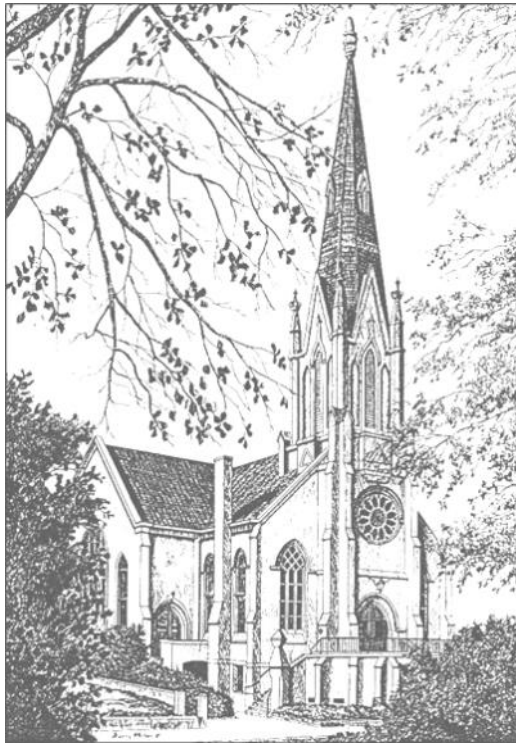


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 14, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 14, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: We begin worship planning each week with the biblical texts the lectionary provides for that day in the Christian year. These texts shape decisions about music, prayers, sermons, and liturgy, and they always contain substance to sustain and challenge us, but some days the texts seem more provocative. This is one of those days. We read about David dancing before the ark, an early Christian leader offering praise to the Triune God, and John the baptiser being beheaded because of his faithfulness. From joyous celebration to worshipful praise to tragic brutality — all in one day! It is a lot to take in, but such is the nature of life. The sermon explores the most troubling of these texts in an effort to find good news. Our celebration of communion offers a reminder that the very best news can grow out of the most tragic circumstances.

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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

“Cornet Voluntary”  
Starling Goodwin

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 24

LEADER: The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it;

PEOPLE: **for God has founded it on the seas and established it on the rivers.**

LEADER: Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in God's holy place?

PEOPLE: **Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.**

LEADER: They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

PEOPLE: **Such is the company of those who seek God, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.**

The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise, 701

"God Is Here!"

BEECHER

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

2 Samuel 6:1-5, 12b-19

Brenda Mullins

<sup>1</sup>David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. <sup>2</sup>David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the Lord of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. <sup>3</sup>They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart <sup>4</sup>with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. <sup>5</sup>David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the Lord with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

<sup>12b</sup>So David went and brought up the ark of God from the house of Obed-edom to the city of David with rejoicing; <sup>13</sup>and when those who bore the ark of the Lord had gone six paces, he sacrificed an ox and a fatling. <sup>14</sup>David danced before the Lord with all his might; David was girded with a linen ephod. <sup>15</sup>So David and all the house of Israel brought up the ark of the Lord with shouting, and with the sound of the trumpet.

<sup>16</sup>As the ark of the Lord came into the city of David, Michal daughter of Saul looked out of the window, and saw King David leaping and dancing before the Lord; and she despised him in her heart.

<sup>17</sup>They brought in the ark of the Lord, and set it in its place, inside the tent that David had pitched for it; and David offered burnt offerings and offerings of well-being before the Lord. <sup>18</sup>When David had finished offering the burnt offerings and the offerings of well-being, he blessed the people in the name of the Lord of hosts, <sup>19</sup>and distributed food among all the people, the whole multitude of Israel, both men and women, to each a cake of bread, a portion of meat, and a cake of raisins. Then all the people went back to their homes.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>3</sup>Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, <sup>4</sup>just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. <sup>5</sup>He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. <sup>7</sup>In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace <sup>8</sup>that he lavished on us. With all wisdom and insight <sup>9</sup>he has made known to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, <sup>10</sup>as a plan for the fullness of time, to gather up all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. <sup>11</sup>In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, <sup>12</sup>so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. <sup>13</sup>In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; <sup>14</sup>this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God’s own people, to the praise of his glory.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Response

“Your Kingdom Come”

Your king - dom come, your will be done on  
 earth as it is in heav - en. Your king - dom come, your will be  
 done on earth as it is in heav - en.

Words: Matthew 6:10

Music: Richard Avery and Donald Marsh, 2014

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 Gospel

Mark 6:14–29

<sup>14</sup>King Herod heard of it, for Jesus' name had become known. Some were saying, "John the baptizer has been raised from the dead; and for this reason these powers are at work in him." <sup>15</sup>But others said, "It is Elijah." And others said, "It is a prophet, like one of the prophets of old." <sup>16</sup>But when Herod heard of it, he said, "John, whom I beheaded, has been raised."

<sup>17</sup>For Herod himself had sent men who arrested John, bound him, and put him in prison on account of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife, because Herod had married her. <sup>18</sup>For John had been telling Herod, "It is not lawful for you to have your brother's wife." <sup>19</sup>And Herodias had a grudge against him, and wanted to kill him. But she could not, <sup>20</sup>for Herod feared John, knowing that he was a righteous and holy man, and he protected him. When he heard him, he was greatly perplexed; and yet he liked to listen to him. <sup>21</sup>But an opportunity came when Herod on his birthday gave a banquet for his courtiers and officers and for the leaders of Galilee. <sup>22</sup>When his daughter Herodias came in and danced, she pleased Herod and his guests; and the king said to the girl, "Ask me for whatever you wish, and I will give it." <sup>23</sup>And he solemnly swore to her, "Whatever you ask me, I will give you, even half of my kingdom." <sup>24</sup>She went out and said to her

mother, "What should I ask for?" She replied, "The head of John the baptizer."  
<sup>25</sup>Immediately she rushed back to the king and requested, "I want you to give me at once the head of John the Baptist on a platter." <sup>26</sup>The king was deeply grieved; yet out of regard for his oaths and for the guests, he did not want to refuse her. <sup>27</sup>Immediately the king sent a soldier of the guard with orders to bring John's head. He went and beheaded him in the prison, <sup>28</sup>brought his head on a platter, and gave it to the girl. Then the girl gave it to her mother. <sup>29</sup>When his disciples heard about it, they came and took his body, and laid it in a tomb.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Hymn of Devotion                    "In Halls of Wealth and Power"                    MERLE'S TUNE

**In halls of wealth and power where shadowed deals are made,  
The heartless ones devour; the helpless are betrayed.  
The ones who make decisions seem confident and strong  
Yet sometimes blur divisions between the right and wrong.  
When Herod chose to wander from living as he should,  
John preached with mighty thunder, "Repent and do the good!"  
Then power danced with anger; revenge went dancing, too.  
When they all join together, what evil they will do!  
O God of love and justice, when we feel sure and strong,  
May power never tempt us to venture toward the wrong.  
In all of our endeavors, give wisdom, Lord, we pray,  
That we may love our neighbors and seek your kingdom way.  
In halls of wealth and power, in home and neighborhood,  
May we reject the evil and turn to what is good.  
May justice dance with mercy and service dance with grace;  
May nations lift the lowly till peace and love embrace.**

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, 2015  
Music: English Traditional

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman  
"Good News from One Messy Story"

## RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Anthem

“Table of Plenty”  
Daniel Schutte

Sanctuary Choir  
Chad Reed, guitar  
Will Mercer, bass

*Come to the feast of heaven and earth; come to the table of plenty!  
God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.*

O come and sit at my table where saints and sinners are friends.  
I wait to welcome the lost and lonely to share the cup of my love.

O come and eat without money; come to drink without price.  
My feast of gladness will feed your spirit with faith and fullness of life.

My bread will ever sustain you through days of sorrow and woe.  
My wine will flow like a sea of gladness to flood the depths of your soul.

Your fields will flower in fullness; your homes will flourish in peace.  
For I, the giver of home and harvest, will send my rain on the soil.

Words: Daniel L. Schutte, 1992

The Celebration of Communion

The Invitation to the Table

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Bread Is Broken

The Cup Is Shared

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, 669

“God of Grace and God of Glory”

CWM RHONDDA



## 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

“For a Festive Occasion”

Maureen Howell

Alec Rowley

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Brenda Mullins. A 24-year member and first-term deacon, Brenda serves on the Board of Trustees and is a member of the Everette Miller-Friendship Sunday School class and WMU Group 7. She and her husband Ken live in Raleigh.

The sanctuary flowers for today's worship are given by Alvah Ward, Jr., in memory of Rachel T. Ward and in honor of her July birthday.

Come to FBC's Trivia Night tonight from 5:30–7:30pm! We will fill the fellowship hall, eat together potluck-style and compete in a night of trivia. See the *Rose Window Weekly* article for a link to sign up to bring a dish. Childcare will be available for pre-k kids; contact Lynn Lingafelt ([llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org)).

Dr. Chapman will be on vacation Monday, July 15, through Tuesday, July 23. Please contact the church office or one of the other ministers if you need assistance. Leah Reed will be preaching on Sunday, July 21.

For our July mission project, we will be collecting child- and youth-sized underwear for the children of the women in this program. If you would rather give money, we'll also be collecting donations to purchase sports bras for the daughters of participants. Please place all new, packaged underwear in the Lewis Lobby drawers. Cash or checks may be sent directly to church designating "July mission project" in the memo line.

Help out the FBC youth by donating a breakfast snack this summer! Grab a box of granola bars, pastries, Pop-Tarts, or something similar and leave it in the Lewis Lobby or near the elevator on the second and third floors.


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.



 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.

## Calendar Highlights • July 14–21

### **Sunday, July 14**

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 5:30 Trivia Night and potluck supper (fellowship hall)

### **Monday, July 15**

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open

### **Tuesday, July 16**

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

### **Thursday, July 18**

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:00 Thirty-Niners road trip (Farrington Village, Pittsboro)

### **Sunday, July 21**

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

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH  
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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.*