

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



May 28, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 28, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Pentecost, the day when the Spirit is poured out upon the faithful in Jerusalem. It is a day with previous significance in Judaism, Shavuot, the Feast of Weeks, which begins on the fiftieth day after Passover. This feast commemorates the giving of the law to Moses on Mt. Sinai and it allows the faithful making a pilgrimage to Jerusalem to bring the first fruits of harvest to God in gratitude and in search of a blessing. Pentecost is also a High Holy Day in the Christian year, a day when we celebrate the gift of the Spirit and the birth of the church. Our celebration includes traditional texts, joyous music, and prayers of thanksgiving. In addition, various visual elements point to the creative and nurturing role of the Spirit — LaCount Anderson's artwork on the cover of the worship order, the red stoles with descending doves, and the processional. The sermon explores different images we have of the Spirit and where they come from in an effort to deepen and expand our understanding and experience.

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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 and Introit "Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

John Holley, viola  
Sanctuary Choir

Like the murmur of the dove's song,  
like the challenge of her flight,  
like the vigor of the wind's rush,  
like the new flame's eager might:  
come, Holy Spirit, come.

Words: Carl P. Daw, 1981  
Tune: "Bridegroom," Peter Cutts, 1968

## The Invocation

LEADER: Come, Holy Spirit, come,

PEOPLE: **Come and fill us.**

LEADER: Come, fount of life, come.

PEOPLE: **Come and flow through us.**

LEADER: Come, wind of heaven, come,

PEOPLE: **Come with your power.**

LEADER: Come, flame of love, come,

PEOPLE: **Come with your passion.**

LEADER: Come, giver of all gifts, come,

PEOPLE: **Come and renew us.**

## The Call to Praise

Psalm 104:24–34

<sup>24</sup>O Lord, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

<sup>25</sup>Yonder is the sea, great and wide, creeping things innumerable are there,  
living things both small and great.

<sup>26</sup>There go the ships, and Leviathan  
that you formed to sport in it.

<sup>27</sup>These all look to you  
to give them their food in due season;

<sup>28</sup>when you give to them, they gather it up;  
when you open your hand, they are filled with good things.

<sup>29</sup>When you hide your face, they are dismayed;  
when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

<sup>30</sup>When you send forth your spirit, they are created;  
and you renew the face of the ground.

<sup>31</sup>May the glory of the Lord endure forever;  
may the Lord rejoice in his works—

<sup>32</sup>who looks on the earth and it trembles,  
who touches the mountains and they smoke.

<sup>33</sup>I will sing to the Lord as long as I live;  
I will sing praise to my God while I have being.

<sup>34</sup>May my meditation be pleasing to him,  
for I rejoice in the Lord.

## LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 2:1–21

Dorothy Holley

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

<sup>5</sup>Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. <sup>6</sup>And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. <sup>7</sup>Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? <sup>8</sup>And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? <sup>9</sup>Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, <sup>10</sup>Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, <sup>11</sup>Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” <sup>12</sup>All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” <sup>13</sup>But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

<sup>14</sup>But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. <sup>15</sup>Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. <sup>16</sup>No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel: <sup>17</sup>In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams. <sup>18</sup>Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. <sup>19</sup>And I will show portents in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and smoky mist. <sup>20</sup>The sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day. <sup>21</sup>Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 12:3b–13

<sup>3</sup>No one can say “Jesus is Lord” except by the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; <sup>5</sup>and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; <sup>6</sup>and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone. <sup>7</sup>To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. <sup>8</sup>To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, <sup>9</sup>to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, <sup>10</sup>to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. <sup>11</sup>All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses.

<sup>12</sup>For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. <sup>13</sup>For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Solo

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”  
Negro Spiritual, H.T. Burleigh, arr.

Greg Flowers

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

John 20:19–23

<sup>19</sup>When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

<sup>20</sup>After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup>Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” <sup>22</sup>When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup>If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

1 Wind who makes all winds that blow—gusts that bend the sap- lings low,  
 2 Fire who fuels all fires that burn—suns a- round which plan- ets turn,  
 3 Ho- ly Spir- it, Wind and Flame, move with- in our mor- tal frame.

gales that heave the sea in waves, stir- rings in the mind’s deep caves—  
 bea- cons mark- ing reefs and shoals, shin- ing truth to guide our souls—  
 Make our hearts an al- tar pyre, kin- dle them with your own fire.

aim your breath with stead- y power on your church this day, this hour.  
 come to us as once you came: burst in tongues of sa- cred flame!  
 Breathe and blow up- on that blaze till our lives, our deeds and ways,

Raise, re- new the life we’ve lost, Spir- it God of Pen- te- cost.  
 Light and Pow- er, Might and Strength, fill your church, its breadth and length.  
 speak that tongue which ev- ery land by your grace shall un- der- stand.

The Sermon

“Images of the Spirit”

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.*

\*The Hymn of Discipleship, 286

BRIDEGROOM

“Like the Murmur of the Dove’s Song”

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

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Maureen Howell

Marianne Kim

\*The congregation may stand.

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Cover art by LaCount Anderson.

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The Deacon on Call is Dorothy Holley. An 18-year member and first-term deacon, Dorothy is a member of the Sharing Thoughts Sunday School class. She serves on the Worship Committee and is an assistant leader for the GAs. She has two children, Elaine and John.

The acolytes today are Luke Foster and Elaine Holley.

The banner is sponsored today by the Everette Miller-Friendship Sunday School class in honor of all of their teachers.

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the May 21 birth of Brooks William Padget, son of Zach Padget and Alison Coppock, little brother to Jack, and grandson of Mary Tetro.

The annual end-of-year picnic and the second annual team scavenger hunt, will be held this Wednesday, May 31, from 5:30–8pm at shelter 4 (520 Ash Avenue) at Pullen Park. Go to <https://fbcraleigh.org/foodservice/> or call Deborah Mastrodonato (919-832-4485) to make supper reservations.

Our May mission project is collecting items for the preschool program in El Carrizo, Honduras, such as chubby crayons and pencils, construction paper, glue sticks, coloring pencils, and safety scissors. Place your donations in the drawer marked for Honduras donations in the Lewis lobby. Questions? Contact Cara Lynn Vogel ([clvogel@gmail.com](mailto:clvogel@gmail.com)).

Vacation Bible School will be held Monday, July 17–Friday, July 21, from 9am–noon and it's for rising three-year-olds through rising 6<sup>th</sup> graders. Friends and neighbors are welcome too! Register by Wednesday, June 7, by going to <https://www.dropbox.com/s/n2n6vwp5kpfawv/2023%20Registration%20Form2-fillable.pdf?dl=0>.

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**

**May 28–June 4**

Sunday, May 28

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

Monday, May 29 *Memorial Day holiday*

Church office and clothing ministry closed

Tuesday, May 30

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

Wednesday, May 31

- 5:30 End-of-year picnic (Shelter 4, Pullen Park)

Thursday, June 1

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Saturday, June 3

- 8:30 *And Also With 'Que* BBQ class (parking lot)

Sunday, June 4 *Graduation Sunday*

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