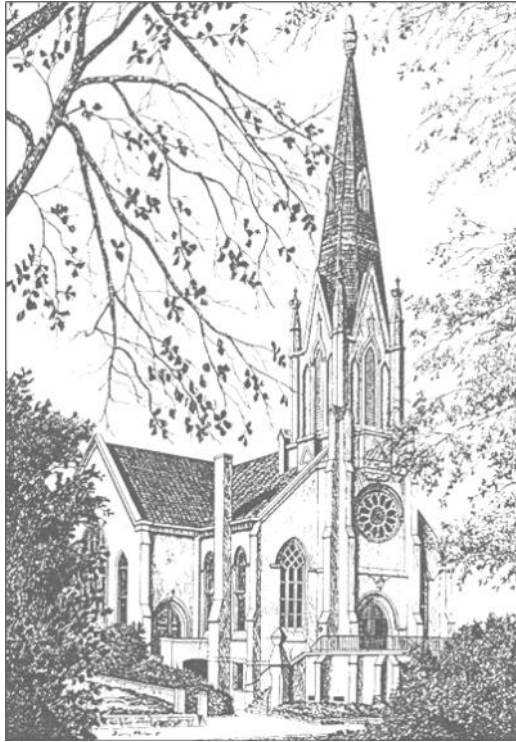


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



May 26, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
TRINITY SUNDAY

May 26, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Trinity Sunday, the day we celebrate the longstanding traditional Christian belief in one God who is revealed in three persons. It is a mysterious reality, beyond comprehension. Yet it is not a theoretical concept but a natural attempt to make sense of our experience with God in three persons. We reflect on this mystery today, noting what trinitarian thought says about the character of God and the nature of the church. We lift up prayers of thanksgiving and intercession. And as theology should always lead to doxology, we sing songs of praise to the One who is beyond knowing yet is revealed to us in three persons.

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

"Holy, Holy, Holy"
Robert Buckley Farlee

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

LEADER: Holy, holy, holy is our God;

PEOPLE: Heaven and earth are filled with God's glory.

LEADER: The God of glory thunders;

PEOPLE: God's voice shakes the wilderness.

LEADER: No one knows from where it comes, or where it goes.

PEOPLE: and all in the temple of God's presence say, "Glory!"

LEADER: Will we hear that voice saying:

"Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?"

PEOPLE: O God, we are here, sent and singing, Glory.

*The Hymn of Praise, 2 “Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty”

NICAEA

*The Invocation

Christopher Chapman

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 6:1–8

Suzanne Sanford

¹In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty; and the hem of his robe filled the temple. ²Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. ³And one called to another and said: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory.” ⁴The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. ⁵And I said: “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips; yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

⁶Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. ⁷The seraph touched my mouth with it and said: “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” ⁸Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Romans 8:12–17

¹²So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh— ¹³for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. ¹⁴For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. ¹⁵For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ—if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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, 107 "Christ, Be My Leader"

SLANE

The Gospel

John 3:1-17

¹Now there was a Pharisee named Nicodemus, a leader of the Jews. ²He came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher who has come from God; for no one can do these signs that you do apart from the presence of God." ³Jesus answered him, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above." ⁴Nicodemus said to him, "How can anyone be born after having grown old? Can one enter a second time into the mother's womb and be born?" ⁵Jesus answered, "Very truly, I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God without being born of water and Spirit. ⁶What is born of the flesh is flesh, and what is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷Do not be astonished that I said to you, 'You must be born from above.' ⁸The wind blows where it chooses, and you hear the sound of it, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit." ⁹Nicodemus said to him, "How can these things be?" ¹⁰Jesus answered him, "Are you a teacher of Israel, and yet you do not understand these things?

¹¹"Very truly, I tell you, we speak of what we know and testify to what we have seen; yet you do not receive our testimony. ¹²If I have told you about earthly things and you do not believe, how can you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

¹⁶“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.

¹⁷“Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Anthem “How Gracious Are Thy Mercies” Sanctuary Choir
Melton B. James, arr.

How gracious are Thy mercies, Lord, they hallow all my days;
Thy gifts of tenderness and love inspire my heart to praise.
The growing miracle of faith assures me I am Thine.
Oh, praise thy name that I can share this fellowship divine!

How lovely are Thy mercies, Lord, the earth, the sky and sea,
For all things good and beautiful I offer praise to Thee.
For clouds by day and stars by night, for blossoms frail and fair,
For all thy glorious handiwork my heart is moved to prayer.

How tender are Thy mercies, Lord, thy grace when days are long,
And in the lonely midnight hour thy precious gift of song.
When I approach the gates of death and life is at an end,
Thy presence will sustain me still, my Savior and my Friend.

Words: Sybil L. Armes, 1964
Music: Traditional English Melody

The Sermon Christopher Chapman
“The Familial Character of God and the Church”

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.



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and
3. Let us build a house where love is found in
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
dare to seek to dream God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, and live the Word they've
taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re -
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bear the
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
 sym - bol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the
 vealed in time and space, As we share in Christ the
 im - age of God's face, Let us bring an end to
 faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:
 faith of Je - sus;
 feast that frees us; } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
 fear and dan - ger:
 floor to raft - er;



all are wel - come in this place.

Words and music: Marty Haugen, 1994

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 Tune"
 John Carter

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Suzanne Sanford. A 45-year member of First Baptist, Suzanne is a member of the Community Ministries Committee and the Everette Miller Friendship class. She is also the Assistant Secretary for the Thirty-Niners and a volunteer for the clothing ministry and in the library. Suzanne has two children: Jennifer and Christopher, and one grandchild, Jude.

Our acolytes today are Sebastian and Austin Burton.

The Everette Miller-Friendship Sunday School class is providing the banner in thanksgiving for all our wonderful teachers and in memory of class members: Gwen Cavin, Kay Cone, Lou Kline, Janice Osborne, Charles Suggs, and Laura Anne Vick.

The end-of-year church picnic is this Wednesday, May 29, at Pullen Park (shelter #4) at 5:30pm. Bring your own chair or blanket. Reserve your spot [on the church website](#) or by calling the office, and **prepay** via the website (use **QR code #2** at the bottom of the page) or the church kiosk. We cannot collect money that night at the park.

The church has obtained several copies of Glenn Jonas' book, *Nurturing the Vision: First Baptist Church 1812-2012* and is offering it for sale for \$6. Make your check payable to FBC, noting on the memo line "FBC History," or purchase it on the kiosk or the church website.

CBF General Assembly is in Greensboro this year, June 19–21. This summer, we will *re:imagine* as we live out our faith through our unique Baptist identity, and together, we'll consider transformation through imagination. See more details and go to cbf.net/general-assembly to register.

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 the 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. **QR code #1**



To facilitate your giving to FBC, use this QR code to link to the website for our main electronic giving and the page that lists all our e-giving options and instructions. **QR code #2**

Calendar Highlights • May 26–June 2

Sunday, May 26

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

Monday, May 27 *Memorial Day*

Church office and clothing ministry closed

Tuesday, May 28

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

Wednesday, May 29

- 5:30 End-of-year church picnic (Pullen Park, shelter #4)

Thursday, May 30

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

Sunday, June 2 *Graduation Sunday*

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
99 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603
(919) 832-4485 x201 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.