

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



May 8, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 8, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, a season in which we celebrate the good news of resurrection and consider its implications for our lives. The music for this service reflects the shepherd imagery found in Psalm 23 and the reading from John, providing a reminder of the promise that God who makes new life possible also holds us and cares for us until we experience the fullness of that new life. The sermon explores the reading from Acts, a story about a woman believed to be dead who is brought back to life, a sign of the ongoing power of resurrection which convinces many to believe in Jesus. We will focus on the woman herself, Dorcas, and examine who she is and what her example might have to offer us in the church today. We pray for all who need a shepherd's care, for all who need new life, and for families of all shapes and sizes on this day our culture marks as Mother's Day, recognizing the many different experiences people have with mothers and the varied realities of motherhood, desired or realized, for women.

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

"Prelude on BEACH SPRING"
Philip Young

Sue Crocker

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: Gathered for worship, may our ears be attuned to the voice of the Good Shepherd.

PEOPLE: **God calls us by name; we know God's voice. When I am lost, God will not leave me.**

LEADER: Gathered for worship, may our souls be restored.

PEOPLE: **God calls us, claims us, and leads us to rest beside still waters.**

LEADER: Gathered for worship, may we embrace the gift of abundant life.

PEOPLE: **We come to worship God with glad and generous hearts.**

The Invocation

1. Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, to his feet your
 2. Praise Him for his grace and fa - vor to all peo - ple
 3. Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; all our hopes and
 4. An - gels, help us to a - dore him, you be - hold him

trib - ute bring; ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
 in dis - tress. Praise him, still the same for - ev - er,
 fears he knows. In his hands he gen - tly bears us,
 face to face. Sun and moon bow down be - fore him;

ev - er - more his prais - es sing. Al - le - lu - ia!
 slow to chide and swift to bless. Al - le - lu - ia!
 res - cues us from all our foes. Al - le - lu - ia!
 all who dwell in time and space. Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows!
 Al - le - lu - ia! Praise with us the God of grace!

WORDS: Henry F. Lyte, 1834, alt.; para. of Psalm 103
 MUSIC: John Goss, 1869

LAUDA ANIMA
 8.7.8.7.8.7.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 9:36–43

³⁶Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. ³⁷At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. ³⁸Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, "Please come to us without delay." ³⁹So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. ⁴⁰Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, "Tabitha, get up." Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. ⁴¹He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. ⁴²This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. ⁴³Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

Revelation 7:9–17

⁹After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. ¹⁰They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!" ¹¹And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God, ¹²singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."

¹³Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" ¹⁴I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. ¹⁵For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. ¹⁶They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; ¹⁷for the Lamb at the center of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Loving Shepherd of thy sheep,
keep thy lamb, in safety keep;
nothing can thy power withstand,
none can pluck me from thy hand.

I would bless thee every day,
gladly all thy will obey,
like thy blessèd ones above
happy in thy precious love.

Loving Shepherd, ever near,
teach thy lamb thy voice to hear;
suffer not my steps to stray
from the straight and narrow way.

Where thou leadest I would go,
walking in thy steps below,
till before my Father's throne
I shall know as I am known.

— Jane E. Leeson, 1842

The Gospel

John 10:22–30

²²At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, ²³and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. ²⁴So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, “How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.” ²⁵Jesus answered, “I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father’s name testify to me; ²⁶but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. ²⁷My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. ²⁸I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. ²⁹What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father’s hand. ³⁰The Father and I are one.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

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.**

1. In heaven-ly love a - bid - ing, no change my heart shall fear;
 2. Wher-ev - er he may guide me no want shall turn me back;
 3. Green pas - tures are be - fore me, which yet I have not seen;

and safe is such con - fid - ing, for noth-ing chang-es here.
 my Shep - herd is be - side me and noth-ing can I lack:
 bright skies will soon be o'er me where dark-est clouds have been;

The storm may roar a - round me, my heart may low be laid;
 his wis - dom ev - er wak - eth, his sight is nev - er dim;
 my hope I can - not meas - ure, my path to life is free;

but God is round a - bout me, and can I be dis - mayed?
 he knows the way he tak - eth, and I will walk with him.
 my Sav - ior has my treas - ure, and he will walk with me.

WORDS: Anna L. Waring, 1850
 MUSIC: Traditional Finnish melody; arr. David Evans, 1927
 Music used by permission of Oxford University Press

NYLAND
 7.6.7.6.D.

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

“We Are Pilgrims on a Journey”

BEACH SPRING

**We are pilgrims on a journey, here together on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
I will hold the Christ-light for you in the night-time of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.**

**Will you let me be your servant, let me be as Christ to you?
Pray that I might have the grace to let you be my servant, too.
When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony,
born of all we’ve known together of Christ’s love and agony.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey, here together on the road;
We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.
I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I’ll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow till we’ve seen this journey through.**

Words: Richard Gillard, 1977

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

“The Heavens Declare”

Sue Crocker

Benedetto Marcello

*The congregation may stand.

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The sanctuary flowers are given today in loving memory of Bill Simpson by Edith and Steve.

The Deacon on Call is Eddie Sasser. A 25-year member of First Baptist, Eddie is a member of the Formations Sunday School class. He serves as chair and Church Council rep for the Properties Committee. Eddie and his wife, Rebecca, have two children, Ella and Nathan.

Sympathy to Max Baldwin, John Baldwin and his family, and Ann Harris and her family on the Wednesday, May 4, death of wife and mother Doris Baldwin.

We thank Sue Crocker for being our substitute organist this morning.

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.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, May 11; meal served at 5:00pm, program at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us for our annual Children's Missions Celebration with the theme of *Mission Olympics*.

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). Menu for May 11: Mexican taco bowl.

There will be a planning meeting for the Thirty-niners group (FBC 55+ Seniors) in the Fellowship Hall on Thursday, May 12, at 10:30am, with lunch following at noon. Contact Carl Bailey to make your reservation (919-797-0202).

Theology on Tap is starting back up, and we would love for you to join us! This dinner group will meet on the third Thursday of the month, beginning May 19 at the Raleigh Times. All are welcome to join at 6:00pm for dinner, conversation and beverages! From there, the group will decide on a location for June.

A Celebration of the Life of Dr. Randall Lolley will be held on Saturday, May 14, at 1:00pm, at First Baptist Church, Greensboro (1000 West Friendly Avenue, 27401).

Our end-of-the-year picnic at Pullen Park is May 18 from 5:00–7:00pm. Make your reservation on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice). Stay after the meal for a scavenger hunt at 6:00pm! More details available in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

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 8–15

Sunday, May 8

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese Worship (226)

Monday, May 9

- 10:00 Clothing Ministry Closed
- 5:00 Dream Team (301)
- 6:00 MMiH Rehearsal (302)
- 6:15 Finance Committee Meeting (CR/Zoom)

Tuesday, May 10

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

Wednesday, May 11

- 5:00 Meal Served (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Children's Missions Celebration (Fellowship Hall)
- 7:30 Adult Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

Thursday, May 12

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-niners (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 HS Bible Study (Wade Home)

Saturday, May 14

- 1:00 Celebrating the Life of Dr. Randall Lolley (FBC Greensboro)

Sunday, May 15

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