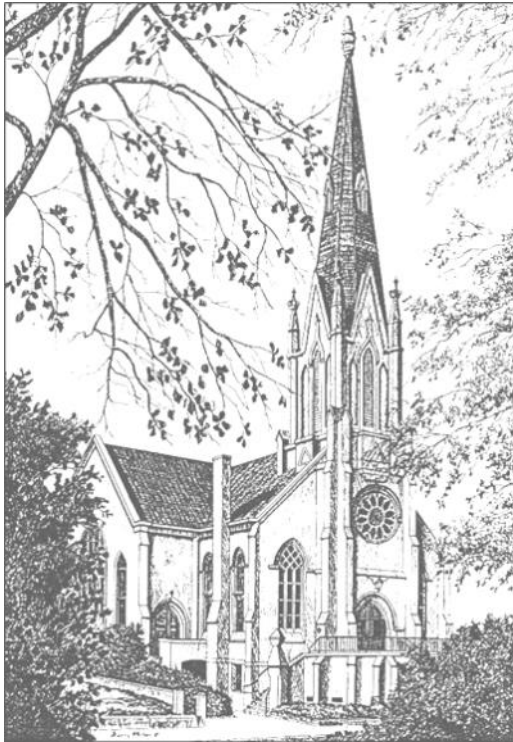


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 1, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 1, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is World Communion Sunday, a day set aside to celebrate Christian unity around the world. The celebration began in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was adopted by the U.S. Presbyterian Church in 1936 and then endorsed by the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) in 1940. We offer prayers today for the church universal, lifting up special concerns for our sisters and brothers who live in contexts of persecution and suffering. We sing songs of praise to the God who creates us all and calls us to find our place not just in this church but in the larger body of Christ which encompasses the whole world. We celebrate the global nature of the church by voicing the Lord's Prayer not just in English but in various languages from other parts of the world. The sermon explores the theme of humility found in the reading from Philippians, a Christian virtue that builds unity in the church and enhances our witness to the world. We conclude worship by celebrating communion, a sacred meal we share with believers of all times and places.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Leah Reed

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

"Simple Gifts"  
J. Wayne Kerr

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based upon Psalm 78

LEADER: Praise the Lord who is our provider.

PEOPLE: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

LEADER: God brought us out of bondage and has made us free.

PEOPLE: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

LEADER: Glorious and mighty are the deeds of our God,

PEOPLE: **The Lord is our hope. Our trust is in God.**

\*The Hymn of Praise

“Table of Plenty”

Refrain

Come to the feast of heav-en and earth! Come to the ta -  
 - ble of plen - ty! God will pro-vide for all that we  
 need, here at the ta - ble of plen - ty.

Verses

1. O come and sit at my ta - ble where saints and  
 2. O come and eat with-out mon-ey; & come to  
 3. My bread will ev - er sus - tain you through days of  
 4. Your fields will flow - er in full-ness; your homes will

1. sin - ners are friends. I wait to wel-come the lost and  
 2. drink with - out price. My feast of glad-ness will feed your  
 3. sor - row and woe. My wine will flow like a sea of  
 4. flour - ish in peace. For I, the giv - er of home and

to Refrain

1. lone - ly to share the cup of my love.  
 2. spir - it with faith and full - ness of life.  
 3. glad-ness to flood the depths of your soul.  
 4. har - vest, will send my rain on the soil.

Words & Music: Dan Schutte, 1992  
 Jay Foster, guitar  
 Will Mercer, bass

\*The Invocation

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Exodus 17:1-7

Dennis Ellis

<sup>1</sup>From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. <sup>2</sup>The people quarreled with Moses, and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the Lord?" <sup>3</sup>But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and livestock with thirst?" <sup>4</sup>So Moses cried out to the Lord, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me." <sup>5</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. <sup>6</sup>I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink." Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. <sup>7</sup>He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the Lord, saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

"Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel"

Youth Choir

Negro Spiritual/Roger Emerson, arr.

Didn't my lord deliver Daniel,  
then why not everyone?

He delivered Daniel from the lion's den,  
Jonah from the belly of the whale.  
And the Hebrew children from the fiery furnace,  
then why not everyone?

I set my foot on the gospel ship  
and the ship began to sail.  
It landed me over on Canaan's shore  
and I'll never come back no more.

<sup>1</sup>If then there is any encouragement in Christ, any consolation from love, any sharing in the Spirit, any compassion and sympathy, <sup>2</sup>make my joy complete: be of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind. <sup>3</sup>Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility regard others as better than yourselves. <sup>4</sup>Let each of you look not to your own interests, but to the interests of others. <sup>5</sup>Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup>who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, <sup>7</sup>but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, <sup>8</sup>he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death— even death on a cross. <sup>9</sup>Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, <sup>10</sup>so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, <sup>11</sup>and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

<sup>12</sup>Therefore, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed me, not only in my presence, but much more now in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; <sup>13</sup>for it is God who is at work in you, enabling you both to will and to work for his good pleasure.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

### The Song of Reflection

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show  
us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you.

Words: Tom Colvin, 1969  
Music: Ghanaian folk melody

## The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven.**

**Hallowed be thy Name.**

Rose Dammann — German

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.**

Azamat Allaiarov — Bashkort

**Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

Jun Matsuzaki — Japanese

**Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.**

David Guzman — Spanish

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

Ebele Saint Louis — Igbo

## The Gospel

Matthew 21:23–32

<sup>23</sup>When he entered the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people came to him as he was teaching, and said, “By what authority are you doing these things, and who gave you this authority?” <sup>24</sup>Jesus said to them, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. <sup>25</sup>Did the baptism of John come from heaven, or was it of human origin?” And they argued with one another, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say to us, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ <sup>26</sup>But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we are afraid of the crowd; for all regard John as a prophet.” <sup>27</sup>So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And he said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.

<sup>28</sup>“What do you think? A man had two sons; he went to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ <sup>29</sup>He answered, ‘I will not’; but later he changed his mind and went. <sup>30</sup>The father went to the second and said the same; and he answered, ‘I go, sir’; but he did not go. <sup>31</sup>Which of the two did the will of his father?” They said, “The first.” Jesus said to them, “Truly I tell you, the tax collectors and the prostitutes are going into the kingdom of God ahead of you. <sup>32</sup>For John came to you in the way of righteousness and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him; and even after you saw it, you did not change your minds and believe him.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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



1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, And I  
 2. I danced for the scribe and the phar-i-see, But  
 3. I danced on the Sab-bath and I cured the lame: The  
 4. I danced on a Fri-day when the sky turned black; It's  
 5. They cut me down and I leapt up high; †



danced in the moon and the stars and the sun, And I  
 they would not dance, and they would-n't fol-low me; I  
 ho-ly peo-ple said it was a shame. They  
 hard to dance with the dev-il on your back. They  
 I am the life that'll nev-er, nev-er die; I'll



came down from heav-en and I danced on the earth; At  
 danced for the fish-er-men, for James and John; They  
 whipped and they stripped and they hung me high, And  
 bur-ied my bod-y and they thought I'd gone; But  
 live in you if you'll live in me: †



Beth-le-hem I had my birth.  
 came with me and the dance went on.  
 left me there on a Cross to die.  
 I am the dance and I still go on.  
 I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.



Dance, then, wher-ev-er you may be; I am the



Lord of the Dance, said he, And I'll lead you all, wher-



ev-er you may be, And I'll lead you all in the Dance, said he.

Words: Sydney Carter, 1963

Music: American Shaker Melody, Sydney Carter, adapt

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“A Basic Calling to Humility”

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Celebration of Communion

The Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Bread Is Broken

The Cup Is Shared

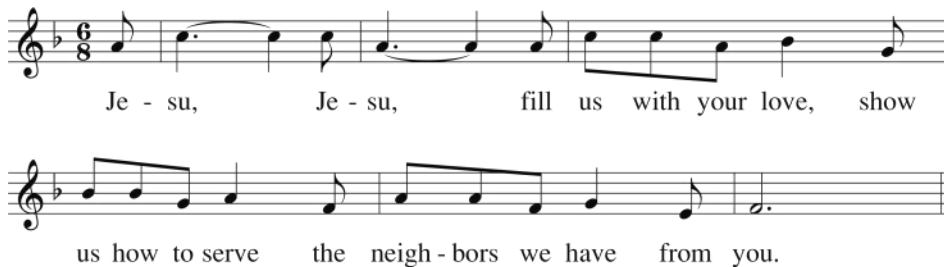
The Invitation to Christian Discipleship

*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 “Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love”

CHEREPONI



Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show  
us how to serve the neigh - bors we have from you.

**Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
Silently washes their feet,  
Master who pours out himself for them.**

**Neighbors are wealthy and poor,  
Varied in color and race,  
Neighbors are nearby and far away.**

**These are the ones we should serve,  
These are the ones we should love:  
all these are neighbors to us and you.**

**Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
Silently washing their feet:  
This is the way we should live with you.**

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

“Simple Gifts”  
John Leavitt

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Dennis Ellis. A 32-year member of First Baptist, Dennis is the church moderator and deacon chair, as well as being the president of Baptist Men. He teaches the Grade 6 Sunday School class and is a member of the Sanctuary Choir. Dennis and his wife Diane have four children and nine grandchildren.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Louise B. Brown, Bill and Pat Stahmer, and Phil Brown by Art, Melanie, Hannah, and Will Stahmer.

Deacon election begins today and concludes on Sunday, October 29. You may submit your ballot in the offering plate at Sunday worship services, in the ballot box in the church office, or by mailing it to the church office. Address questions to any of the current deacons. Please prayerfully consider your choices for our deacon leadership.

Join us for the Blessing of the Animals service this evening at 5pm at the Oak Room shelter at Dorothea Dix park. All animals welcome (leashed or in a carrier!).

Centerpoint: Wednesday, October 4; meal served at 5:15pm, program and meeting at 6:15pm. Our speaker, Rabbi Lucy Dinner from Temple Beth Or. Will address the contemporary experiences with anti-semitism.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website ([www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice](http://www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice)), by email ([dmast@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:dmast@fbcraleigh.org)), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu for October 4 is: shrimp and grits with veggie medley; non-meat: grits; kids: onion rings.

Please keep the 15 people going on the middle school retreat to Camp Caraway from October 6–8 in your prayers.

Our mission project for October is the CROP Walk, which will be held on Sunday, October 29. You can support the Walk and the FBC teams by walking or donating. Read more details in *Rose Window Weekly*.

The annual Community Historic Church Walk is on Saturday, October 7, from 9am-12pm, If you would like to assist Carolyn Dickens with welcoming visitors, contact her at [chdickens@earthlink.net](mailto:chdickens@earthlink.net).

There are two open dates in November for flowers or a banner in the sanctuary for Sunday worship: November 12 and 19. If you would like to donate one of those days, please contact Myra Brickell (919-812-6680 or [myrabrickell@gmail.com](mailto:myrabrickell@gmail.com)).

The clothing ministry is in urgent need of adult winter coats, all sizes, new or used! Please also note that we are now accepting clothing donations for fall and winter only; please hold all summer donations at this time. We are grateful for your continued support that allows us to help keep our neighbors warm!

Our NC Missions Offering helps fund non-profit organizations doing work and providing services primarily in North Carolina. Through the generosity of FBC members, we have received \$591.36.

The Heck-Jones offering provides a way for our congregation to connect to mission work with ties to our church. So far, we have received \$3,957 towards our goal of \$10,000.

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.

Visiting? We'd love to get to know you. Scan the QR code to the right to share your contact information.



## Calendar Highlights • October 1–8

### **Sunday, October 1**      *World Communion Sunday*

- 9:00      Adult Sunday School teachers' breakfast (fellowship hall)  
            Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45      Sunday School
- 11:00     Worship/deacon ballots available (sanctuary & YouTube)  
            JBC worship (226)  
            First grade worship prep class (231)
- 5:00      Blessing of the Animals (Oak Room shelter/Dix park)

### **Monday, October 2**

- 10:00     Clothing ministry open
- 6:15      Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)
- 6:30      Music Made in Heaven (302)

### **Tuesday, October 3**

- 10:00     Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45     WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00      WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30      Yoga class (319)
- 6:00      Properties Committee meeting (Zoom)

### **Wednesday, October 4**

- 5:15      Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45      Children's music (301/307/311)
- 6:15      Centerpoint (fellowship hall)
- 6:30      Children's missions (children's and preschool suites)  
            Handbell rehearsal (302)
- 7:30      Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

### **Thursday, October 5**

- 7:00      Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30     Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)
- 6:00      High school Bible study (Sasser home)

### **Saturday, October 7**

- 9:00      Downtown Historic Church Walk (sanctuary)

### **Sunday, October 8**

- 9:00      Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45      Sunday School
- 10:00     JBC Sunday School and worship (Lake Crabtree)
- 11:00     Worship/deacon ballots available (sanctuary & YouTube)  
            First grade worship prep class (231)
- 5:00      Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00      Youth supper (fellowship hall)
- 6:30      Youth program (fellowship hall/Blue Room)