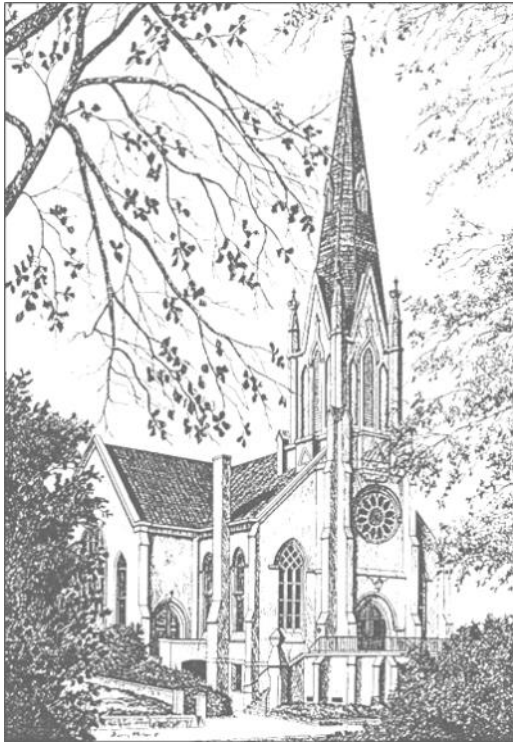


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



June 11, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 11, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Second Sunday after Pentecost and the beginning of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. In this lengthy season which ends with the Reign of Christ in November, there are options for biblical texts and an invitation to explore many themes related to spiritual growth. The liturgical color is green, a visual sign of growth, and we wear the community stoles made from materials provided and assembled by church members, symbols of our community of faith which seeks growth. While today's service music and prayers reflect all the texts, the sermon focuses on Jesus' radical acts of inclusion found in the reading from Matthew. Time and again, Jesus offends the religious sensibilities of others by not only welcoming into his presence but calling as followers the very people thought to be unworthy of the covenant community. When the Pharisees question his actions, Jesus says it is for these very people that he has come, and he quotes the prophet Hosea who says God desires mercy, not sacrifice; God's focus is on love, not judgment. The story suggests a question — what have we done to offend the religious sensibilities of others?

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 Prelude

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
Emma Lou Diemer

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

based on Psalm 50:7–15

LEADER: For the beauty of the earth,

PEOPLE: **we give you praise, O God.**

LEADER: For the glory of the skies,

PEOPLE: **we give you praise, O God.**

LEADER: For every wild animal of the forest,

PEOPLE: **for the cattle on a thousand hills,**

LEADER: for the birds of the air, and all that moves,

PEOPLE: **we give you praise, O God.**

LEADER: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving,

PEOPLE: **pay your vows to the Most High.**

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 353

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

DIX

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Hosea 5:15 – 6:6

Robert Ponton

¹I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor: ¹“Come, let us return to the Lord; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. ²After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. ³Let us know, let us press on to know the Lord; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

⁴What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. ⁵Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. ⁶For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹³For the promise that he would inherit the world did not come to Abraham or to his descendants through the law but through the righteousness of faith. ¹⁴If it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. ¹⁵For the law brings wrath; but where there is no law, neither is there violation. ¹⁶For this reason it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his descendants, not only to the adherents of the law but also to those who share the faith of Abraham (for he is the father of all of us, ¹⁷as it is written, “I have made you the father of many nations”) —in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. ¹⁸Hoping against hope, he believed that he would become “the father of many nations,” according to what was said, “So numerous shall your descendants be.” ¹⁹He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was already as good as dead (for he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah’s womb. ²⁰No distrust made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, ²¹being fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. ²²Therefore his faith “was reckoned to him as righteousness.”

²³Now the words, “it was reckoned to him,” were written not for his sake alone, ²⁴but for ours also. It will be reckoned to us who believe in him who raised Jesus our Lord from the dead, ²⁵who was handed over to death for our trespasses and was raised for our justification.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

Choir:

O Christ, the healer, we have come
to pray for health, to plead for friends.
How can we fail to be restored,
when reached by love that never ends?

All:

Grant that we all, made one in faith, in your com -
mun - i - ty may find the whole - ness that, en - rich - ing
us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in 3/4 time, G major. The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1969
Tune: "O Waly Waly," Trad. English

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.**

⁹As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he got up and followed him. ¹⁰And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. ¹¹When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” ¹²But when he heard this, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. ¹³Go and learn what this means, ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners.”

¹⁸While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, “My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live.” ¹⁹And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. ²⁰Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, ²¹for she said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well.” ²²Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, “Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well.” And instantly the woman was made well. ²³When Jesus came to the leader’s house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, ²⁴he said, “Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping.” And they laughed at him. ²⁵But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. ²⁶And the report of this spread throughout that district.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Anthem

“In the Singing”
Carlton Young

Sanctuary Choir

In the singing, in the silence,
in the hands expectant open,
in the blessing, in the breaking,
in the Presence at this table,
 Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
 be the wine of grace:
 Jesus Christ, Jesus Christ,
 be the bread of peace.

In the question, in the answer,
in the moment of acceptance,
in the heart’s cry, in the healing,
in the circle of your people.

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1996
Musical Setting: John Helgen, 2007

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Celebration of Communion

The Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Bread Is Broken

The Cup Is Shared

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, 451

ARISE

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”

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

“Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy”
Wilbur Held

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Robert Ponton. A lifetime member of First Baptist, Robert serves as a member of the Board of Trustees and as a teacher for The Journey Sunday School class. He and his wife Jan have two grown and married children, Amy and Rob, and five grandchildren.

The sanctuary flowers are gratefully given in loving memory of O. H. and Madge Dillard by their family.

The Thirty-Niners senior group will gather this Thursday, June 15, at Captain Stanley's Calabash Seafood (3333 S Wilmington Street). We have reservations in the Carroll Room for 11am. Meet at church at 10:30 am to ride the church bus.

On Wednesday, June 21, from 6-7:30pm, we will be hosting a showing of Patrick Nichols' film *Palm Sunday*, followed by a time of discussion in the fellowship hall. We'll start the evening off with a pizza dinner; RSVP by contacting Deborah Mastrodonato in the church office (919-832-485 or dmast@fbcraleigh.org). If you need child care (babies through 2nd graders), contact Lynn Lingafelt at llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org by June 14.

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

June 11-18

Sunday, June 11

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

Monday, June 12

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 6:15 Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)

Tuesday, June 13

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

Thursday, June 15

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners' outing to Captain Stanley's (3333 S. Wilmington St)

Sunday, June 18

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

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