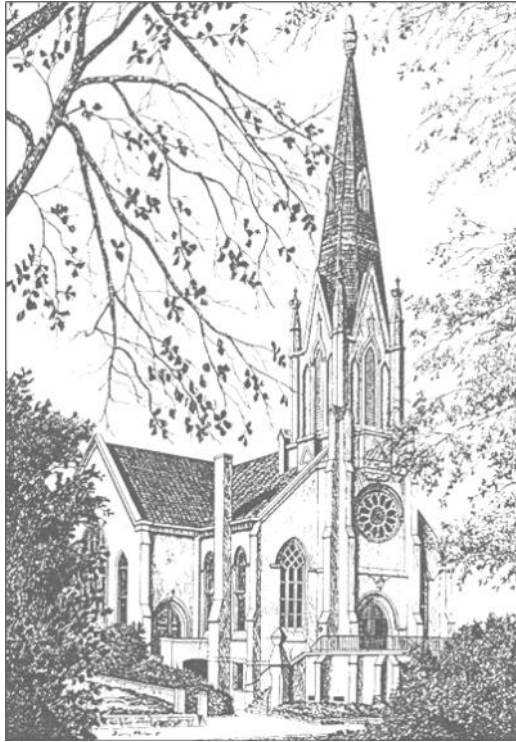


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 28, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 28, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this Tenth Sunday after Pentecost, we continue with the historical narratives of 1 and 2 Samuel, reading about King David's worst moments, and we begin a series of readings from John 6 known as The Bread of Life Discourse. The juxtaposition of texts creates a sharp contrast between the utter depravity human beings are capable of (though only David is guilty here; Bathsheba has no choice, and Uriah acts in a consistently noble fashion) and the limitless love of the God who was in Christ. We sing praises to this God, while confessing our frailty, and in the sermon we explore the ways God's goodness transforms our weakness — by doing something miraculous but perhaps not in the way we might assume.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Lynn Lingafelt

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

Tanner Winchester

"Meditation on The Lord's My Shepherd"
Mary McDonald

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: We gather today not as perfected saints boasting of our accomplishments,

PEOPLE: **but as flawed creatures seeking grace and healing.**

LEADER: We come seeking nourishment of the body, mind, and soul,

PEOPLE: **trusting that the same Christ who feeds the thousands can feed us.**

LEADER: We offer praise to the God who redeems and sustains us,

PEOPLE: **and we listen for God's voice speaking words of peace and provocation,**

ALL: **that we might know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge and be filled with the goodness of God.**

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 45

NETTLETON

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

2 Samuel 11:1-15

Charles Gale

¹In the spring of the year, the time when kings go out to battle, David sent Joab with his officers and all Israel with him; they ravaged the Ammonites, and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.

²It happened, late one afternoon, when David rose from his couch and was walking about on the roof of the king's house, that he saw from the roof a woman bathing; the woman was very beautiful. ³David sent someone to inquire about the woman. It was reported, "This is Bathsheba daughter of Eliam, the wife of Uriah the Hittite." ⁴So David sent messengers to get her, and she came to him, and he lay with her. (Now she was purifying herself after her period.) Then she returned to her house. ⁵The woman conceived; and she sent and told David, "I am pregnant."

⁶So David sent word to Joab, "Send me Uriah the Hittite." And Joab sent Uriah to David. ⁷When Uriah came to him, David asked how Joab and the people fared, and how the war was going. ⁸Then David said to Uriah, "Go down to your house, and wash your feet." Uriah went out of the king's house, and there followed him a present from the king. ⁹But Uriah slept at the entrance of the king's house with all the servants of his lord, and did not go down to his house. ¹⁰When they told David, "Uriah did not go down to his house," David said to Uriah, "You have just come from a journey. Why did you not go down to your house?" ¹¹Uriah said to David, "The ark and Israel and Judah remain in booths; and my lord Joab and the servants of my lord are camping in the open field; shall I then go to my house, to eat and to drink, and to lie with my wife? As you live, and as your soul lives, I will not do such a thing." ¹²Then David said to Uriah, "Remain here today also, and tomorrow I will send you back." So Uriah remained in Jerusalem that day. On the next day, ¹³David invited him to eat and drink in his presence and made him drunk; and in the evening he went out to lie on his couch with the servants of his lord, but he did not go down to his house.

¹⁴In the morning David wrote a letter to Joab, and sent it by the hand of Uriah. ¹⁵In the letter he wrote, "Set Uriah in the forefront of the hardest fighting, and then draw back from him, so that he may be struck down and die."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹⁴For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. ¹⁶I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, ¹⁷and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. ¹⁸I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, ¹⁹and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God. ²⁰Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, ²¹to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

*The Hymn of Devotion, 461 “Jesus, Lover of My Soul”

ABERYSTWYTH

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.**

¹After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. ²A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick. ³Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. ⁴Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. ⁵When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” ⁶He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do. ⁷Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” ⁸One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, ⁹“There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?” ¹⁰Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. ¹¹Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted. ¹²When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” ¹³So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. ¹⁴When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

¹⁵When Jesus realized that they were about to come and take him by force to make him king, he withdrew again to the mountain by himself.

¹⁶When evening came, his disciples went down to the sea, ¹⁷got into a boat, and started across the sea to Capernaum. It was now dark, and Jesus had not yet come to them. ¹⁸The sea became rough because a strong wind was blowing. ¹⁹When they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and coming near the boat, and they were terrified. ²⁰But he said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.” ²¹Then they wanted to take him into the boat, and immediately the boat reached the land toward which they were going.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Anthem

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

Sanctuary Choir

Austin Lovelace, arr.

Rhonda Lowe, director

I sing the mighty power of God that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad and built the lofty skies.

I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
he formed the creatures with his word and then pronounced them good.

Lord, how your wonders are displayed, where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground we tread or gaze upon the skies.

There's not a plant or flower below but makes your glories known,
and clouds arise and tempests blow by order from your throne;
while all that borrows life from you is ever in your care,
and everywhere that I can be, Thou, God, are present there.

Music: English Folk Melody

Text: Isaac Watts, 1715

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Making Sense of the Miraculous”

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, 315

BREAD OF LIFE

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”

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

“Sing a New Song”
Mary McDonald

Tanner Winchester

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Charles Gale. A member for nearly 17 years, Charles is the secretary of the diaconate as well as a member of the Nominating Committee. He is also a substitute teacher for the First & Second Grade Sunday School class and a member of The Journey Sunday School class. He coaches the youth basketball team and plays on the adult softball team.

The banner at the pulpit is a design by LaCount Anderson. A close look at it will reveal a hibiscus, a tropical flower that is one of his favorites. He entitled it "Happy Sunday" as a result of an inspiring Sunday worship service and completed it that particular afternoon. LaCount and Anna are CBF Field Personnel. LaCount enjoys singing in the Sanctuary Choir and serving as a deacon.

We welcome our musical leaders today: our guest organist, Tanner Winchester, and our choir director Rhonda Lowe, a member of the choir who has been a member of First Baptist since 1988.

The acolytes today are Will and Raelyn Sidner.

For our July mission project, we will be collecting child- and youth-sized underwear for the children of the women served by the Caring Connections Ministry. 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 28–August 4

Sunday, July 28

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
 JBC worship (226)
- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (building-wide)

Monday, July 29

- Clothing ministry closed
- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (building-wide)

Tuesday, July 30

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (building-wide)

Wednesday, July 31

- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (building-wide)

Thursday, August 1

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 5:00 Vacation Bible School (building-wide)

Sunday, August 4

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

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.