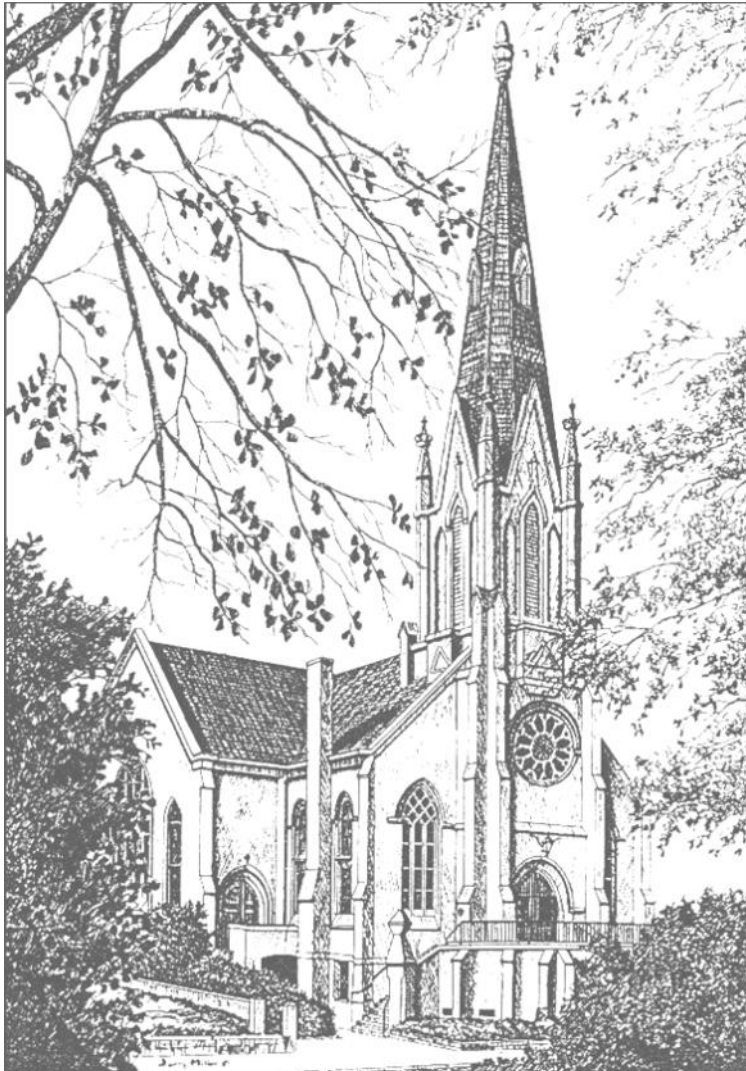


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 17, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 17, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. The lectionary texts explore an array of themes — the centrality of Christ and the nature of faithfulness, the roles of service and proclaiming the word, the relationship between right worship and right living, and the significance of hospitality. Various worship elements will reflect each of these themes, but the sermon will explore the readings from Genesis and Luke, in particular the view of women in ancient times, as revealed in these texts, and how this view compares to contemporary views. We would like to think we have embraced a more egalitarian view of gender, but that perspective is still in large part aspirational. In many ways, as is often the case, Jesus is still ahead of us.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Michael Hood

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 in F-sharp major, BWV 858”
J.S. Bach

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based upon Psalm 15

LEADER: O God, who may abide in your tent? Who may dwell on your holy hill?

PEOPLE: **Those who walk blamelessly, and do what is right, and speak the truth from their heart;**

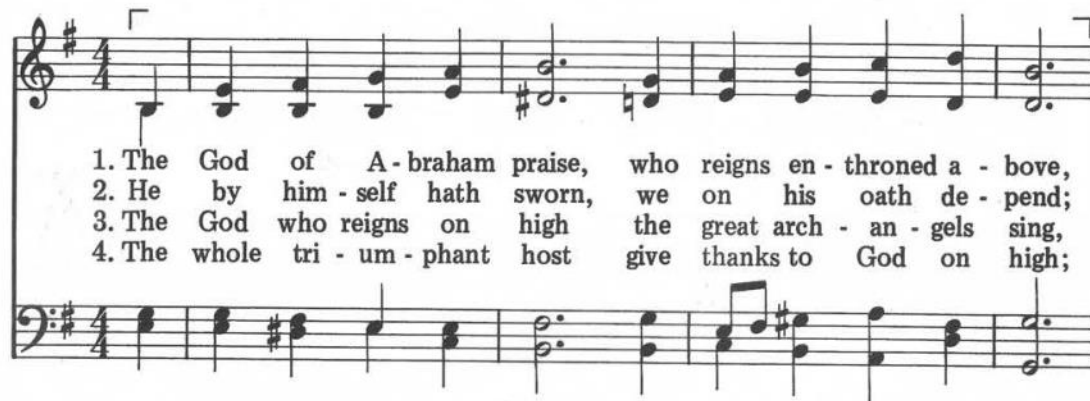
LEADER: who do not slander with their tongue, and do no evil to their friends, nor take up a reproach against their neighbors;

PEOPLE: **in whose eyes the wicked are despised, but who honor those who fear God; who stand by their oath even to their hurt;**

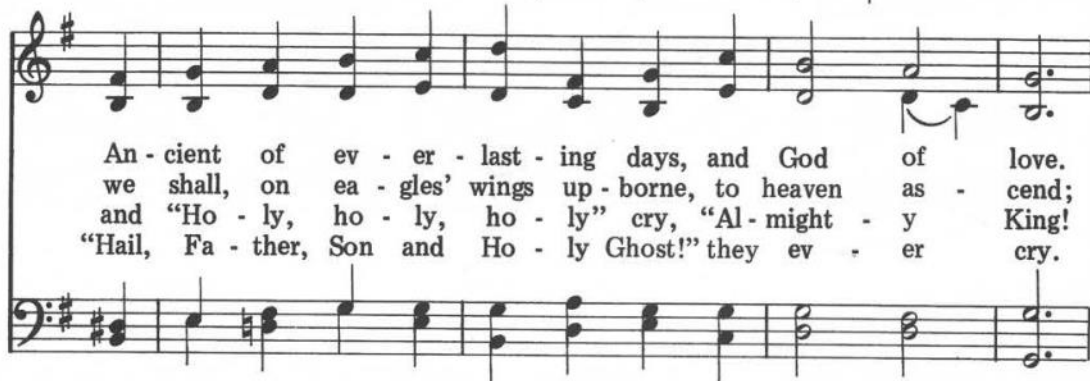
LEADER: who do not lend money at interest, and do not take a bribe against the innocent.

PEOPLE: **Those who do these things shall never be moved.**

The Invocation



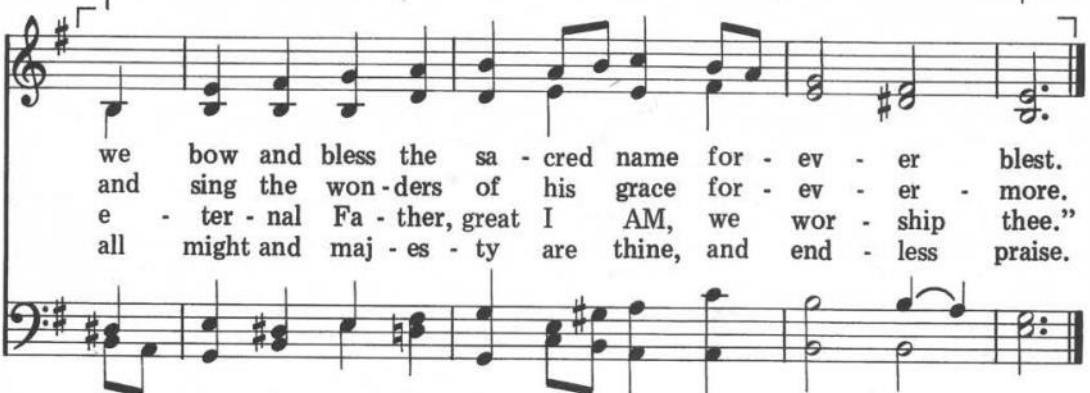
1. The God of A - braham praise, who reigns en - throned a - bove,
 2. He by him - self hath sworn, we on his oath de - pend;
 3. The God who reigns on high the great arch - an - gels sing,
 4. The whole tri - um - phant host give thanks to God on high;



An - cient of ev - er - last - ing days, and God of love.
 we shall, on ea - gles' wings up - borne, to heaven as - cend;
 and "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly" cry, "Al - might - y King!
 "Hail, Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost!" they ev - er cry.



Je - ho - vah, great I AM, by earth and heaven con - fessed:
 we shall be - hold his face, we shall his power a - dore,
 Who was and is the same, and ev - er - more shall be:
 Hail, A - braham's God and mine! With heaven our songs we raise;



we bow and bless the sa - cred name for - ev - er blest.
 and sing the won - ders of his grace for - ev - er - more.
 e - ter - nal Fa - ther, great I AM, we wor - ship thee."
 all might and maj - es - ty are thine, and end - less praise.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Genesis 18:1–10

Hayden James

¹The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. ²He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. ³He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. ⁴Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. ⁵Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." ⁶And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." ⁷Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. ⁸Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

⁹They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." ¹⁰Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Colossians 1:15–28

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. ²¹And you who were once estranged and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²²he has now reconciled in his fleshly body through death, so as to present you holy and blameless and irreproachable before him— ²³provided that you continue securely established and steadfast in the faith, without shifting from the hope promised by the gospel that you heard, which has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven. I, Paul, became a servant of this gospel. ²⁴I am now rejoicing in my sufferings for your sake, and in my flesh I am completing what is lacking in Christ's afflictions for the sake of his body, that is, the church. ²⁵I became its servant according to God's commission that was given to me for you, to make the word of God fully known, ²⁶the mystery that has been hidden throughout the ages and generations but has now been revealed to his saints. ²⁷To them God chose to make known how great among the Gentiles are the riches of the glory of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. ²⁸It is he whom we proclaim, warning everyone and teaching everyone in all wisdom, so that we may present everyone mature in Christ.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

(singing . . .)

**Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!**

Words and Music: Clara H. Scott, 1895

The Anthem

“Leaning on the Everlasting Arms”

July Choir

A.J. Showalter/Maureen Howell, arr.

Rhonda Lowe, keyboard

Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

O how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
O how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. [Refrain]

What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms.

Text: E.A. Hoffman, 1887

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.**

³⁸Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village, where a woman named Martha welcomed him into her home. ³⁹She had a sister named Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet and listened to what he was saying. ⁴⁰But Martha was distracted by her many tasks; so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her then to help me." ⁴¹But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things; ⁴²there is need of only one thing. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

"Christ Beside Me"

BUNESSAN

Elaine Holley, violin

Unison

1. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -
 2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on
 4. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -

hind me - king of my heart; Christ with - in me,
 round me - shield in the strife; Christ in my sleep - ing,
 all tongues tell - ing of me; Christ be the vi - sion
 hind me - king of my heart; Christ with - in me,

Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me - nev - er to part.
 Christ in my sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing - light of my life.
 in eyes that see me, in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.
 Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me - nev - er to part.

WORDS: Adapt. James Quinn, 1969, alt.; from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*
 MUSIC: Traditional Gaelic melody; arr. David Evans, 1927
 Music used by permission of Oxford University Press

BUNESSAN
 5.5.5.4.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

“You Made Us in Your Image”

AURELIA

**You made us in your image, O God of love and grace;
You treasure every person in every time and place.
You call your world to follow — to see in every one
A person loved and cherished, your daughter or your son.**

**Your will is for your people to live in safety here,
With dignity and justice, and free from want or fear.
In families and nations, may all know freedom's song;
May all enjoy the blessing to choose where they belong.**

**You warn against enslavement and things that would oppress.
You call for living wages, for times of welcome rest.
You call for education for all — not just a few;
You teach us: Welcome strangers, for so we welcome you.**

**You made us to be equal; you made us to be free —
To speak the truth with courage, to change society,
To follow our own conscience, to choose the words we pray.
O God, may all your children enjoy these gifts each day.**

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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

“BUNESSAN”

Maureen Howell

Lloyd Larson

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Hayden James. A 42-year member, Hayden is currently serving as chair of the Food Trailer Board and is a teacher for the Pathfinders Sunday School class. He and his wife Cathy have two children, Will and Sarah.

The sanctuary flowers for today's worship service are given by Alvah Ward, Jr., in memory of Rachel T. Ward in honor of her July birthday.

Sympathy to the family of Jimmy Thompson, who died this past week.

Be in prayer for the 4 students and 2 adults going on the senior trip to Atlanta, which leaves Thursday, July 21, and returns on Monday, July 25.

It's time for JULY CHOIR! For the next two Sundays, the Sanctuary Choir is moving practices to Sunday mornings and invites you to join them — breakfast after practices, no robes, and singing from the sanctuary floor instead of the choir loft! We will gather at 9:05am in the choir room for a 40-minute rehearsal of the music for that day only. Contact Warren (whowell@fbcraleigh.org) with any questions.

As we plan for the resumption of Wednesday night programming in September, the ministerial staff would like some input from you. Your input will be greatly appreciated by us and by the Adult Ministries Council. Please go to our online survey at <https://forms.gle/8qAQT7G7zCNr5okx8>.

Are you interested in being in a film at FBC Raleigh? Join us today for a few hours right after church to be in a scene in *Palm Sunday*, a film inspired by the true story of Charles Earl, who tried to become a member of First Baptist Church in the 1960s. Lunch will be provided in the Fellowship Hall after worship today for everyone who participates.

We are in need of an old electric typewriter to use during VBS. If you have one to lend, please contact Lynn (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org).

Theology on Tap meets on the third Thursday of the month, and will meet next on July 21 at Raleigh Times (14 E. Hargett Street). All are welcome to join at 6pm for dinner, conversation, and beverages!

The VARIETY SHOW & ICE CREAM SOCIAL is looking for performers for the upcoming variety show on August 21. Email Warren (whowell@fbcraleigh.org) by July 24 to sign up or if you have any questions. Email Lynn Loomis (lynn.loomis@gmail.com) if you'd like to bring some homemade ice cream.

For the July mission project, in conjunction with this year's Vacation Bible School, we will collect donations for Camp Hope. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for items needed as well as e-giving options. You may bring your donations during VBS later in the month or place them in the marked drawer in the cabinet in the Lewis Lobby anytime during July.

The Heck-Jones offering provides a way for our congregation to connect to great mission work with ties to our church. Together we can make a difference in the lives of many. As of July 14, we have received \$2,073.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. We have received \$12,133 toward our goal of \$20,000.

Calendar Highlights July 17-24

Sunday, July 17

- 9:05 Adult choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 9:40 Choir breakfast
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese worship (226)

Monday, July 18

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open

Tuesday, July 19

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 5:30 Adult Ministries Council (Zoom)

Thursday, July 21–Monday, July 25

Senior trip to Atlanta

Thursday, July 21

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Raleigh Times, E. Hargett Street)

Sunday, July 24

- 9:05 Adult choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 9:40 Choir breakfast
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Joshua Carter baptism (sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese worship (226)
- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (Building-wide)

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:

