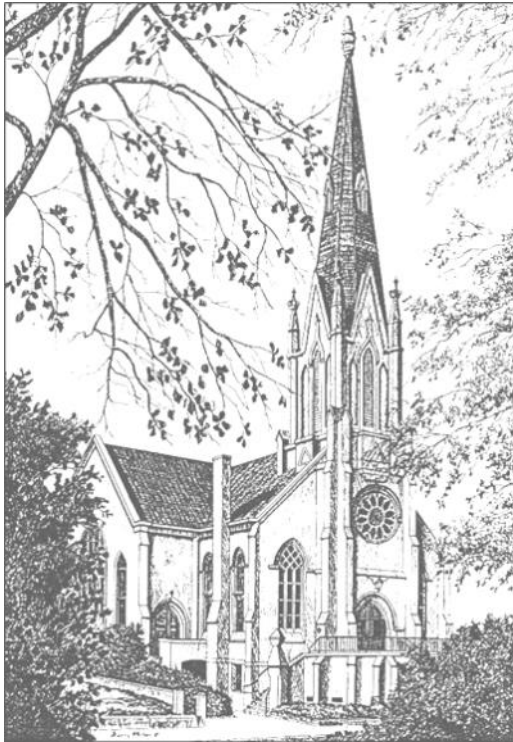


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 15, 2023

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 15, 2023

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the twentieth Sunday after Pentecost, a season in which we continue to study and look for signs of God's grace. We will hear words of praise and adoration to God from our children's choir, followed by readings, prayers, and hymns that center on an abiding sense of peace in the midst of a tumultuous time in our world. In the sermon, we'll focus on a familiar Pauline letter to the community at Phillippi, where Paul seemingly speaks words of encouragement and positive thinking amidst anxious times. Perhaps there is a message to glean beyond the superficial that can serve as a beacon of hope for us today.

\* \* \* \* \*

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

"O Day of Peace"  
Charles Callahan

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

“The Words of My Mouth”

Grade-School Choir

Ruth Elaine Schram

Rhonda Lowe, piano

*Refrain: (Congregation joins on repeats)*

My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. My  
mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. May the words of my mouth and the  
thoughts of my heart be— pleas-ing in Your sight, O Lord.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one sharp (F#), and a 4/4 time signature. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with a repeat sign at the end. The lyrics 'My mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. My' are written below the first staff. The second staff continues the melody with similar note values and a repeat sign. The lyrics 'mouth will speak in praise of the Lord. May the words of my mouth and the' are written below. The third staff concludes the phrase with a final cadence. The lyrics 'thoughts of my heart be— pleas-ing in Your sight, O Lord.' are written below. The piece ends with a double bar line.

For you, O Lord, are my Rock.  
And you, O Lord, are my Redeemer.  
May the words of my mouth and the thoughts  
of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O Lord.

Psalm 19:14, 145:21

The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise, 34

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Exodus 32:1-14

Randall Burnette

<sup>1</sup>When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."

<sup>2</sup>Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." <sup>3</sup>So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears, and brought them to Aaron. <sup>4</sup>He took the gold from them, formed it in a mold, and cast an image of a calf; and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" <sup>5</sup>When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it; and Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the Lord." <sup>6</sup>They rose early the next day, and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to revel.

<sup>7</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; <sup>8</sup>they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf, and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" <sup>9</sup>The Lord said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. <sup>10</sup>Now let me alone, so that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them; and of you I will make a great nation."

<sup>11</sup>But Moses implored the Lord his God, and said, "O Lord, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? <sup>12</sup>Why should the Egyptians say, 'It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains, and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people.

<sup>13</sup>Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, 'I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.'" <sup>14</sup>And the Lord changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>1</sup>“Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup>“The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup>He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup>Again he sent other slaves, saying, ‘Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>5</sup>But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup>while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup>The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup>Then he said to his slaves, ‘The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup>Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.’ <sup>10</sup>Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup>“But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup>and he said to him, ‘Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?’ And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup>Then the king said to the attendants, ‘Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ <sup>14</sup>For many are called, but few are chosen.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

## The Anthem

## “Ain’a That Good News!”

## Sanctuary Choir

## Negro Spiritual

I’ve got a crown up in the Kingdom,  
Ain’a that good news.

*I’m gonna to lay down this world,  
Gonna to shoulder up my cross:  
Gonna to take it home to my Jesus,  
Ain’a that good news.*

I’ve got a harp up in the Kingdom,  
Ain’a that good news.

I’ve got a robe up in the Kingdom,  
Ain’a that good news.

I’ve got a Savior in the Kingdom,  
Ain’a that good news.

Words: Traditional Negro Spiritual  
Music: William L. Dawson, arr. 1937

The Morning Prayer

Michael Hood

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 Hymn of Devotion "O Day of Peace That Dimly Shines"

JERUSALEM



1. O day of peace that dim - ly  
2. Then shall the wolf dwell with the



shines Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams, Guide us to  
lamb Nor shall the fierce de - vour the small; As beasts and



jus - tice, truth and love; De - liv - ered from our self - ish  
cat - tle calm - ly graze, A lit - tle child shall lead them



schemes. May swords of hate fall from our hands, Our hearts from  
all. Then en - e - mies shall learn to love, All crea - tures



en - vy find re - lease, Till by God's grace our war - ring  
find their true ac - cord; The hope of peace shall be ful -



world Shall see Christ's prom - ised reign of peace.  
filled, For all the earth shall know the Lord.

Words: Carl P. Daw, 1982  
Music: Charles H. Parry, 1916

<sup>1</sup>Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

<sup>2</sup>I urge Euodia and I urge Syntyche to be of the same mind in the Lord.

<sup>3</sup>Yes, and I ask you also, my loyal companion, help these women, for they have struggled beside me in the work of the gospel, together with Clement and the rest of my co-workers, whose names are in the book of life.

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. <sup>6</sup>Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. <sup>7</sup>And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

<sup>8</sup>Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. <sup>9</sup>Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

“Glimmers”

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, 369 “Lord of All Hopefulness”

SLANE

\*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

“Lord of All Hopefulness”  
John Purifoy, arr.

Becky Mercer, flute



\*The Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose pow'r uplifts!  
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesäng, 1623  
Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, adapt.

## 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

"Ain't-a That Good News"  
Marianne Kim

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Randall Burnette. A 27-year member, Randall is a member of the Formations Sunday School class. He and his wife Marianna have two grown children, Lindsey and Noah.

The pulpit banner is provided by First Baptist Weekday Preschool in honor of the wonderful ministerial staff and support staff here at the church.

Our offering helper today is Elizabeth Yelverton, reminding us that no matter our age, we all can offer our gifts of thanksgiving to God.

Sympathy to the family of Nancy Jo Fleming, who died on Sunday, October 8; to Bill and Lynn Loomis on the October 9 death of her daughter, Jennifer Lane; and to the family of Andy Wilson, who died on October 11.

Dr. Chapman will be out of the office until tomorrow. Leah Reed is preaching in his absence.

Deacon elections continue until 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.

Today is the last donation day for used items for Toy Joy. You may drop your items off in the fellowship hall from 12 to 3pm. Please note: this is the only date we can accept and process used donations (you may bring new donations at any time).

Centerpoint: Wednesday, October 18; meal served at 5:15pm, program and meeting at 6:15pm. Trying to keep track of the changes underway in our downtown neighborhood? Our guest speaker has the answers! This week's program will be led by Bill King, president and CEO of the Downtown Raleigh Alliance. Come and learn what is happening and what is on the horizon in downtown Raleigh.

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). On October 18, we will have breakfast for supper!

Please join us at our next gathering of Theology on Tap on Thursday, October 19, at 6pm at Clouds Brewing (126 N. West Street).

The new Sunday School class, *Connections*, invites people, regardless of age or life status, to join them Sundays at 9:45 in room 224 for fellowship and for studying God's word together. For more information about the class, please contact Tonya and Lin Carter ([tonyacarter5@gmail.com](mailto:tonyacarter5@gmail.com)) and/or Lou Anne and John Liverman ([louanne.live@gmail.com](mailto:louanne.live@gmail.com)).

Next Sunday (October 22), from 3–7pm, is the Fall Festival, and it will be held at Optimist Farm (2908 Optimist Farm Road in Apex). The cost is \$10 per ticket, with a cap of \$40 per family, payable online on the church's website, the Give + Kiosk, cash or check via the church office, or by using the QR code on flyers around the church.

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*.

Toy Joy is November 11 and we need volunteers for set-up the day before as well as for both morning and afternoon sessions the day of the event. We also need people who would like to provide entertainment in the afternoon. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for the sign-up link and more information.

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 \$741.36.

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 15–22

### Sunday, October 15

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC-JBC Worship/Leah Reed preaching/deacon ballots  
available (sanctuary & YouTube)  
First grade worship prep class (231)
- 12:00 Toy Joy collection (fellowship hall)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Youth program (fellowship hall/Blue Room)

### Monday, October 16

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 5:30 Dream Team meeting (219)
- 6:15 Finance Committee meeting
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven (302)

### Tuesday, October 17

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

### Wednesday, October 18

- 1:00 WMU Circle #7 (parlor)
- 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 19

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

### Saturday, October 21

- 12:00 Memorial service for Nancy Jo Fleming; reception following  
(sanctuary/fellowship hall)

### Sunday, October 22

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/deacon ballots available (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (220/Zoom)
- 3:00 Fall Festival (Optimist Farm)