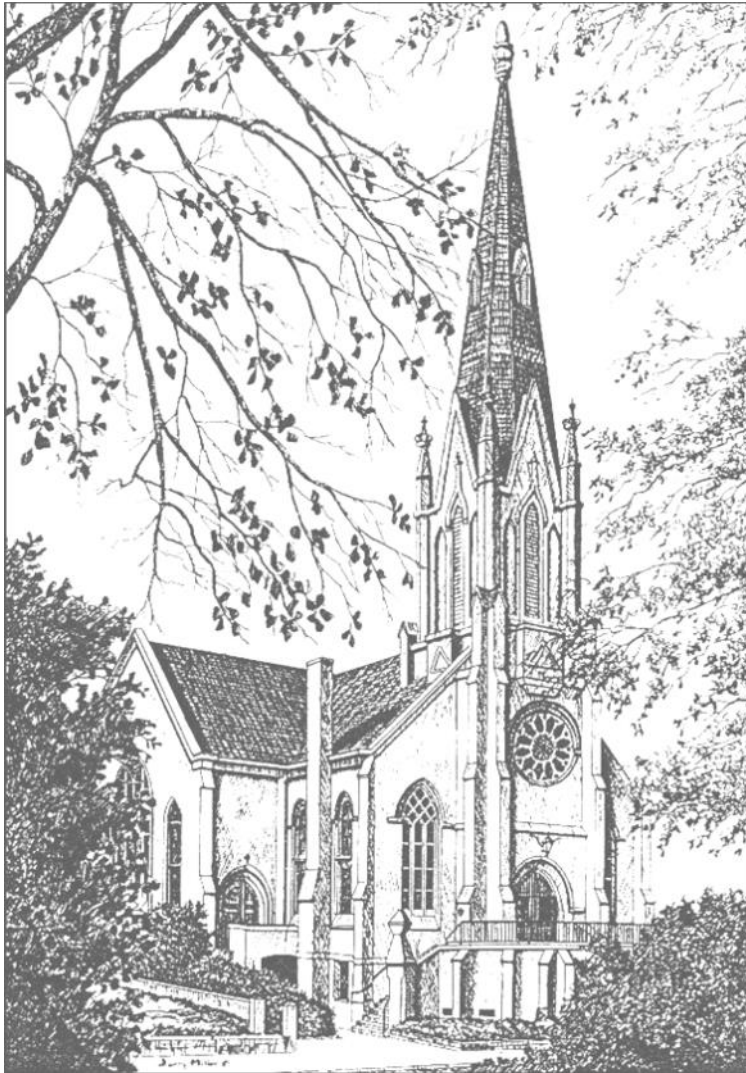


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



September 4, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 4, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: As is sometimes the case, the biblical texts and other worship elements may seem unrelated on this Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost, but this is not the case. The central theme, which is found in the reading from Luke, is a heads-up on the demanding nature of Christian discipleship. Jesus' words to us are unequivocal. The reading from Jeremiah underscores the reality that God has always expected a great deal from God's people, but God continues working with us, no matter how many times we fall short, like a potter reworking clay. The reading of Philemon (Yes, a whole book, but just one chapter!) presents an example of how our calling to follow Christ calls into question all previous loyalties, as a first-century slaveowner is called to treat his slave as a brother in Christ, and in the process, rethink slavery itself. The worship music invites us in different ways to embrace this radical call to a different life as we say to God, "Have thine own way, Lord," and "Willing, my savior, to take up the cross;" and as we ponder Jesus' simple yet compelling calling to come and follow him in letting love be shown, risking the hostile stare, kissing the leper clean, and reshaping the world. Jesus gives us fair warning of all of this, as the sermon will assert. Our deepest fulfillment grows out of a willingness to embrace the whole Gospel which involves grace and responsibility.

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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

"Aria"  
Flor Peeters

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 139

LEADER: O Lord, you have searched me and known me.

PEOPLE: **You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away.**

LEADER: You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways.

PEOPLE: **Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely.**

LEADER: You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

PEOPLE: **Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it.**

LEADER: For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

PEOPLE: **I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.**

LEADER: My frame was not hidden from you when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

PEOPLE: **Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.**

LEADER: How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

PEOPLE: **I try to count them — they are more than the sand; I come to the end — I am still with you.**

The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

ELLACOMBE

1. I sing the might - y power of God that made the moun - tains rise,  
2. I sing the good - ness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;  
3. There's not a plant or flower be - low but makes your glo - ries known;

that spread the flow - ing seas a - broad and built the loft - y skies.  
he formed the crea - tures with his word and then pro - nounced them good.  
and clouds a - rise and tem - pests blow by or - der from your throne;

I sing the wis - dom that or - dained the sun to rule by day;  
Lord, how your won - ders are dis - played wher - e'er I turn my eye,  
while all that bor - rows life from you is ev - er in your care,

the moon shines full at his com - mand and all the stars o - bey.  
if I sur - vey the ground I tread or gaze up - on the sky!  
and ev - ery - where that I may be, you, God, are pres - ent there.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1715, alt.  
MUSIC: *Gesangbuch der H. W. K. Hofkapelle*, 1784

ELLACOMBE  
C.M.D.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 18:1–11

Brenda Snead

<sup>1</sup>The word that came to Jeremiah from the Lord: <sup>2</sup>“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” <sup>3</sup>So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. <sup>4</sup>The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him. <sup>5</sup>Then the word of the Lord came to me: <sup>6</sup>Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the Lord. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. <sup>7</sup>At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom, that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, <sup>8</sup>but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. <sup>9</sup>And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, <sup>10</sup>but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it.

<sup>11</sup>Now, therefore, say to the people of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: Thus says the Lord: Look, I am a potter shaping evil against you and devising a plan against you. Turn now, all of you from your evil way, and amend your ways and your doings.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Philemon 1:1–21

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a prisoner of Christ Jesus, and Timothy our brother, To Philemon our dear friend and co-worker, <sup>2</sup>to Apphia our sister, to Archippus our fellow soldier, and to the church in your house: <sup>3</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup>When I remember you in my prayers, I always thank my God <sup>5</sup>because I hear of your love for all the saints and your faith toward the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective when you perceive all the good that we may do for Christ. <sup>7</sup>I have indeed received much joy and encouragement from your love, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you, my brother.

<sup>8</sup>For this reason, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do your duty, <sup>9</sup>yet I would rather appeal to you on the basis of love—and I, Paul, do this as an old man, and now also as a prisoner of Christ Jesus. <sup>10</sup>I am appealing to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I have become during my imprisonment. <sup>11</sup>Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful both to you and to me. <sup>12</sup>I am sending him, that is, my own heart, back to you. <sup>13</sup>I wanted to keep him with me, so that he might be of service to me in your place during my imprisonment for the gospel; <sup>14</sup>but I preferred to do nothing without your consent, in order that your good deed might be voluntary and not something forced. <sup>15</sup>Perhaps this is the reason he was separated from you for a while, so that you might have him back forever, <sup>16</sup>no longer as a slave but more than a slave, a beloved brother—especially to me but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord. <sup>17</sup>So if you consider me your partner, welcome him as you would welcome me. <sup>18</sup>If he has wronged you in any way, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. <sup>19</sup>I, Paul, am writing this with my own hand: I will repay it. I say nothing about your owing me even your own self. <sup>20</sup>Yes, brother, let me have this benefit from you in the Lord! Refresh my heart in Christ. <sup>21</sup>Confident of your obedience, I am writing to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

Have thine own way, Lord!  
 Have thine own way!  
 Thou art the potter,  
 I am the clay.  
 Mold me and make me  
 after thy will,  
 while I am waiting,  
 yielded and still.

Words: Adelaide A. Pollard, 1906

Music: George Stebbins, 1907

## 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 Gospel

Luke 14:25–33

<sup>25</sup>Now large crowds were traveling with him; and he turned and said to them, <sup>26</sup>“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. <sup>27</sup>Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. <sup>28</sup>For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? <sup>29</sup>Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, <sup>30</sup>saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ <sup>31</sup>Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? <sup>32</sup>If he cannot, then, while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. <sup>33</sup>So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Anthem

“Lord, Here Am I”

Men’s Ensemble

John Ness Beck

Master, Thou callest, I gladly obey;  
only direct me, and I'll find Thy way.

Teach me the mission appointed for me,  
what is my labor, and where it shall be.

*Master, Thou callest, and this I reply,  
"Ready and willing, Lord, here am I."*

Willing, my Savior, to take up the cross;  
willing to suffer reproaches and loss.  
Willing to follow, if Thou wilt but lead;  
only support me with grace in my need.

Living, or dying, I still would be Thine;  
yet I am mortal while Thou art divine.  
Pardon, whenever I turn from the right;  
pity, and bring me again to the light.

Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1877

The Sermon

“Fair Warning”

Christopher Chapman

## 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.*

("Will You Come and Follow me?")



1. Will you come and fol - low me if I but call your name?  
 2. Will you leave your - self be - hind if I but call your name?  
 3. Will you let the blind - ed see if I but call your name?  
 4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?  
 5. Lord, your sum - mons ech - oes true when you but call my name.



Will you go where you don't know and nev - er be  
 Will you care for cruel and kind and nev - er be  
 Will you set the pris - 'ners free and nev - er be  
 Will you quell the fear in - side and nev - er be  
 Let me turn and fol - low you and nev - er be



the same? Will you let my love be shown,  
 the same? Will you risk the hos - tile stare  
 the same? Will you kiss the lep - er clean,  
 the same? Will you use the faith you've found  
 the same. In your com - pa - ny I'll go



will you let my name be known, will you let my  
 should your life at - tract or scare? Will you let me  
 and do such as this un - seen, and ad - mit to  
 to re - shape the world a - round, through my sight and  
 where your love and foot - steps show. Thus I'll move and



life be grown in you and you in me?  
 an - swer prayer in you and you in me?  
 what I mean in you and you in me?  
 touch and sound in you and you in me?  
 live and grow in you and you in me.

Text: John L. Bell, b.1949 and Graham Maule, b. 1958; © 1988, WGRG, c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent  
 Tune: KELVINGROVE; Scottish melody

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

“Gigue for Fanfare Trumpet”  
Austin Lovelace

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The sanctuary flowers are given today in loving memory of Harlee H. and Pauline G. Jobe by their daughter, Mary Anne Jobe.

The Deacon on Call is Brenda Snead. An 18-year member of First Baptist and first-term deacon, Brenda serves on the Worship Committee and on the Funeral Committee and is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School class. Brenda is a resident of Raleigh.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, September 7, meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. This week, we will hear from a panel of First Baptist ministry and affinity groups about the lessons they learned during Covid for keeping and strengthening community, and how we can strengthen community ties beyond the pandemic. Panelists will include representatives of the Band of Brothers, the Thirty-Niners, the Prayer Shawl ministry, and Theology on Tap. There will also be a creative activity to get to know and build community with fellow participants.

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). The menu for September 7 is: spaghetti and meatballs, vegetable medley, salad, and bread.

The clothing ministry will be closed for repairs to the floors from now through the end of September. During that time, we will accept donations of fall and winter clothing and rolling suitcases, backpacks, and blankets. Please bag all items and label the bags by gender (men, women, children). If you are bringing more than four kitchen-size bags of clothes, please make an appointment for drop-off by emailing Sabrina ([cmvolunteercoordinator.fbc@gmail.com](mailto:cmvolunteercoordinator.fbc@gmail.com)).

An offering for the Mike Morris Fellowship Fund is received the first Sunday of each month. This fund helps persons seeking emergency aid. Collection baskets are at each exit.

For our September mission project, we will collect candy that will be put in the stockings for Toy Joy. Bite-size chocolate and non-chocolate varieties are needed — *no Halloween-wrapped please*. Your donations may be placed in the drawer of the cabinet in the Lewis Lobby through the end of September.

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 September 1, we have received \$5,067.

## Calendar Highlights September 4–11

Sunday, September 4

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

Monday, September 5 *Labor Day*

- Church office closed
- Clothing ministry closed (*until October 3*)

Tuesday, September 6

- 9:00 Clothing ministry small group (Fellowship Hall)
- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)

Wednesday, September 7

- 5:15 Meal/Centerpoint (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45 Children's music
- 6:30 Children's missions
- 6:45 Handbell choir rehearsal (sanctuary balcony)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (choir room)

Thursday, September 8

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners meeting (Fellowship Hall)

Friday, September 9

- 9:00 Clothing ministry small group (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, September 11

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Communion (sanctuary & YouTube)  
Japanese worship (226)  
Worship prep class (231)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Youth program (Fellowship Hall/Blue Room)

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:

