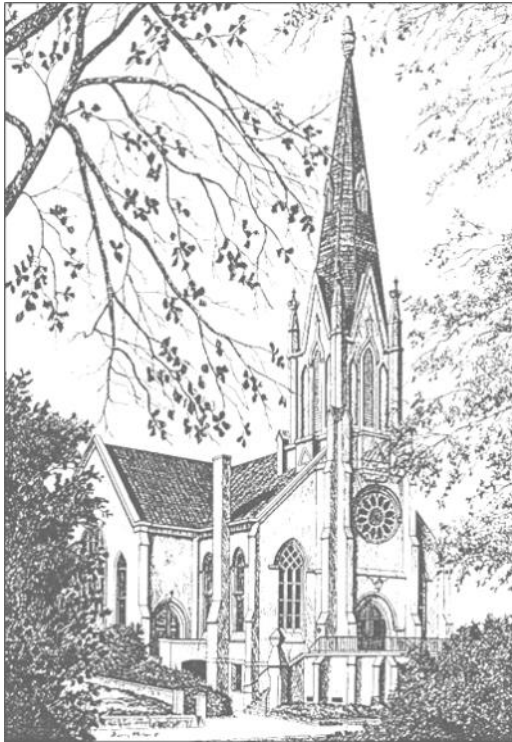


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 2, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 2, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the fifth Sunday following Pentecost. For today's worship, we continue our journey through the Abraham and Isaac narrative with the well-known story of the binding of Isaac. Today's sermon explores that story and how it calls us to focus on God's grace when we find ourselves in situations where clear answers elude us. Our worship through song and reading is also centered around that grace which God extends to us in our lives. Together our worship this Sunday invites us to ponder on how God is present in our world and how we might lean upon God's grace and mercy more and more.

\*\*\*\*\*

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

"The Sun Is on the Land and Sea"

Sanctuary Choir

Austin Lovelace

The sun is on the land and sea, the day begun;  
Our morning hymn begins with Thee, blest Three in One;  
Our praise shall rise continually till day is done.  
Thy love was ever in our view, like stars, by night;  
Thy gifts are every morning new, O God of light;  
Thy mercy, like the heavens' blue, fills all our sight.  
We do not know what grief or care the day may bring;  
The heart shall find some gladness there that loves its King;  
The life that serves Thee everywhere can always sing.

Words: Louis F. Benson, 1897

The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise, 130 “O for a Thousand Tongues To Sing”

AZMON

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Prayer of Illumination

Lynn Lingafelt

LEADER: Welcoming God, send your Spirit.

PEOPLE: **Life-giving Word, inspire us.**

LEADER: Open our hearts to your wisdom and truth,

PEOPLE: **that your light and love will radiate in our lives.**

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a tempo marking of quarter note = 70. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The key signature has one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: "In still - ness, your Word, in dark - ness, your Light, in dy - ing, your Life, and in liv - ing, your Love." The piano accompaniment features chords and some moving lines, particularly in the bass line of the second system.

Words and Music: Daniel Charles Damon, 2014

<sup>1</sup> After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>2</sup>He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you."

<sup>3</sup>So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. <sup>4</sup>On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. <sup>5</sup>Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." <sup>6</sup>Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. <sup>7</sup>Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" <sup>8</sup>Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

<sup>9</sup>When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. <sup>10</sup>Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. <sup>11</sup>But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." <sup>12</sup>He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." <sup>13</sup>And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. <sup>14</sup>So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, do not let sin exercise dominion in your mortal bodies, to make you obey their passions. <sup>13</sup>No longer present your members to sin as instruments of wickedness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

<sup>15</sup>What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! <sup>16</sup>Do you not know that if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? <sup>17</sup>But thanks be to God that you, having once been slaves of sin, have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted, <sup>18</sup>and that you, having been set free from sin, have become slaves of righteousness. <sup>19</sup>I am speaking in human terms because of your natural limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and to greater and greater iniquity, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness for sanctification.

<sup>20</sup>When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. <sup>21</sup>So what advantage did you then get from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. <sup>22</sup>But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the advantage you get is sanctification. The end is eternal life. <sup>23</sup>For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Reflection on “Amazing Grace”

Maureen Howell

All:

**Amazing grace! how sweet the sound  
that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind but now I see.**

Words: John Newton, 1779

Tune: American, 1829

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 10:40–42

<sup>40</sup>“Whoever welcomes you welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes the one who sent me. <sup>41</sup>Whoever welcomes a prophet in the name of a prophet will receive a prophet’s reward; and whoever welcomes a righteous person in the name of a righteous person will receive the reward of the righteous; <sup>42</sup>and whoever gives even a cup of cold water to one of these little ones in the name of a disciple—truly I tell you, none of these will lose their reward.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Song of Response

*(Congregation to sing as invited.)*

God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;  
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two systems of music. Each system has a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first system of music corresponds to the first line of lyrics, and the second system corresponds to the second line. The music is written in a simple, accessible style suitable for a congregation.

Words : John L. Bell, 2008  
Music: South African Song

*(from "Amazing Grace")*

**When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.**

The Sermon

Michael Hood

"It Must Be Exhausting Always Rooting for the Anti-hero"

### 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, 45

NETTLETON

“Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

## DEPARTING TO SERVE

\*The Benediction

\*The Amen

Sanctuary Choir

\*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

“Festive Trumpet Tune”

Maureen Howell

David German

\*The congregation may stand.

\*\*\*\*\*

The following is reprinted and/or streamed with permission, all rights reserved, under ONE LICENSE #A-708116: *The Sun is On the Land and Sea*, Music: Austin Lovelace © 1973 H.W. Gray Publications/Jubilate Music Group; *In Stillness, Your Word*, Text and Music: Daniel Charles Damon © 2014 Hope Publishing Company; *God Welcomes All*, Words, transcription and arrangement: John L. Bell © 2008 WGRG c/o Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent; *Festive Trumpet Tune*, David German © 1990 Fred Bock Music Company.

All scripture quotations contained herein are from the *New Revised Standard Version Bible*, copyright 1989, by the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



The Deacon on Call is Charles Petty. A 50-year member of First Baptist, Charles is a teacher of the John Hiott Fellowship class and is a member of the Properties Committee. He and his wife Jamie have two sons and six grandchildren.

The sanctuary flowers are given by Rebecca, Ellen, and Lawrence Clayton in thankfulness for the life of Ivie Lawrence Clayton, a life well-lived.

Dr. Chapman is on vacation from Tuesday, June 27 through Saturday, July 8. Michael Hood is preaching in his absence today.

The Heck-Jones offering provides a way for our congregation to connect to mission work with ties to our church. As of June 22, we have received \$452 towards our goal of \$10,000. Details may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

Please note that the church office will be closed Tuesday, July 4, in observation of Independence Day.

The clothing ministry is in desperate need of men's shirts and shorts for the summer. Any sizes and styles (t-shirts, short-sleeves, casual shirts, etc.) are happily accepted until July 15. After that, we will halt donations while repairs are made to the clothing ministry space.

Please note: until July 19, the state parking lot will not be open due to construction on the lot, and the door to the Lewis Building will not be unlocked until the work is finished. That door can only be used as an emergency exit, not an entrance (in an emergency, exit and go to your right).

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**

### **July 2-9**

Sunday, July 2

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship/Michael Hood preaching (sanctuary & YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)

Monday, July 3

10:00 Clothing ministry closed in observation of Independence Day

Tuesday, July 4 *Independence Day*

Church office closed

Wednesday, July 5

7:00 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, July 6

7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Sunday, July 9

9:45 Sunday School

11:00 Worship/Communion (sanctuary & YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)

4:30 Toy Joy meeting (conference room)