

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 14, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 14, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Third Sunday of Easter and this service includes many elements that align with the hopeful mood of this season. The singing of children always lifts our spirits. The celebration of baptism has been a part of Easter since the first centuries of Christian faith. Today's texts point to the resurrection in one way or another. The anthem and hymns proclaim Easter hope. The sermon focuses on what enables early disciples to embrace the Risen Christ with a view toward what enables us to do so. And we respond to our hearing of the Good News with the dedication of our lives and the offering of financial resources. Christ has been raised and we are witnesses to this sacred truth and all it implies.

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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

"The King of Love My Shepherd Is"  
Jeanne Cotter

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

based on Psalm 4

LEADER: O God, be gracious to us and hear our prayer.

PEOPLE: **But know that the Lord sets us apart, hears us when we call.**

LEADER: O God, lift the light of your countenance upon us.

PEOPLE: **Be gracious to us and hear our prayer.**

LEADER: With glad hearts, we sing your praise.

PEOPLE: **I will be in peace, in your presence, O God.**

The Introit

Grade-School Choir

“Do You Know Your Shepherd’s Voice?”

Suzanne Lord

Do you know your shepherd’s voice? Are you listening with your heart?  
Have you stopped to hear him calling, felt the peace his words impart?  
As the world shouts its orders that are easiest to hear,  
won’t you draw away and listen to your Shepherd standing near?  
The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures.  
He leads me beside quiet waters  
and he restores my soul!

Words: Suzanne Lord and Psalm 23

The Celebration of Baptism

Claire Davis Carothers  
Charlotte Estelle Phillips

The Prayer of Blessing and Commitment

\*The Hymn of Praise, 251

“Thine Is the Glory”

MACCABEUS

### LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 3:12-19

Charles Petty

<sup>12</sup>When Peter saw it, he addressed the people, “You Israelites, why do you wonder at this, or why do you stare at us, as though by our own power or piety we had made him walk? <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, the God of our ancestors has glorified his servant Jesus, whom you handed over and rejected in the presence of Pilate, though he had decided to release him. <sup>14</sup>But you rejected the Holy and Righteous One and asked to have a murderer given to you, <sup>15</sup>and you killed the Author of life, whom God raised from the dead. To this we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And by faith in his name, his name itself has made this man strong, whom you see and know; and the faith that is through Jesus has given him this perfect health in the presence of all of you. <sup>17</sup>“And now, friends, I know that you acted in ignorance, as did also your rulers. <sup>18</sup>In this way God fulfilled what he had foretold through all the prophets, that his Messiah would suffer. <sup>19</sup>Repent therefore, and turn to God so that your sins may be wiped out.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

## The Second Reading

1 John 3:1-7

<sup>1</sup>See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God; and that is what we are. The reason the world does not know us is that it did not know him. <sup>2</sup>Beloved, we are God's children now; what we will be has not yet been revealed. What we do know is this: when he is revealed, we will be like him, for we will see him as he is. <sup>3</sup>And all who have this hope in him purify themselves, just as he is pure.

<sup>4</sup>Everyone who commits sin is guilty of lawlessness; sin is lawlessness. <sup>5</sup>You know that he was revealed to take away sins, and in him there is no sin. <sup>6</sup>No one who abides in him sins; no one who sins has either seen him or known him. <sup>7</sup>Little children, let no one deceive you. Everyone who does what is right is righteous, just as he is righteous.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

## The Response

In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -  
joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your  
voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near.

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 Anthem

“Now the Green Blade Rises”  
Hal H. Hopson, arr.

Sanctuary Choir

Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain,  
Wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
Love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.  
In the grave they laid Him, Love by hatred slain,  
Thinking that He would never wake again,  
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.  
Forth He came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
He that for three days in the grave had lain;  
Raised from the dead my living Lord is seen:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.  
When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
Your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:  
Love is come again like wheat arising green.

Words: John M. C. Crum, 1928, alt.  
Music: French carol, 15<sup>th</sup> century

<sup>36</sup> Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, “Peace be with you.” <sup>37</sup>They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. <sup>38</sup>He said to them, “Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? <sup>39</sup>Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.” <sup>40</sup>And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. <sup>41</sup>While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, “Have you anything here to eat?” <sup>42</sup>They gave him a piece of broiled fish, <sup>43</sup>and he took it and ate in their presence.

<sup>44</sup>Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.” <sup>45</sup>Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, <sup>46</sup>and he said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. <sup>48</sup>You are witnesses of these things.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Hymn of Devotion, 115

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

ST. ELIZABETH

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Embracing the Risen Christ Requires Our Whole Being”

## 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, 557

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

SCOTT

\*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

“Arioso”  
Ron Boud

Maureen Howell

\*The Doxology

**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

“Trumpet Rondo”  
Ron Boud

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Charles Petty. A 51-year member of First Baptist, Charles is a teacher of the John Hiott Fellowship class and is a member of the Finance Committee. He and his wife Jamie have two sons and six grandchildren.

The offering helper today is Charley Teague, reminding us that no matter our age, we all can offer our gifts of thanksgiving to God. Charley is also our acolyte today, along with her father, Logan.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Colonel and Mrs. William T. Joyner by their family.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, April 17; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. This week, LaCount Anderson will report on his and Anna's work as CBF Global Mission field personnel with the Eastern North Carolina Poverty Network.

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 on April 17 is: hamburger steak and gravy with rice and mixed veggies; non-meat option: non-meat patty; kids: hamburger.

Please keep the people going on the churchwide retreat in Black Mountain next weekend in your prayers. For those who are unable to attend, Sunday School and worship will still be held here at the church next week.

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 \$10,972.


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 • April 14–21

### Sunday, April 14

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/baptisms (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (220/Zoom)
- 5:00 Youth choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (301/Blue Room)

### Monday, April 15

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

### Tuesday, April 16

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

### Wednesday, April 17

- 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 (preschool and children's suites)  
Handbell rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/S)

### Thursday, April 18

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)

### Friday, April 19–Sunday, April 21

Churchwide retreat (Blue Ridge Assembly, Black Mountain)

### Sunday, April 21

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 5:00 Youth choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (301/Blue Room)