

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 9, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

EASTER

April 9, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Easter Sunday, the day we celebrate the good news of resurrection and all that it means for us — the promise of eternal life, the victory of love, the transcendence of hope, and the transformation that all of this makes possible. Such good news is worthy of our highest praise, and we offer this through glorious music, prayers of thanksgiving, and texts of assurance. But our experience with resurrection hope is often more subtle. Our encounters with the Risen Christ often require careful discernment. The sermon explores the more subtle signs of resurrection we see, noting that the reality to which they point is just as profound and transformative. Christ is risen, indeed, and because he is, nothing will ever be the same!

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

“I Know That My Redeemer Liveth” Becky Mercer, flute
G.F. Handel, from *Messiah*

The Introit

“This Is the Day: Rejoice!”

Grade-School Choir

Nancy Brown

Rhonda Lowe, piano

This is the day that the Lord has made: Rejoice and be glad in it.

Jesus, our Lord, is risen today: Alleluia.

All creation, join to say: Rejoice and be glad in him.

Speak of God’s wondrous acts: Glorify God’s name.

Words and Music: Nancy Brown, 1984

Arrangement: Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

LEADER: Sing to God a hymn of gladness.

PEOPLE: Give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good;

LEADER: Sing to God a hymn of praise.

PEOPLE: God’s steadfast love endures forever!

LEADER: Come worship God, come all, rejoice!

PEOPLE: This is God’s doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes!

LEADER: Lift up your hearts! Lift up your voice!

PEOPLE: This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it!

LEADER: Christ is risen!

PEOPLE: Christ is risen, indeed!

*The Hymn of Praise, 234 “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

EASTER HYMN

Caleb Carter, trumpet

*The Invocation

The Anthem

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain” Sanctuary Choir

John Ferguson, arr.

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness!
’Tis the spring of souls today; Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days’ sleep in death as a sun hath risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
For today among his own Christ appeared, bestowing
blessed peace, which evermore passes human knowing.
Neither could the gates of death nor the tomb’s dark portal
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold him as a mortal.
Now the queen of seasons, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
comes to gladden faithful hearts which with true affection
welcome in unwearied strains Jesus’ resurrection!
Alleluia! Now we cry to our Lord immortal.

Words: John of Damascus, 8th c.

translated: John Mason Neale, 1859, alt.

Music: Johann Horn, 1544

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 31:1–6

Suzanne Sanford

¹At that time, says the Lord, I will be the God of all the families of Israel, and they shall be my people. ²Thus says the Lord: The people who survived the sword found grace in the wilderness; when Israel sought for rest, ³the Lord appeared to him from far away. I have loved you with an everlasting love; therefore I have continued my faithfulness to you. ⁴Again I will build you, and you shall be built, O virgin Israel! Again you shall take your tambourines, and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers. ⁵Again you shall plant vineyards on the mountains of Samaria; the planters shall plant, and shall enjoy the fruit. ⁶For there shall be a day when sentinels will call in the hill country of Ephraim: “Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. ²Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, ³for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. ⁴When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**



Music: Celtic Alleluia
Finton O'Carroll & Christopher Walker, 1985

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

“Hail Thee, Festival Day”

Sanctuary Choir

Hal H. Hopson, arr.

Refrain: (All on repeats)



Hail thee, fes-ti-val day! The day that is hal-lowed for ev - er;



Day when the Lord a - rose, break-ing the bonds_____ of death.

See how the beauty of earth, reborn, blossoms forth from the winter.

See how it speaks of life, God's new life to the world. **(Refrain)**

He who was nailed to the cross is Lord of all creation.

All things created on earth sing to the glory of God. **(Refrain)**

God is the Lord of all life, God's word is assured to the nations,

Death has no more its sting, Life forever is won. **(Refrain)**

Let all the earth sing for joy; today the Lord has triumphed.

Nations give ear and be glad; Christ is alive; Sing for joy. **(Refrain)**

Words: Venantius Fortunatus, 6th c. trans.

Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

¹After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. ²And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. ³His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. ⁴For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. ⁵But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. ⁶He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. ⁷Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” ⁸So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. ⁹Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. ¹⁰Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

“That Easter Day with Joy Was Bright”

1 That Eas - ter day with joy was bright; the sun shone
2 He bade them see his hands, his side, where yet the
3 From ev - ery weap - on death can wield, your own re -

out with fair - er light when, to their long - ing
glo - rious wounds a - bide, the to - kens true which
deemed for - ev - er shield; O Lord of all, with

eyes re - stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
made it plain their Lord in - deed was risen a - gain.
us a - bide in this our joy - ful Eas - ter - tide.

The musical score is written in G major (one sharp) and 3/4 time. It consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system. The first system contains three lines of lyrics. The second system contains two lines. The third system contains three lines. The music ends with a double bar line.

Words: Latin hymn, 5th cent., trans. John Mason Neale, 1852, alt.

Music: Latin carol, 15th cent., adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Paying Attention to the More Subtle Signs”

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, 243

TRURO

“Christ Is Alive!”

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

“Toccatà” from *Symphony V*
Charles-Marie Widor

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Suzanne Sanford. A 44-year member of First Baptist, Suzanne is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship class and a volunteer for the clothing ministry. Suzanne has two children: Jennifer and Christopher, and one grandchild, Jude.

Our acolytes today are Bella and Olivia Kumah.

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Burke and Pauline Koonce, Calvin and Mary Grady Koonce, and Marvin and Ann Koonce by Vic and Mary Grady Bell and Battle and Kathryn Koonce.

Our thanks to Caleb Carter for sharing his musical gifts in today's service.

Sympathy to the family of Dorothy Sizemore, who died April 4.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, April 12; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm, in-person and via Zoom (link may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*). This week, we will feature a program by Habitat for Humanity of Wake County about their new housing community on Poole Road in East Raleigh. We will also hear about how they train volunteers to advocate for affordable housing.

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 April 12 is: hamburger steak and gravy with rice, fried apples, and mixed veggies; non-meat option: non-meat patty; kids: hamburgers.

Please keep the 93 people going on the churchwide retreat to Black Mountain this next weekend in your prayers.

The new Sunday School class is looking for a couch and upholstered chairs for their classroom. If you have any furniture you'd like to donate, please contact Tonya Carter at tonyacarter5@gmail.com.

If you are interested in being a part of a new Sunday School class for young couples, join us in room 224 on Sundays at 9:45am. For additional information, please contact Lou Anne and John Liverman (louanne.live@gmail.com) or Tonya and Lin Carter (tonyacarter5@gmail.com).

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
April 9–16

Sunday, April 9 *Easter*

- 8:30 JBC worship and potluck (fellowship hall)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)

Monday, April 10

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

Tuesday, April 11

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

Wednesday, April 12

- 5:15 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (301/37/311)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
- Handbell rehearsal (302)

Thursday, April 13

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)

Friday, April 14–Sunday, April 16

Churchwide retreat (Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain)

Sunday, April 16

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)
- JBC worship (226)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (Blue Room)



Easter Gifts

IN HONOR OF:

Bonnie Baker, by Linda Sears

Nick, Lauren, Caroline, and Savannah Bradley, by Shirley and John Hobson

Lorine Calloway, by her family

Carolyn Crutchfield, by the Hager family

Their mother, Ruth Dowell, by Jean Stevens, Susan Thomas, and Eric Dowell

Greg Flowers, by Marchelle Flowers

Greg and Marchelle Flowers, by Sonia Moore

Asher and Ryder Helms, by Sterling and Myra Brickell

Joan Hobson, by Shirley and John Hobson

Grandchildren Lili, Drew, and Ainsley Keown, by Jim and Jennie Keown

Fannie Memory Mitchell, by the Bullard family

Sonia Moore, by Greg and Marchelle Flowers

Danny Thomerson and Dean Blakeley, by the Bullard family

IN MEMORY OF:

Christy Isaacs Alston, by Linda Roberts

Maurice Baker, by Linda Sears

Doris Baldwin, by Max Baldwin and family

Jerry T. Blanchard, Sr. (Daddy and Granddaddy), by the Blanchards

Blayne Brown, by Jess and Chase Helms

Louise B. and Phil Brown, by the Stahmer family

Jim Clary, by Margaret Clary

Corbin Cooper and Nelson Cooper, by Joann Cooper

Dr. Graham Crutchfield and Rev. Joy Crutchfield Hager, by the Hager family

Glenn Davis (Daddy), by Brantley and Lindsey Blanchard
HF, Ginny, and Forest Flowers, by Greg and Marchelle Flowers
Pauline Wilkins Garrard, Sam Garrard, and John Wilkins, by Shirley and John Hobson
Janice Good, by Jim Good
Douglas and Evelyn Hager, by the Hager family
Anna Helms, by Sterling and Myra Brickell
Anna Helms, by Jess and Chase Helms
John and Sheila's parents, by John and Sheila Hite
Adele, their grandchildren's mother, by John and Sheila Hite
Edward Hobson, by Shirley and John Hobson
His mother, Ruby Hocutt, by William Hocutt
Andrew Howell, by Warren and Maureen Howell
Ernie and Mary Frances Johnson, by Emily Johnson
Scott Lingafelt, by Jess and Chase Helms
Randall and Lou Lolley, by the Lolley family
Kathy Roberts Mincey, by Dan Roberts
Dick Moore, by Greg and Marchelle Flowers
Patricia Motz-Frazier, by the Selna family
Joe E. Overman (Daddy and Papa), by the Blanchards
Durwood Pegram, by Jess and Chase Helms
Her grandparents, Emily and Clarence Perry, by Emily Johnson
Her uncle, Uriel O. Powell, by Mary Frances Ellington
Richard Gene Puckett, by Robbie Puckett
Betsy Purcell, by Pat Simpson
Ted Selna, by the Selna family
Bill and Pat Stahmer, by the Stahmer family
Jimmy Thompson, by the Weekday Preschool
Marianne Webb, by Joe Webb
Harold Yelverton, by Jess and Chase Helms