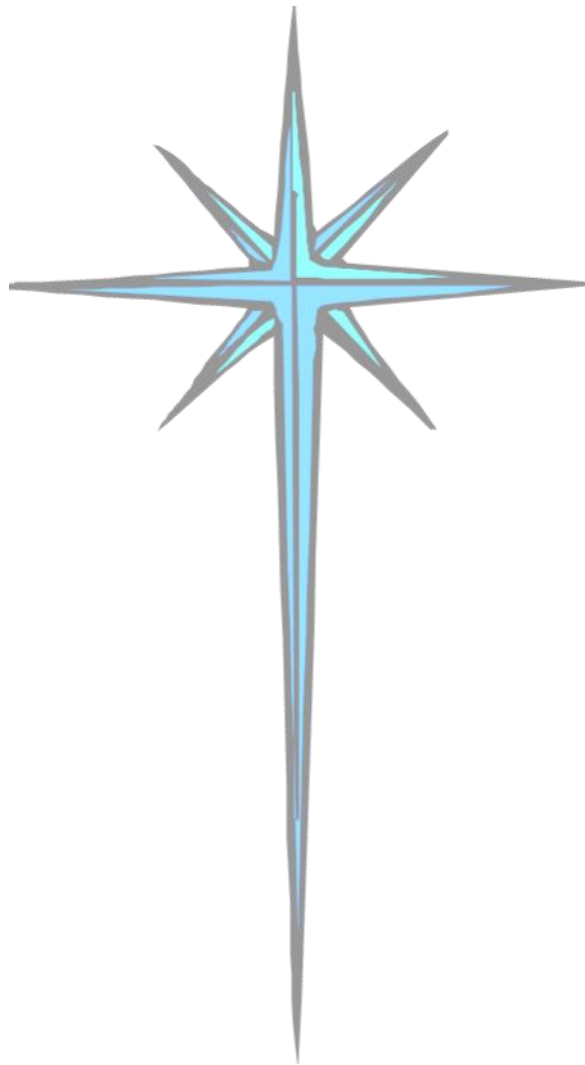


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



January 8, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
BAPTISM OF THE LORD

January 8, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Baptism of the Lord in the Christian year, a day we reflect upon Jesus' baptism and what it tells us about his identity and ours. We offer support to Scott Burton at his time of baptism. We sing hymns of praise to the God who reigns over every part of creation, including water. And we lift up prayers of concern for a world our baptism empowers us to love. The sermon explores the reading from Matthew and what it tells us about why Jesus is baptized. It has something to do with a term we use infrequently, yet one that needs to be reclaimed, once it is understood and focused appropriately not on any human being but on God alone.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Warren Howell

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

"Largo Espressivo" (from *Sonata in D*)
Gaetano Pugnani

Elaine Holley

The Call to Worship (responsive)

From Psalm 29

LEADER: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

PEOPLE: **Ascribe to the Lord the glory of God's name; worship the Lord in holy splendor.**

LEADER: The voice of the Lord is over the waters; the God of glory thunders, the Lord, over mighty waters.

PEOPLE: **The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.**

LEADER: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign forever.

PEOPLE: **May the Lord give strength to God's people! May the Lord bless God's people with peace.**

The Celebration of Baptism

Scott Burton

The Prayer of Blessing and Commitment



1. Sing glo - ry to the name of God, whose
 2. The name of God is full of might— re -
 3. The name of God is wild and free, a -
 4. May God for - ev - er be our peace; may



ho - ly splen - dor shines a - broad: Al - le - lu - ia,
 sound - ing thun - der, flash - ing light. Al - le - lu - ia,
 whirl in ho - ly mys - ter - y. Al - le - lu - ia,
 hymns of glo - ry nev - er cease: Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia! En - throned a - bove the crash - ing
 al - le - lu - ia! The wil - der - ness can - not con -
 al - le - lu - ia! A se - cret wrapped in smoke and
 al - le - lu - ia! Let all the faith - ful peo - ple



waves, the God of grace and glo - ry saves.
 tain the ech - oes of the great re - frain:
 fire, still chant - ed by the tem - ple choir:
 come; sing praise to God, the Three - in - One:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia,



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 42:1-9

Maria Childrey

¹ Here is my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. ² He will not cry or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; ³ a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice. ⁴ He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.

⁵ Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: ⁶ I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, ⁷ to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. ⁸ I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. ⁹ See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Acts 10:34-43

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, ³⁵ but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. ³⁶ You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. ³⁷ That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: ³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. ³⁹ We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; ⁴⁰ but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, ⁴¹ not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. ⁴² He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come”

Sanctuary Choir

Mark Bender

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
And nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your rising. And
the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to
the Holy Spirit.

Words: Isaiah 60:1, 3

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

Matthew 3:13–17

¹³Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?” ¹⁵But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then he consented. ¹⁶And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,
 4. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior! Lord of the na - tions!

O thou of God and man the Son, thee will I cher - ish,
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,
 and all the twin - kling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,
 Son of God and Son of man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown!
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.
 Je - sus shines pur - er, than all the an - gels heaven can boast.
 praise, ad - o - ra - tion, now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

WORDS: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. anonymous, 1850; st. 4, tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1873
 MUSIC: H. A. Hoffman von Fallersleben's *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; arr. Richard S. Willis, 1850

CRUSADER'S HYMN
 5.6.8.5.5.8.

The Sermon

“Is Obedience a Dirty Word?”

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.

1. I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low
 2. I want to see the bright-ness of God; I want to look at
 3. I'm look - ing for the com - ing of Christ; I want to be with

Je - sus. God set the stars to give light to the world; the
 Je - sus. Clear Sun of right-eous-ness, shine on my path, and
 Je - sus. When we have run with pa-tience the race, we

Refrain

star of my life is Je - sus.
 show me the way to the Fa - ther. In him there is no dark-ness at
 shall know the joy of Je - sus.

all; the night and the day are both a - like. The Lamb is the

light of the cit - y of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

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

"Allegretto in F"

Maureen Howell

Robert Powell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Maria Childrey. Maria is a 40-year member of First Baptist and serves on the Properties Committee. She is also a member of the Sanctuary Choir and the Formations Sunday School class. Maria and her husband Tom have three daughters: Katie, Ann, and Caroline.

The acolytes today are Elizabeth and Catherine Yelverton.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Audrey and Tom Bray by their children, Angela and Tommy Bray.

Sympathy to Worth Harris on the January 1 death of his father Larry Harris.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, January 11; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. This week's program focuses on efforts to address homelessness in our community. Allison Strickland will lead a Homeless Systems Simulation Activity, a board game that places participants in small groups with the assignment to design a system to address homelessness in their community. We will also help to collect backpack supplies for a focused outreach that Oak City Cares will conduct later in January.

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 January 11 is: Korean BBQ; non-meat option: vegetarian BBQ; kids: meatballs.

Sign up now for Salt Shakers 2023! Email Jessica Helms (jessica.brickell.helms@gmail.com) by January 10 to be assigned to dinner groups which will meet on four dates throughout the year. This is a great way to get to know people at the church! See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.

In the case of inclement weather, cancellation information about scheduled activities will be noted on a recorded greeting on the office voice mail (919-832-4485) and posted on our home page and on social media (Twitter, Facebook and Instagram). Information will also be supplied to WRAL-TV (1st Baptist, Salisbury St) and WTVD-TV (First Baptist Church–Salisbury St.).

130 stewardship cards totaling \$1,006,347 have been received. Your gift matters! Please return your stewardship card to the church, or you may pledge online (www.fbcraleigh.org/stewardship), or use the QR code to the right.



The Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. So far, we have received \$3,542 toward our goal of \$20,000.

Diaper changing stations are located in the men's and women's bathrooms on each floor of the Lewis building, and a nursing room is located in our preschool suite on the first floor.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Worship bags are located in the narthex and in the Gathering Room; preschoolers (birth – kindergarten) are also welcome to join the supervised play in the preschool suite on first floor.

Calendar Highlights January 8–15

Sunday, January 8

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

Monday, January 9

- 10:00 Clothing ministry
- 6:15 Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, January 10

- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 11:00 Funeral for Mary Anne Jobe (sanctuary)

Wednesday, January 11

- 5:15 Meal served (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (301/307/311)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (Preschool and children's suites)
Handbell rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, January 12

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Sunday, January 15

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 12:00 Everette Miller class lunch (Fellowship Hall)
- 12:30 Deacons' meeting (Fellowship Hall/Zoom)

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:

