

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



March 24, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
PALM SUNDAY

March 24, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Palm Sunday, the day we remember Jesus' entry into Jerusalem. There is tension between the joy of this day and the shadow that is cast upon it by the cross that is sure to come. Thus, we begin with children bringing palms forward and the singing of "All Glory, Laud and Honor" but end by singing these words, "Instead of palms a winding sheet will have to be unrolled, a carpet much more fit to greet the king a cross will hold." The sermon explores the irony found in this story and in Mark's telling of it. As we have been throughout this Lenten season, we are pushed to ponder what we learn about Jesus today and what the implications are for us.

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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

"Prelude on MORNING SONG"  
Wilbur Held

Maureen Howell

Refrain: choir, all on repeats



Bless-ed, yes, bless-ed is the One who now comes.



Bless-ed, yes, bless-ed is the One who now comes.

Musical Refrain: Traditional Israeli folk melody,  
setting: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. **(Refrain)**

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it. **(Refrain)**

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you, give us success! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. We bless you from the house of the Lord. **(Refrain)**

Bind the festal procession with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will give thanks to you; you are my God; I will extol you. O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good, for his steadfast love endures forever. **(Refrain)**

### The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Procession, 204

ST. THEODULPH

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”  
*[During the singing of this hymn,  
the children will be presenting palms  
at the communion table.]*

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

### The Call to Confession

LEADER: We have kept silent when we should have spoken.  
PEOPLE: **We have spoken when we should have kept silent.**  
LEADER: We gladly stand in cheerful crowds in easy successes.  
PEOPLE: **Our courage falters when the way becomes a cross.**  
LEADER: Let us confess our sins to God.

### The Choral Response

Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.  
*Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy.*

Words: Traditional  
Music: Janet Lindeblad Janzen

### The Prayer of Confession

### The Silent Confession

### The Assurance of Pardon

### The Act of Praise

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to  
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for -  
giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Words: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Mallory Underwood

<sup>4</sup>The Lord God has given me the tongue of a teacher, that I may know how to sustain the weary with a word. Morning by morning he awakens— awakens my ear to listen as those who are taught. <sup>5</sup>The Lord God has opened my ear, and I was not rebellious, I did not turn backward. <sup>6</sup>I gave my back to those who struck me, and my cheeks to those who pulled out the beard; I did not hide my face from insult and spitting. <sup>7</sup>The Lord God helps me; therefore I have not been disgraced; therefore I have set my face like flint, and I know that I shall not be put to shame; <sup>8</sup>he who vindicates me is near. Who will contend with me? Let us stand up together. Who are my adversaries? Let them confront me. <sup>9</sup>It is the Lord God who helps me; who will declare me guilty?

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Philippians 2:5–11

<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.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Sanctuary Choirs

Edwin Childs

My song is love unknown, my Savior’s love to me,  
love to the loveless shown, that they might lovely be.  
Oh, who am I, that for my sake my Lord should take frail flesh and die?

Sometimes they strew his way, and his sweet praises sing;  
resounding all the day hosannas to their King.  
Then “Crucify!” is all their breath, and for His death they thirst and cry.

Why, what hath my Lord done? What makes this rage and spite?  
He made the lame to run and gave the blind their sight.  
What injuries! Yet these are why the Lord most high so cruelly dies.

Here might I stay and sing of him my soul adores.  
Never was love, dear King, never was grief like yours!  
This is my Friend, in whose sweet praise I all my days could gladly spend.

Words: Samuel Crossman, 1664

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 Hymn of Devotion, 205

TRURO

“Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

The Gospel

Mark 11:1-11

<sup>1</sup>When they were approaching Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany, near the Mount of Olives, he sent two of his disciples <sup>2</sup>and said to them, “Go into the village ahead of you, and immediately as you enter it, you will find tied there a colt that has never been ridden; untie it and bring it. <sup>3</sup>If anyone says to you, ‘Why are you doing this?’ just say this, ‘The Lord needs it and will send it back here immediately.’” <sup>4</sup>They went away and found a colt tied near a door, outside in the street. As they were untying it, <sup>5</sup>some of the bystanders said to them, “What are you doing, untying the colt?” <sup>6</sup>They told them what Jesus had said; and they allowed them to take it. <sup>7</sup>Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it; and he sat on it. <sup>8</sup>Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. <sup>9</sup>Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!

<sup>10</sup>Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David!

Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

<sup>11</sup>Then he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple; and when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Solo

“Ride On, King Jesus!”  
Traditional Spiritual, William Cutter, arr.

Greg Flowers

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman  
“What Do We Make of This Processional?”

## 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

MORNING SONG

“A Cheering, Chanting, Dizzy Crowd”

**A cheering, chanting, dizzy crowd  
had stripped the green trees bare,  
and hailing Christ as king aloud,  
waved branches in the air.**

**They laid their garments in the road  
and spread his path with palms  
and vows of lasting love bestowed  
with royal hymns and psalms.**

**When day dimmed down to deep'ning dark  
the crowd began to fade  
till only trampled leaves and bark  
were left from the parade.**

**Lest we be fooled because our hearts  
have surged with passing praise,  
remind us, God, as this week starts  
where Christ has fixed his gaze.**

**Instead of palms a winding sheet  
will have to be unrolled,  
a carpet much more fit to greet  
the king a cross will hold.**

Words: Thomas H. Troeger, 1985

Music: Wyeth's *Repository of Music, Part Second*, 1813



## 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

“All Glory, Laud and Honor”  
Craig Phillips

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Mallory Underwood. A 26-year member, Mallory is a member of the Formations Sunday School Class. She and her husband Chuck have three children: Bailey, Drew and Jackson.

The acolytes today are Caroline and Nick Bradley.

The banner on the pulpit is given in loving memory of Gertrude and William Lassiter by sons John and Charles Lassiter, with a donation to the Day Mission Fund.

You are invited to take a walk down our block of Edenton Street to experience the *Stations of the Resurrection* by artist Scott Erikson. This art show will be showcased on the side of our building until the Monday after Easter. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.

The clothing ministry will be closed during Holy Week (March 24–31). We ask that you hold donations during this time. We will then switch to our spring/summer season on April 1 and will be accepting spring/summer clothing, adult hoodies and sweatshirts, light jackets, and gently used athletic shoes for all.

Due to this week's being Holy Week, we will not have a Centerpoint gathering and our regular Wednesday night activities (except handbell practice and adult choir practice, which will be held at their regular times that night) on March 27.

Maundy Thursday communion service will be held on March 28 at 7pm in the sanctuary.

Mark your calendar for the following 2024 dates for church conference: April 24, May 22, August 28, September 25, October 23, November 20, and December 18.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider your support of these missionaries. So far, we have received \$10,547.

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.

Due to the high use of the WiFi at the church, we have established a guest network: *FBC-MG*; password: "biography." You will need to sign in upon each use.

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



To facilitate your giving to FBC, use this QR code to link to the website for our main electronic giving, VANCO Faith, and the page that lists all our e-giving options and instructions.

### **Calendar Highlights • March 24–31**

#### **Sunday, March 24 *Palm Sunday***

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

#### **Monday, March 25**

- Clothing ministry closed
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven (302)

#### **Tuesday, March 26**

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (302)

#### **Wednesday, March 27**

- 6:30 Handbell rehearsal (sanctuary)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

#### **Thursday, March 28 *Maundy Thursday***

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 7:00 Maundy Thursday service/communion (sanctuary)

#### **Friday, March 29 *Good Friday***

Church office closed

#### **Sunday, March 31 *Easter***

- 6:30 Easter Sunrise Service (Capitol Grounds — music begins at 6:20)
- 9:30 JBC worship and Easter reception (301/302)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)