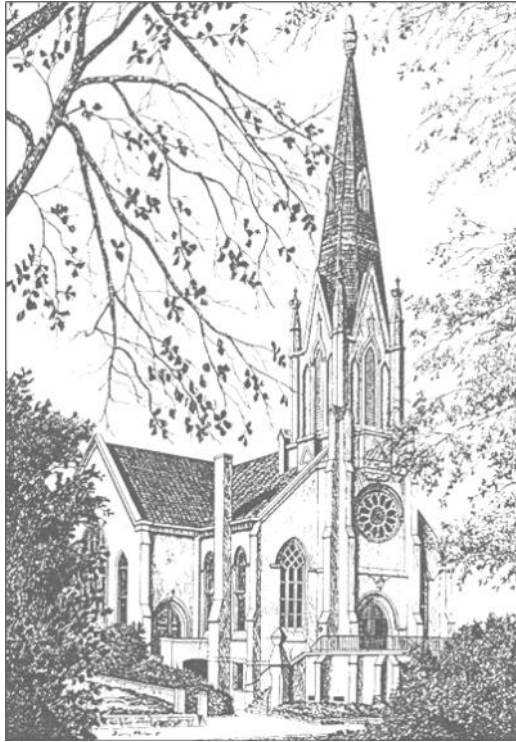


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



September 1, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 1, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: The texts today all address the question of what God desires most from us and in ways that are very consistent. Psalm 15 speaks of walking in righteousness and speaking a word of truth from our hearts while Deuteronomy speaks of keeping God's commandments. James tells us to be doers of the word and not merely hearers, to care for widows and orphans, while in Mark Jesus tells us to avoid hypocrisy and honor God with our hearts, not just our lips. We hear all of this and seek to respond faithfully, singing songs of praise and devotion, offering prayers of gratitude and aspiration, reflecting on our calling and making a commitment to pursue it more passionately.

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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

"For the Beauty of the Earth"  
John Ferguson

Maureen Howell

The Invocation (responsive)

LEADER: O God, you teach us the way of righteousness.

PEOPLE: **the way of love, the way of peace.**

LEADER: We glorify you gathering to hear your word.

PEOPLE: **We glorify you reflecting the love we have received.**

LEADER: We glorify you enacting your word in the world.

PEOPLE: **Now open our eyes, our ears, and our hearts to your presence.**

ALL: **Amen.**

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Psalter

Psalm 15

**Refrain**

You pure in heart on Zi-on's hill, Your joy-ful songs now  
raise. In one ac-cord lift up your voice, Sing forth your  
songs of praise. Sing forth your songs of praise.

Tune: DOVE OF PEACE  
Hal H. Hopson, arr.

Lord, who may abide in your temple?  
Who may dwell on your holy hill?  
Those who walk in righteousness,  
who speak the word of truth from their heart;  
Those whose lips are free from malice who never wrong a friend;  
Those who do not rejoice over another's misfortune,  
who stand by an oath of a covenant.  
Those who are not bribed for the rights of the innocent,  
who lend money to the poor without gain;  
Those who despise corruption and evil;  
those who honor the faithful who love the Lord.

*[Refrain]*

<sup>1</sup>So now, Israel, give heed to the statutes and ordinances that I am teaching you to observe, so that you may live to enter and occupy the land that the Lord, the God of your ancestors, is giving you. <sup>2</sup>You must neither add anything to what I command you nor take away anything from it, but keep the commandments of the Lord your God with which I am charging you.

<sup>6</sup>You must observe them diligently, for this will show your wisdom and discernment to the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, “Surely this great nation is a wise and discerning people!” <sup>7</sup>For what other great nation has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is whenever we call to him? <sup>8</sup>And what other great nation has statutes and ordinances as just as this entire law that I am setting before you today?

<sup>9</sup>But take care and watch yourselves closely, so as neither to forget the things that your eyes have seen nor to let them slip from your mind all the days of your life; make them known to your children and your children’s children.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

<sup>17</sup>Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. <sup>18</sup>In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave us birth by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

<sup>19</sup>You must understand this, my beloved: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger; <sup>20</sup>for your anger does not produce God’s righteousness. <sup>21</sup>Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

<sup>22</sup>But be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. <sup>23</sup>For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; <sup>24</sup>for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. <sup>25</sup>But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing.

<sup>26</sup>If any think they are religious, and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. <sup>27</sup>Religion that is pure and undefiled before God, the Father, is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress, and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Day by Day”  
Martin How

Sanctuary Choir

Day by day, dear Lord, of thee three things I pray:  
To see thee more clearly,  
love the more dearly,  
follow thee more nearly, day by day.

Words: Richard of Chichester (c. 1197-1253)

The Morning Prayer

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.**

<sup>1</sup>Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, <sup>2</sup>they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. <sup>3</sup>(For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they thoroughly wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders; <sup>4</sup>and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash it; and there are also many other traditions that they observe, the washing of cups, pots, and bronze kettles.) <sup>5</sup>So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not live according to the tradition of the elders, but eat with defiled hands?” <sup>6</sup>He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,  
but their hearts are far from me;  
<sup>7</sup>in vain do they worship me,  
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

<sup>8</sup>You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

<sup>14</sup>Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: <sup>15</sup>there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.” <sup>21</sup>For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: fornication, theft, murder, <sup>22</sup>adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, licentiousness, envy, slander, pride, folly. <sup>23</sup>All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Hymn of Devotion "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

I'M GONNA LIVE

1. I'm gon-na live so (I'm gon-na live so) God can use me (God can

use me) an - y time (yes an - y time) and an - y - where. (yes an-y -

where.) I'm gon-na live so (I'm gon-na live so) God can use me

an - y time (yes an-y time) and an - y - where. (yes an-y - where.)

2. I'm gonna work... 3. I'm gonna pray... 4. I'm gonna sing...

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“The One Thing That Upsets Jesus More Than Anything Else”

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, 486

WELLESLEY

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

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

“I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me”

Maureen Howell

Greg Sewell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Brenda Snead. A 20-year member of First Baptist and first-term deacon, Brenda is chair and council rep for the Worship Committee and serves on the Funeral Committee. She also is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School class.

The banner in the sanctuary today is sponsored by Nancy and Bobby Phillips in honor of all our CBF missionaries who are serving as the hands and feet of Jesus throughout the world.

An offering for the Mike Morris Fellowship Fund is received the first Sunday of each month. This fund helps persons seeking emergency aid. Collection baskets are at each exit.

Sympathy to the family of Gurtha Hollon, who died August 25.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, September 4; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. Our program this week is *An Innovative Approach to Crisis Ministry*, which will discuss assisting people in crisis through the use of guaranteed, direct income. Our speaker will be John Thornton, Executive Director of Held, Inc. in Greensboro. This non-profit organization assists people in need by providing community support and guaranteed direct income for a defined time period.

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 September 4 is: baked chicken with carrots, green beans, and potatoes; non-meat option: mock chicken; kids: pizza rolls.

Theology on Tap will celebrate ten years of building friendship and fellowship on Thursday, September 19, by gathering at Lynnwood Brewing Concern (1053 E Whitaker Mill Road), at 6pm for dinner, beverages, and conversation. All are welcome to attend, but we hope anyone who has joined us over the last 10 years will stop by for the momentous occasion!


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.

To access the church WiFi, please use our 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 • September 1–8

### **Sunday, September 1**

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

### **Monday, September 2 *Labor Day holiday***

Church office and clothing ministry closed

### **Tuesday, September 3**

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (302)
- 6:00 Properties Committee meeting (conference room)

### **Wednesday, September 4**

- 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)  
Youth Bible study (Blue Room)  
Handbell rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

### **Thursday, September 5**

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

### **Sunday, September 8**

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 4:00 Denominational Relations Committee meeting (Zoom)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (301/Blue Room)

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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.*