

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



February 12, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY

February 12, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: We celebrate today the sacred gift of Christian community as described in biblical texts, named as a central theme in our dreaming process, and beautifully portrayed by our new Art Banner on the back of the Lewis Building. We are grateful for the work of the Art Banner Team, chaired by Jeff Hobart. We welcome the artist Max Dowdle to worship and give thanks for his leadership during the Sunday School hour. And we participate in an additional visual sign of community by placing cut-out images of our hands on a replica of the banner for which we have colored in the background. All elements of worship today point to the significance of community for us as human beings and as followers of Jesus.

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 Introit

"Come, Ye That Love the Lord"

Sanctuary Choir

Early American Hymn/Alice Parker, arr.

Come, ye that love the Lord, and let your love be known;
join in a song of sweet accord and thus surround the throne.
The sorrows of the mind be banished from this place;
religion never was designed to make our pleasures less.
Let those refuse to sing who never knew our God;
but children of the Heavenly King may speak their joys abroad.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1707

The Call to Worship

Warren Howell

LEADER: God's invitation to us is to follow Christ.

PEOPLE: **It is a journey into Love.**

CHOIR: *The path is rarely smooth.*

LEADER: It is a journey into Truth.

PEOPLE: **The way features a narrow gate.**

CHOIR: *It is a journey into Wisdom.*

LEADER: Come, blessed Children of God:

ALL: **let us walk in sacred community, united as God's people.**

Unison

1. We are God's peo - ple, the cho - sen of the Lord,
 2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
 3. We are the Bod - y of which the Lord is Head,
 4. We are a tem - ple, the Spir - it's dwell - ing place,

born of his Spir - it, es - tab - lished by his Word; our
 for we have known it, the love of God out - poured; now
 called to o - bey him, now ris - en from the dead; he
 formed in great weak - ness, a cup to hold God's grace; we

cor - ner - stone is Christ a - lone, and strong in him we stand: O
 let us learn how to re - turn the gift of love once given: O
 wills us be a fam - i - ly, di - verse yet tru - ly one: O
 die a - lone, for on its own each em - ber los - es fire: yet

let us live trans - par - ent - ly, and walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
 let us share each joy and care, and live with a zeal that pleas - es Heaven.
 let us give our gifts to God, and so shall his work on earth be done.
 joined in one the flame burns on to give warmth and light, and to in - spire.

WORDS: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1976
 MUSIC: Johannes Brahms, 1877; arr. Fred Bock, 1976
 © 1976 Fred Bock Music Company

SYMPHONY
 11.11.14.8.9.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Deuteronomy 30:15–20

Jamie Vogel

¹⁵See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. ¹⁶If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. ¹⁷But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, ¹⁸I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. ¹⁹I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, ²⁰loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

1 Corinthians 3:1–9

¹And so, brothers and sisters, I could not speak to you as spiritual people, but rather as people of the flesh, as infants in Christ. ²I fed you with milk, not solid food, for you were not ready for solid food. Even now you are still not ready, ³for you are still of the flesh. For as long as there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not of the flesh, and behaving according to human inclinations? ⁴For when one says, "I belong to Paul," and another, "I belong to Apollos," are you not merely human?

⁵What then is Apollos? What is Paul? Servants through whom you came to believe, as the Lord assigned to each. ⁶I planted, Apollos watered, but God gave the growth. ⁷So neither the one who plants nor the one who waters is anything, but only God who gives the growth. ⁸The one who plants and the one who waters have a common purpose, and each will receive wages according to the labor of each. ⁹For we are God's servants, working together; you are God's field, God's building.

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.**

The Celebration of Community

The congregation is invited to present the representation of their hands to the construction of this morning's artwork.

The Lending of Hands

"Take My Hands"

BLESSING OF HANDS



1. Take my hands, oh, take my hands.
2. Guide my feet, oh, guide my feet.
3. Tune my heart, oh, tune my heart.
4. Bless my soul, oh, bless my soul.



Take my hands, oh, take my hands.
Guide my feet, oh, guide my feet.
Tune my heart, oh, tune my heart.
Bless my soul, oh, bless my soul.



Let them bless; let them o - pen wide.
Help them move; help them lead the way.
Make it sing; make it full of love.
I am yours; I am in your hands.



Take my hands, O God.
Guide my feet, O God.
Tune my heart, O God.
Bless my soul, O God.

Words: Adam L. Tice, 2015
Music: Sally Ann Morris, 2013

The Anthem

"Heavenly Light"

Sanctuary Choir

Alexander Kopylov

Sent from heaven, thy rays were given
on great and small to shine, O Light Divine!
May each soul in sorrow's night see the heavenly light!
Thou blessing to all creation, lead us to our salvation!
All those whose feet may falter, lead unto the sacred altar!
O shine from above, Divine Light of love!
Show us the way unto our God, we pray.
Thou our beacon and guide shalt be.
Light Divine, we praise Thee.

Words: adapt. Alice Mattullath, 1937

²¹“You have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not murder’; and ‘whoever murders shall be liable to judgment.’ ²²But I say to you that if you are angry with a brother or sister, you will be liable to judgment; and if you insult a brother or sister, you will be liable to the council; and if you say, ‘You fool,’ you will be liable to the hell of fire. ²³So when you are offering your gift at the altar, if you remember that your brother or sister has something against you, ²⁴leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your brother or sister, and then come and offer your gift. ²⁵Come to terms quickly with your accuser while you are on the way to court with him, or your accuser may hand you over to the judge, and the judge to the guard, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶Truly I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the last penny.

²⁷“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall not commit adultery.’ ²⁸But I say to you that everyone who looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹If your right eye causes you to sin, tear it out and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your right hand causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away; it is better for you to lose one of your members than for your whole body to go into hell. ³¹“It was also said, ‘Whoever divorces his wife, let him give her a certificate of divorce.’ ³²But I say to you that anyone who divorces his wife, except on the ground of unchastity, causes her to commit adultery; and whoever marries a divorced woman commits adultery.

³³“Again, you have heard that it was said to those of ancient times, ‘You shall not swear falsely, but carry out the vows you have made to the Lord.’ ³⁴But I say to you, Do not swear at all, either by heaven, for it is the throne of God, ³⁵or by the earth, for it is his footstool, or by Jerusalem, for it is the city of the great King. ³⁶And do not swear by your head, for you cannot make one hair white or black. ³⁷Let your word be ‘Yes, Yes’ or ‘No, No’; anything more than this comes from the evil one.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

“Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive”

MORNING SONG

**'Forgive our sins as we forgive,'
you taught us, Lord, to pray,
but you alone can grant us grace
to live the words we say.**

**How can your pardon reach and bless
the unforgiving heart
that broods on wrongs and will not let
old bitterness depart?**

**In blazing light your cross reveals
the truth we dimly knew:
what trivial debts are owed to us,
how great our debt to you!**

**Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls
and bid resentment cease.**

**Then, bound to all in bonds of love,
our lives will spread your peace.**

Words: Rosamund Herklots, 1969

Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

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, 568 "Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated"

HENDON

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The lyrics are as follows:

1. Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed,
2. Take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti -
3. Take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sa -
4. Take my love, my God, I pour at thy feet its

Lord, to thee; take my hands and let them move
ful for thee; take my voice and let me sing
ges for thee; take my sil - ver and my gold,
treas - ure store; take my - self and I will be

at the im - pulse of thy love, at the im - pulse of thy love.
al - ways, on - ly, for my King, al - ways, on - ly, for my King.
not a mite would I with - hold, not a mite would I with - hold.
ev - er, on - ly, all for thee, ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

WORDS: Frances R. Havergal, 1874
MUSIC: Henri A. César Malan, 1827

HENDON
7.7.7.7.

*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

“All Things Bright and Beautiful *with*
This Is My Father’s World”
Linda R. Lamb, arr.

Evening Bells

*The Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts;
praise Jesus Christ, whose pow’r uplifts
praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, adapt.
Music: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Liturgy of Dedication

LEADER: In his book The Passion for Life theologian Jurgen Moltmann says that Christians are artists and our art is our life.

PEOPLE: But our life in turn is the expression of our faith and of our experiences of the Spirit of Christ.

LEADER: Christian life is, as theology in former times occasionally said, the *ars Deo vivendi*, the art of living with God for God.

PEOPLE: We are thus artists of life and we are called individually and communally to shape our life into an artwork which brings to expression something of the beauty of the divine grace and the freedom of the divine love.

LEADER: We dedicate today a visual symbol of our creative witness.

PEOPLE: May this banner point to the life we share and invite others to experience it.

LEADER: May those who view the banner be drawn in and moved to wonder.

PEOPLE: And may the beauty of this symbol deepen our experience of community.

*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 Joyful Praise”
Laurence Lyon

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The tune and text of *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated* are in the public domain.

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The Deacon on Call is Jamie Vogel. A 28-year member of First Baptist, Jamie serves as the church clerk and the secretary of deacons and is a member of the Worship Committee. He is a member of the Sanctuary Choir and of The Journey Sunday School Class. Jamie and his wife Cara Lynn have one son, Jesse.

The acolytes today are Megan and Rich Wood.

Kinley Pegram is our offering helper today, reminding us that no matter our age, we all can offer our gifts of thanksgiving to God. Jackson Bissette and Brooks Joyce are presenting our *Souper Bowl Sunday* offering of canned goods, a reminder that our gifts to God come in many forms. These canned goods will go to Urban Ministries Food Pantry to help feed those in our community who are food insecure.

Sympathy to the family of Royster Chamblee, Jr, who died January 18.

Church conference: Wednesday, February 15; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and meeting at 6:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for documents and Zoom link.

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 February 15 is: Chicken marsala with broccoli and potatoes; non-meat option: mock-chicken marsala; kids: chicken nuggets.

The next gathering of Theology on Tap is Thursday, February 16, at 6pm at Clouds Brewing (126 N. West Street). Please join us!

If you're interested in playing on the church softball team (co-ed, for adults 18 and up), contact Michael Hood (mhood@fbcraleigh.org) by February 19.

Mark your calendar now to attend the Ash Wednesday service on February 22 at 6:30pm in the sanctuary.

The CBF Annual Gathering will be held Thursday and Friday, March 23 and 24 at Ardmore Baptist Church in Winston-Salem. This year's even will be in-person as well as live-streamed. For more details and a link to register, see *The Rose Window Weekly*.

Register now for the churchwide retreat in Black Mountain on April 14–16. Pricing and more details can be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*; email Leah Reed (lreed@fbcraleigh.org) with the total number of adults and children in your party, along with your sleeping preferences (number per room).

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.).

157 stewardship cards totaling \$1,177,723 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 \$6,244 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 February 12-19

Sunday, February 12

- 9:00 Banner presentation and breakfast (fellowship hall)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Offertory (sanctuary & YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (220/Zoom)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)

Monday, February 13

- 10:00 Clothing ministry
- 6:15 Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)
- 6:30 High school Bible study (Wade home)
Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, February 14

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)

Wednesday, February 15

- 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 and children's suites)
Handbell rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, February 16

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Clouds Brewing)

Sunday, February 19

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship/Baby dedication (sanctuary & YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 12:15 Lunch Bunch (230)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (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:

