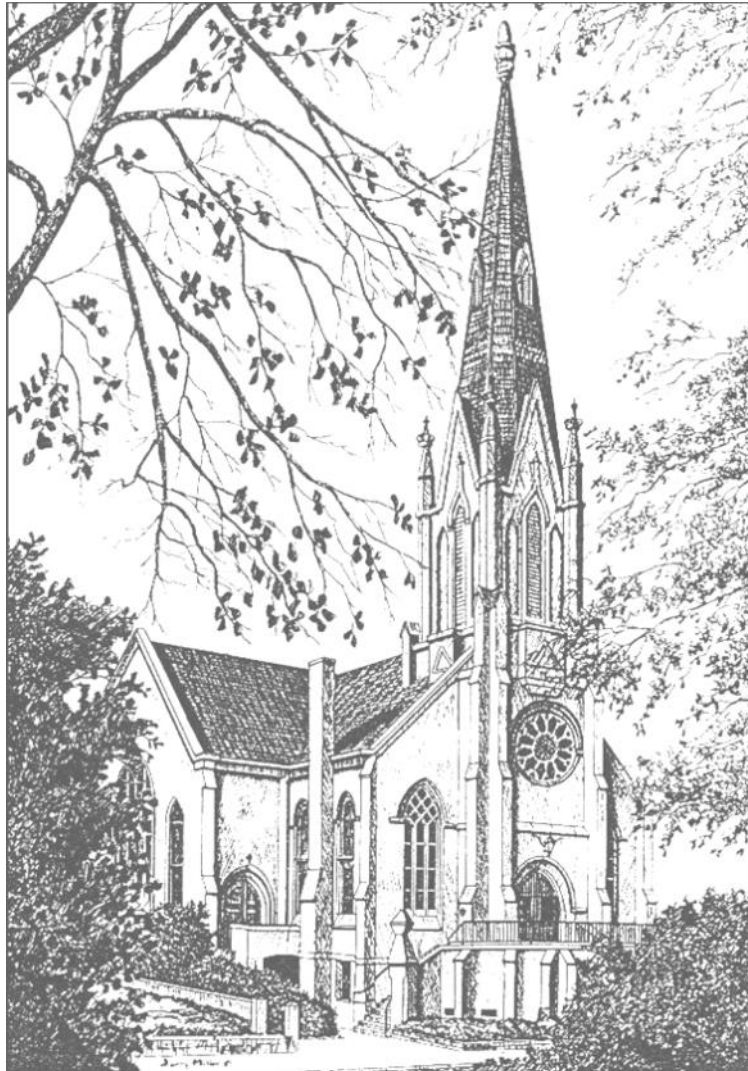


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 23, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 23, 2022

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: The lectionary texts for today include a vision of hope restored in Joel, a description of faithfulness in 2 Timothy, and a call to humility in Luke. Each of these themes finds expression somewhere in this service whether in the prayers or the music, the sermon or the liturgy. Those we commission for partnership work in Romania seek to restore hope for refugees of war in Ukraine. Parents and the church as a whole seek faithfulness in nurturing children in faith as we dedicate Avery Michelle Mercer. We are all invited to reflect on Jesus' parable about two men who went up to the temple to pray, what it says about pride and humility, and what it suggests about who is close 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

Two settings of "Jesus Loves Me"

Sue Crocker

Lee Harris
Wilbur Held

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 65

LEADER: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion;

PEOPLE: **and to you shall vows be performed, O you who answer prayer!**

LEADER: When deeds of iniquity overwhelm us, you forgive our transgressions.

PEOPLE: **By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance, O God of our salvation;**

LEADER: By your strength you established the mountains; you are girded with might.

PEOPLE: **You visit the earth and water it, you greatly enrich it; the river of God is full of water; you provide the people with grain, for so you have prepared it.**

LEADER: The pastures of the wilderness overflow, the hills gird themselves with joy,

PEOPLE: **the meadows clothe themselves with flocks, the valleys deck themselves with grain, they shout and sing together for joy.**

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 Hebrew Bible

Joel 2:23–32

Daniel Rohrbaugh

²³O children of Zion, be glad and rejoice in the Lord your God; for he has given the early rain for your vindication, he has poured down for you abundant rain, the early and the later rain, as before. ²⁴The threshing floors shall be full of grain, the vats shall overflow with wine and oil. ²⁵I will repay you for the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the hopper, the destroyer, and the cutter, my great army, which I sent against you. ²⁶You shall eat in plenty and be satisfied, and praise the name of the Lord your God, who has dealt wondrously with you. And my people shall never again be put to shame. ²⁷You shall know that I am in the midst of Israel, and that I, the Lord, am your God and there is no other. And my people shall never again be put to shame.

²⁸Then afterward I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹Even on the male and female slaves, in those days, I will pour out my spirit. ³⁰I will show portents in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and terrible day of the Lord comes. ³²Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved; for in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the Lord has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the Lord calls.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

2 Timothy 4:6–8, 16–18

⁶As for me, I am already being poured out as a libation, and the time of my departure has come. ⁷I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. ⁸From now on there is reserved for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, will give me on that day, and not only to me but also to all who have longed for his appearing.

¹⁶At my first defense no one came to my support, but all deserted me. May it not be counted against them! ¹⁷But the Lord stood by me and gave me strength, so that through me the message might be fully proclaimed and all the Gentiles might hear it. So I was rescued from the lion's mouth. ¹⁸The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and save me for his heavenly kingdom. To him be the glory forever and ever. Amen.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

⁹He also told this parable to some who trusted in themselves that they were righteous and regarded others with contempt: ¹⁰“Two men went up to the temple to pray, one a Pharisee and the other a tax collector. ¹¹The Pharisee, standing by himself, was praying thus, ‘God, I thank you that I am not like other people: thieves, rogues, adulterers, or even like this tax collector. ¹²I fast twice a week; I give a tenth of all my income.’ ¹³But the tax collector, standing far off, would not even look up to heaven, but was beating his breast and saying, ‘God, be merciful to me, a sinner!’ ¹⁴I tell you, this man went down to his home justified rather than the other; for all who exalt themselves will be humbled, but all who humble themselves will be exalted.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

“Be Thou My Vision”

SLANE

Unison

1. Be thou my Vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my Wis - dom, and thou my true Word, I ev - er
 3. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought, by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou and thou on - ly,
 heav-en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what-

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 first in my heart, high King of heav - en, my Treas - ure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my Vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

WORDS: Traditional Irish hymn, c. 8th C.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1973

Music © 1974 Hope Publishing Company

SLANE
10.10.10.10.

The Commissioning of the Missionaries

LEADER: Genuine faith is revealed in acts of service and love, a willingness to be vulnerable and participate in the way of the cross. On Thursday, members of our church family will travel to Romania to reveal this kind of faith.

PEOPLE: **We pray God's blessings upon Libby Barnes, Sheila Jordan, and Nancy Moore Phillips. May they go in the power of God's Spirit, may the people among whom they serve see Jesus in them, and may they discover something new about God's purpose in their lives.**

LEADER: Not all of us will go on this journey but those who do represent not only Jesus but this community as well. They serve as an extension of this church family.

PEOPLE: **Therefore we pray for their work and witness, for the relationships they will build, for the ways in which our extended family will be enlarged and enriched.**

LEADER: May those who go realize that you are not alone on this journey. God is with you and so are we. May you also recognize your true identity as God's hands and feet.

MISSIONARIES: ***In the words of Mother Teresa, we will be the living expression of God's kindness: kindness in our faces, kindness in our eyes, kindness in our smiles, kindness in our warm greetings. In places of great need we will be the light of God's kindness. To children and adults, to the victims of warfare, to all who suffer and are lonely, we will always give a happy smile. We will give not only our care, but also our hearts.***

The Prayer of Blessing

The Anthem

"Light Dawns on a Weary World"

David M. Cherwien, arr.

Sanctuary Choir
Sue Crocker, director
Becky Mercer, flute

Light dawns on a weary world
When eyes begin to see all people's dignity.

Light dawns on a weary world:
The promised day to justice comes.

The trees shall clap their hands;
The dry lands gush with springs;
The hills and mountains shall break forth with singing!
We shall go out with joy,
And be led forth in peace,
As all the world in wonder echoes *shalom*.

Love grows in a weary world
When hungry hearts find bread
And children's dreams are fed.
Love grows in a weary world;
The promised feast of plenty comes.

Hope blooms in a weary world
When creatures, once forlorn, find wilderness reborn.
Hope blooms in a weary world:
The promised green of Eden comes.

Words: Mary Louise Bringle, 2002
Music: William P. Rowan, 2000

“Which Person Is Closer to God?”

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.

(Children are asked to join Susan Stevens in the narthex so they may participate in the dedication of Avery Michelle Mercer.)

1. I then shall live as one who's been for - giv - en;
 2. I then shall live as one who's learned com - pas - sion;
 3. Your king - dom come a - round and through and in me,

I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid. I know my
 I've been so loved that I'll risk lov - ing too. I know how
 your power and glo - ry, let them shine through me; your hal - lowed

name is clear be - fore my Fa - ther; I am his child, and
 fear builds walls in - stead of bridg - es; I dare to see an -
 name, O may I bear with hon - or, and may your liv - ing

I am not a - fraid. So great - ly par - doned, I'll for - give an -
 oth - er's point of view. And when re - la - tion - ships de - mand com -
 King - dom come in me. The Bread of Life, O may I share with

oth - er; the law of love I glad - ly will o - bey.
 mit - ment, then I'll be there to care and fol - low through.
 hon - or, and may you feed a hun - gry world through me.

The Dedication of Avery Michelle Mercer, daughter of Charlie and Charlotte Mercer

- LEADER: The nurture of children in faith is a sacred privilege and awesome responsibility. It begins with the commitment of parents and includes the love of the whole congregation. Today we present Avery Michelle Mercer to the church and dedicate her to God. Who brings this child for this holy purpose?
- PARENTS: *We, her parents, do.*
- LEADER: What can we affirm about Avery?
- PEOPLE: **That she is a child of God by creation, made in the image of God.**
- LEADER: As Avery grows in her understanding of God and herself, how will we help her to learn about her true status as beloved?
- PEOPLE: **We will give her our love and include her in the life of the congregation.**
- LEADER: As Avery grows through different stages of life, what will we tell her about her story?
- PEOPLE: **We will tell her about Abraham and Sarah, about Mary and Joseph, about Jesus and the people who have sought to follow him in this place.**
- LEADER: What will we expect of Avery?
- PEOPLE: **We will look to the day when she will sit with us at the Lord's Table, declare faith in Jesus Christ, and confirm the heritage we seek to pass on to her.**
- LEADER: Charlie and Charlotte, do you, as parents, embrace your primary responsibility to nurture your child in faith?
- PARENTS: *Yes, we do, for we long to pass on our heritage to her.*
- LEADER: Do you, the members of First Baptist Church, pledge to work toward creating a nurturing environment for Avery and all the children God entrusts to our care?
- PEOPLE: **Yes, we do, for these children belong to us as well.**
- LEADER: Then may God be with us and help us.
- ALL: **Amen.**

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

"In Christ There Is No East or West"
John Behnke

Sue Crocker

*The congregation may stand.

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The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Minetta and Jimmy Newbold by their daughters Margaret Newbold, Sara Turner, and Netta Moseley.

We thank Sue Crocker for playing the organ and for directing the Sanctuary Choir this week while the Howells are away.

The Deacon on Call is Daniel Rohrbaugh. A seven-year member and first-term deacon, Daniel is the chair and council rep of the Personnel Committee. He and his wife, Laura, have two children: Crosby and Vivi.

Deacon elections are happening now through Sunday, October 30. You may submit your ballot in the offering plate at Sunday worship services, in the ballot box in the church office, or by mailing it to the church office. Address questions to any of the current deacons. Please prayerfully consider your choices for our deacon leadership.

Church Conference: Wednesday, October 26, in person and via Zoom; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and 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), by email (dmast@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu for October 26 is: *Stew Night*: beef stew or chicken stew; non-meat option: vegan veggie stew; kids: chicken nuggets.

Dr. Chapman will be going out of town from Thursday, October 27, until Sunday, October 30. Pastor Emeritus Dr. J. Daniel Day will be preaching in his place on Sunday.

FBC has formed a team to walk in the Greater Triangle Area CROP Hunger Walk on Sunday, October 30, at Pullen Park on Ashe Street. Sign in is at 2pm and the Walk Step-off is at 3pm. If you would like to walk with the team, donate to the team, or both, please scan the QR code to the right to go to the CROP Walk page for FBC. Donations support the global work of CWS and five local agencies.



Sign up to volunteer for Toy Joy (Saturday, November 12) at <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/20f094facaf2ba3fe3-toyjoy5>. For more information, see the *Rose Window Weekly* or contact Anne Cooke (cooke76@aol.com, m: 919-986-9465, or h: 919-782-7491).

Our NC Mission Offering helps fund non-profit organizations doing work and providing services primarily in North Carolina. Through the generosity of FBC members, we have already received \$1,862 toward our goal of \$10,000.

Calendar Highlights October 23–30

Sunday, October 23

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (Fellowship Hall/Zoom)
- 3:00 Fall Festival (Optimist Farm)

Monday, October 24

- 10:00 Clothing ministry
- 6:30 High school Bible study (Wade home)
Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, October 25

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

Wednesday, October 26

- 5:15 Meal served (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (301/307/311)
- 6:15 Church Conference (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool suite/children's suite)
Handbell choir rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, October 27

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

Sunday, October 30

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Dan Day preaching (sanctuary & YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 12:00 Youth lunch (Fellowship Hall)
- 12:45 Youth choir (choir room)
- 1:15 And Also with 'Que board meeting (conference room)
- 1:45 Youth handbells (302)
- 3:00 CROP Walk; registration begins at 2:00 (Pullen Park)

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:

