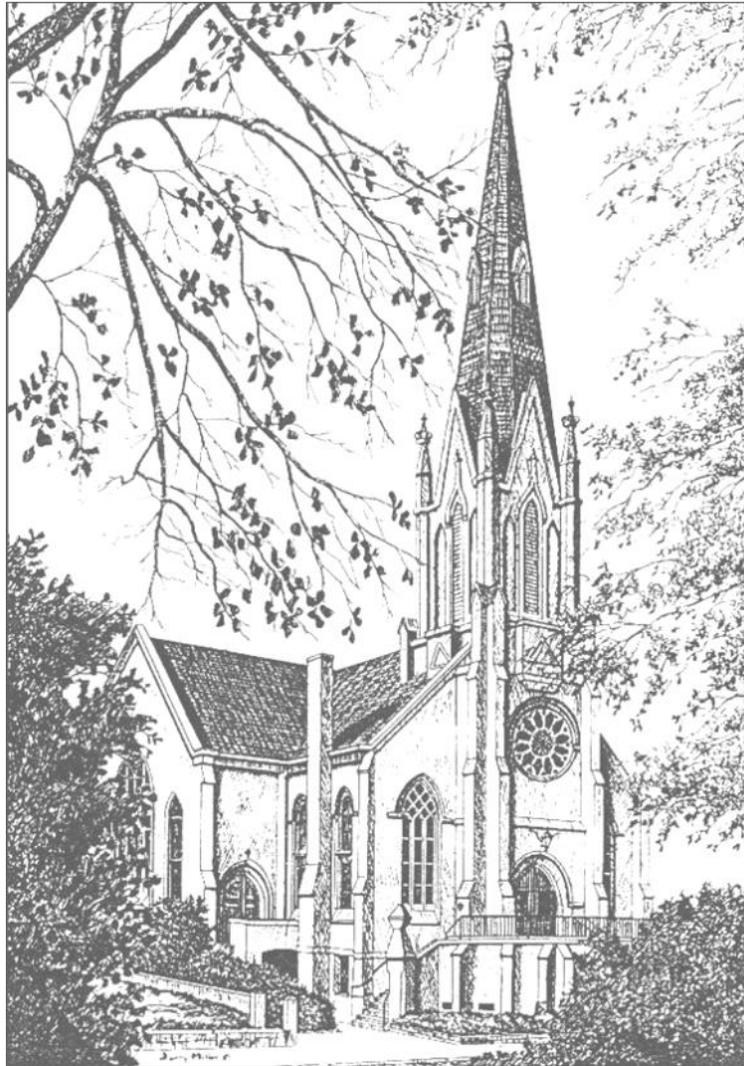


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



August 28, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE TWELFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 28, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: We begin worship on this Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost with baptism, a key beginning place of blessing and commitment on the Christian journey. Other elements in the service address other aspects of the journey – acts of praise and thanksgiving, prayers of petition and intercession, a calling to service and love. The sermon, which is based on the reading from Hebrews, examines some basic habits of Christian faith that are always appropriate, even in desperate times – things like hospitality and mutual love, concern for the marginalized and sharing with others, personal integrity and faithfulness to God. We worship God not only through our words and songs of praise, but also through our faithful pursuit of these habits which the author of Hebrews says are pleasing to God.

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

“Voluntary on GERMANY”
Alice Jordan

Maureen Howell

The Invitation to the Ritual (responsive)¹

LEADER: At the creation God’s Spirit swept over the surface of the waters. God divided the waters into sky and sea and created the dry land. God called forth light and brought life from the face of the deep.

PEOPLE: God our creator makes all things new: Give God thanks and praise.

LEADER: God brought Noah, his family, and all kinds of creatures through the waters of the flood to live in faithfulness and peace. The bow in the clouds is the sign of the covenant of peace that God has made with the earth and every living being.

PEOPLE: God’s steadfast love endures forever: Give God thanks and praise.

LEADER: By a strong east wind, the Lord drove back the waters of the sea, and the Hebrew slaves of Pharaoh crossed the sea on dry land. God’s awesome might brings God’s people through the waters to a new life of freedom.

PEOPLE: God has given us a marvelous victory: Give God thanks and praise.

LEADER: John baptized Jesus in the waters of the Jordan. When Jesus came up from the river, he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and heard a voice from heaven saying, “This is my Son, the Beloved.”

PEOPLE: God sends Jesus, the anointed One, to preach peace: Give God thanks and praise.

LEADER: In the waters of baptism we are buried with Christ, and as Christ was raised from the dead, so we will rise with Christ and walk with him in newness of life.

PEOPLE: By Jesus’ death and resurrection we are given life: Give God thanks and praise.

The Prayer of Blessing and Commitment

*The Hymn of Praise

"God Is Here!"

BEECHER

1. God is here! As we his peo - ple meet to of - fer praise and prayer,
 2. Here are sym - bols to re - mind us of our life - long need of grace;
 3. Here our chil - dren find a wel - come in the Shep - herd's flock and fold;
 4. Lord of all, of church and king - dom, in an age of change and doubt,

may we find in ful - ler meas - ure what it is in Christ we share:
 here are ta - ble, font and pul - pit, here the cross has cen - tral place:
 here, as bread and wine are ta - ken, Christ sus - tains us as of old;
 keep us faith - ful to the gos - pel, help us work your pur - pose out;

here, as in the world a - round us, all our var - ied skills and arts
 here in hon - es - ty of preach - ing, here in si - lence as in speech,
 here the ser - vants of the Ser - vant seek in wor - ship to ex - plore
 here, in this day's ded - i - ca - tion, all we have to give, re - ceive;

wait the com - ing of his Spir - it in - to o - pen minds and hearts.
 here in new - ness and re - new - al God the Spir - it comes to each.
 what it means in dai - ly liv - ing to be - lieve and to a - dore.
 we who can - not live with - out you, we a - dore you! we be - lieve.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 2:4–13

Tom Rollins

⁴Hear the word of the Lord, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵Thus says the Lord: What wrong did your ancestors find in me that they went far from me, and went after worthless things, and became worthless themselves? ⁶They did not say, "Where is the Lord who brought us up from the land of Egypt, who led us in the wilderness, in a land of deserts and pits, in a land of drought and deep darkness, in a land that no one passes through, where no one lives?" ⁷I brought you into a plentiful land to eat its fruits and its good things. But when you entered you defiled my land, and made my heritage an abomination. ⁸The priests did not say, "Where is the Lord?" Those who handle the law did not know me; the rulers transgressed against me; the prophets prophesied by Baal, and went after things that do not profit.

⁹Therefore once more I accuse you, says the Lord, and I accuse your children's children. ¹⁰Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look, send to Kedar and examine with care; see if there has ever been such a thing. ¹¹Has a nation changed its gods, even though they are no gods? But my people have changed their glory for something that does not profit. ¹²Be appalled, O heavens, at this, be shocked, be utterly desolate, says the Lord, ¹³for my people have committed two evils: they have forsaken me, the fountain of living water, and dug out cisterns for themselves, cracked cisterns that can hold no water.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Hebrews 13:1–8, 15–16

¹Let mutual love continue. ²Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. ³Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured. ⁴Let marriage be held in honor by all, and let the marriage bed be kept undefiled; for God will judge fornicators and adulterers. ⁵Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, "I will never leave you or forsake you." ⁶So we can say with confidence, "The Lord is my helper; I will not be afraid. What can anyone do to me?" ⁷Remember your leaders, those who spoke the word of God to you; consider the outcome of their way of life, and imitate their faith. ⁸Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.

¹⁵Through him, then, let us continually offer a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that confess his name. ¹⁶Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

“Live in Charity”

Musical score for "Live in Charity" in 2/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system contains the lyrics "Live in char - i - ty and stead - fast love," and the second system contains "live in char - i - ty; God will dwell with you." The piano accompaniment features chords and triplets. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line: F, C, Dm, Bb, D, G, C in the first system, and F, C, Dm, Gm, C, F in the second system.

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community, 1979

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 Anthem

“Bright Canaan”

Sanctuary Choir

Traditional American Hymn, Alice Parker, arr.

O who will come and go with me, I am bound for the land of Canaan.
I'm bound fair Canaan's land to see, I am bound for the land of Canaan.
*O Canaan, bright Canaan I'm bound for the land of Canaan,
O Canaan, it is my happy home. I am bound for the land of Canaan.*
I'll join with them who've gone before, where sin and sorrow are no more . . .
Our songs of praise shall fill the skies, and higher still our joys they rise . . .

— Early American Hymn

¹On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸“When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host; ⁹and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, ‘Give this person your place,’ and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, ‘Friend, move up higher’; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.” ¹²He said also to the one who had invited him, “When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴And you will be blessed, because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

“Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life”

GERMANY

1. Where cross the crowd - ed ways of life, where sound the
 2. In haunts of wretch - ed - ness and need, on shad - owed
 3. The cup of wa - ter given for you still holds the
 4. O Mas - ter, from the moun - tain side, make haste to
 5. Till all the world shall learn your love and fol - low

cries of race and clan, a - bove the noise of
 thresh - olds dark with fears, from paths where hide the
 fresh - ness of your grace; yet long these mul - ti -
 heal these hearts of pain; a - mong these rest - less
 where your feet have trod: till glo - rious from your

self - ish strife we hear your voice, O Son of Man!
 lures of greed we catch the vi - sion of your tears.
 tudes to view the strong com - pas - sion of your face.
 throngs a - bide, O tread the cit - y's streets a - gain;
 heaven a - bove shall come the cit - y of our God.

WORDS: Frank Mason North, 1903
 MUSIC: William Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815

GERMANY
 L.M.

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Prayer of Response (responsive)²

LEADER: Welcoming God, you call us from our private, individualized lives into spaces of radical hospitality.

PEOPLE: **You call us to open wide the doors, offering welcome to all; to love without condition, agenda, or judgment.**

LEADER: We are inspired by your generous invitation to give as abundantly to others as you have given to us.

PEOPLE: **May we share what we have.**

LEADER: Help us to take seriously your call to welcome the stranger without hesitation or limitations.

PEOPLE: **When fear overtakes us, remind us that You are an ever-present help. We are never alone.**

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.

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn your Christ, as -
 3. Heal your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness, bend our pride to
 4. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient Church's sto - ry, bring its
 sail his ways! Fears and doubts too long have bound us— free our
 your con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness, rich in
 we de - plore; let the gift of your sal - va - tion be our

bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 hearts to work and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age
 glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 lest we miss your king - dom's goal, lest we miss your king - dom's goal.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry E. Fosdick, 1930, alt.
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
8.7.8.7.8.7.7.

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

"Hornpipe in D"
John S. Dixon

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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2Leah Reed, © 2022, Faithelement.net.

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The sanctuary flowers are placed in honor of Rodney Mobley and Willard Mallette and in memory of Jimmy Thompson who care for our church — its people and the physical facility — in so many ways. We can't thank you enough for your dedication and service to our community and congregation.

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the August 1 adoption of Cassidy Elizabeth by Erin and Michael Hawks.

The Deacon on Call is Tom Rollins. A 38-year member of First Baptist, Tom serves as church treasurer and is a member of the Pathfinders Sunday School class. He and his wife Ann have three grown children, Charlotte, Michelle, and Matthew.

The Rise Against Hunger meal packing day is today, immediately following worship and a quick lunch in the Fellowship Hall.

This Wednesday, August 31, there is a dinner and leadership training event in the Fellowship Hall at 5:15pm for all Wednesday night leaders in missions and music. Please note that this is only for Wednesday night leadership, and our regularly scheduled dinner and programming will begin on the following Wednesday, September 7.

For our August mission project, we are collecting items to be distributed to various Raleigh schools to equip classrooms. Those items are: dry erase markers, regular colored markers, gallon Ziplock bags, pens, pencils, white copy paper, colored card stock, and Papermate flair pens (colors). Your donations may be placed in the marked drawer in the cabinet in the Lewis Lobby until the end of the month.

Centerpoint returns on Wednesday, September 7, with a theme of "Re-engaging Community" to guide us in imagining ways to bring our community of faith back together after two years of a hybrid, adjusted schedule. We have made some slight changes in the timing of supper and programming: supper begins at 5:15pm, and all programming ends at 7:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details!

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 August 25, we have received \$4,963.

Calendar Highlights
August 28–September 4

Sunday, August 28

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Baptism (sanctuary & YouTube)
Japanese worship (226)
- 12:00 Lunch/Rise Against Hunger meal packing (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:00 Youth kick-off (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

Monday, August 29

- 10:00 Clothing ministry closed (until October 3)
- 530 Dream Team meeting (301)

Tuesday, August 30

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)

Wednesday, August 31

- 5:15 Leaders' dinner and training (Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, September 1

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Sunday, September 4

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

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:



