

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 21, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

April 21, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Fourth Sunday of Easter, a day when the texts explore the imagery of sheep and shepherds as a means of understanding the nature of our relationship with the God who was in Christ. The sermon explores this imagery, the familiar and comfortable takeaways about comfort of guidance, yet also the challenging implications about risk and laying down life. We sing praises to the God who offers all this and more, we pray for the shepherd care of our world in all that this involves, and we ponder our calling to lay down life for others.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Warren Howell

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 Lord’s My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want”
Jan Sanborn

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

LEADER: Good Shepherd, speak to us,

PEOPLE: . . . we who tend to tarry.

LEADER: Good Shepherd, speak to us,

PEOPLE: . . . for we are given to lose heart.

LEADER: Good Shepherd, speak to us,

PEOPLE: . . . for we are prone to wander.

LEADER: Good Shepherd, speak to us,

PEOPLE: . . . we who lose our way.

**ALL: Good Shepherd, speak to us,
we shall listen, we shall follow.**

*The Hymn of Praise, 130

AZMON

“O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing”

*The Invocation

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The First Reading

Acts 4:5–12

Jim Keown

⁵The next day their rulers, elders, and scribes assembled in Jerusalem, ⁶with Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. ⁷When they had made the prisoners stand in their midst, they inquired, “By what power or by what name did you do this?” ⁸Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, ⁹if we are questioned today because of a good deed done to someone who was sick and are asked how this man has been healed, ¹⁰let it be known to all of you, and to all the people of Israel, that this man is standing before you in good health by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead. ¹¹This Jesus is ‘the stone that was rejected by you, the builders; it has become the cornerstone.’ ¹²There is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among mortals by which we must be saved.”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for one another. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us; for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God; ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

Musical score for 'The Response' in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The score consists of three systems of vocal melody and bass accompaniment. The lyrics are: 'In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re -
joyce! 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.'

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier, Taizé Community, 1986

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 Psalter

“A Psalm Folksong”

Sanctuary Choir

Edwin Penhorwood

The Lord’s my shepherd; I’ll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; he leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul he doth restore again
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e’en for his own name’s sake;

Yea, though I walk in death’s dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for thou art with me, and thy rod
and staff me comfort still;

My table thou hast furnished
in presence of my foes;
my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God’s house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Words: Psalm 23, *Scottish Psalter*, 1650

The Gospel

John 10:11-18

¹¹“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. ¹²The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. ¹³The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. ¹⁴I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, ¹⁵just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. ¹⁶I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. ¹⁷For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. ¹⁸No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion "We Shall Walk Through the Valley" PEACEFUL VALLEY



1. We shall walk through the val-ley of the shad-ow of death. We shall
2. We shall meet our bro - ther there. We shall
3. There will be no sor - row there. There will



1. walk through the val - ley in peace. }
2. meet our sis - ter there. } And if Je - sus him-self shall be our
3. be no sor - row there. }



lead - er, We shall walk through the val-ley in peace. ___

Traditional Spiritual

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

"Moving Beyond a Romanticized View of Sheep and Shepherds"

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, 521

NYLAND

"In Heavenly Love Abiding"

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

“O For a Thousand Tongues To Sing”

Maureen Howell

John Carter

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Jim Keown. A 46-year member, Jim is a member of the John Hiott Fellowship class. He and his wife, Jennie, have two sons and three grandchildren.

The sanctuary flowers are placed in honor of all singers, past and present, in the Youth and Children's Choirs by Rhonda Lowe and Dennis Francis.

Sympathy to the family of Janice Osborne, who died April 16, and to Ginger Graves on the April 17 death of her father, John Mayberry.

Please keep the people returning today from the churchwide retreat in Black Mountain in your prayers.

We are thrilled to announce the upcoming release of the 2024 FBC pictorial directory! Sign-up sheets for photo sessions will be in the Lewis Lobby after worship on Sundays and on Wednesday nights, or you may call or text Diane Ellis to make an appointment. Pictures will be taken in room 224.

Church conference: Wednesday, April 24; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and meeting at 6:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for documents and Zoom link.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice), by email (dmast@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu on April 24 is: chicken fried rice, egg drop soup, Asian veggies; non-meat option: mock chicken fried rice; kids: spring rolls.


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 21–28

Sunday, April 21

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (226)
- 3:00 Memorial service for Lou Kline (Springmoor auditorium)
- 5:00 Youth choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (301/Blue Room)

Monday, April 22

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

Tuesday, April 23

- 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 24

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

Thursday, April 25

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners lunch outing (Amedeo's Italian Restaurant)

Sunday, April 28

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
99 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 832-4485 Fax: (919) 832-6726 www.fbcraleigh.org

Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor

J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus

Warren Howell, Music

Wayne Hager, Church Administrator

Lynn Lingafelt, Children

Michael Hood, Youth/College

Jun Matsuzaki, Japanese Ministry Pastor

Maureen Howell, Organist/Music Assistant

Leah Anderson Reed, Community

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.