |                                |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a shel - ter, a space,    | a safe place for grow - ing,   |
| with wis - dom and grace, | di - vid - ing the pow - er,   |
| the hands of a child      | in hands that are wrin - kled, |
| in an - ger, in hurt,     | a mind - set of mer - cy,      |
| to work, to speak out,    | to wit - ness and wor - ship,  |



|                          |                          |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| for ev - ery - one born, | a star o - ver - head,   |
| for wom - an and man,    | a sys - tem that's fair, |
| for young and for old,   | the right to be - long.  |
| for just and un - just,  | a new way to live,       |
| for ev - ery - one born, | the right to be free.    |



*Refrain*

And God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus-tice, and



joy, com-pas - sion and peace: yes,



God will de-light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,



jus-tice and joy!

“Sometimes It’s ‘O.K.’ To Know How a Story Ends”

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

“Shall We Gather at the River?”

HANSON PLACE

1. Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have  
 2. Ere we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den  
 3. Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will

trod, with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing  
 down; grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro -  
 cease; soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the

*Refrain*  
 by the throne of God? Yes, we'll gath - er at the  
 vide a robe and crown. mel - o - dy of peace.

riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,  
 gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

## DEPARTING TO SERVE

\*The Benediction

\*The Response

\*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

“Like a River Glorious”

Maureen Howell

Raymond Haan

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Call to Worship (based upon Psalm 67 and Revelation 21) is contributed by Daniel Glaze, Worship Resources, [Faithement.net](http://Faithement.net).

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The sanctuary banner is sponsored in loving memory of Harold and Frances Rhodes and Henry and Stennett McLeod by Bob, Mary Powell, J. D., and Sarah Catherine Rhodes with a donation to the Day Mission Fund.

The Deacon on Call is Britt Cobb. A 27-year member of First Baptist and first-term deacon, Britt and his wife Ann live in Raleigh.

Church Conference: Wednesday, May 25, in person and via Zoom; meal served at 5:00pm, meeting at 6:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for Zoom link and documents.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website ([www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice](http://www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice)), by email ([dmast@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:dmast@fbcraleigh.org)), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). Menu for May 25: breakfast for supper.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. We have received \$10,758 toward our goal of \$20,000.

Music Made in Heaven, a community handbell group that rehearses here at FBC, cordially invites you to attend their annual spring concert, "The Gathering," today at 2pm in the Fellowship Hall. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details about the group and the concert.

Class of 2022, congratulations! If you have graduated from college, please email Deborah ([dmast@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:dmast@fbcraleigh.org)) the following information by Friday, May 27: graduate's name, college, degree, and your relationship to the graduate, and any family connections within our church.

During the month of May, we will be collecting personal wet wipes and baby wipes to be used by our clothing ministry clients. The clothing ministry gets many requests for wet wipes from their homeless clients to use when they can't access showers. You may place your donations in the marked drawer in the Lewis Lobby cabinet.

To facilitate your giving to FBC, use the QR codes below to link to the website for our main electronic giving, VANCO Faith, and the page that lists all our e-giving options and instructions.

Use this QR code to e-give to FBC on line:



Use this code to e-give through PayPal and other options:



## **Calendar Highlights**

**May 22-29**

Sunday, May 22

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)  
Japanese Worship (226)
- 12:15 Deacons' Meeting (220/Zoom)
- 2:00 Music Made in Heaven Concert and Reception (Sanctuary/Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Youth Supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth Program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, May 23

- 10:00 Clothing Ministry Closed

Tuesday, May 24

- 10:00 Staff Meeting (Conference Room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)

Wednesday, May 25

- 12:00 FBC Preschool Graduation (FH)
- 5:00 Meal Served (FH)
- 6:15 Church Conference (FH)
- 7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, May 26

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Sunday, May 29

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Filomena Baby Dedication/M. Archer Baptism (Sanctuary & YouTube)  
Japanese Worship (226)