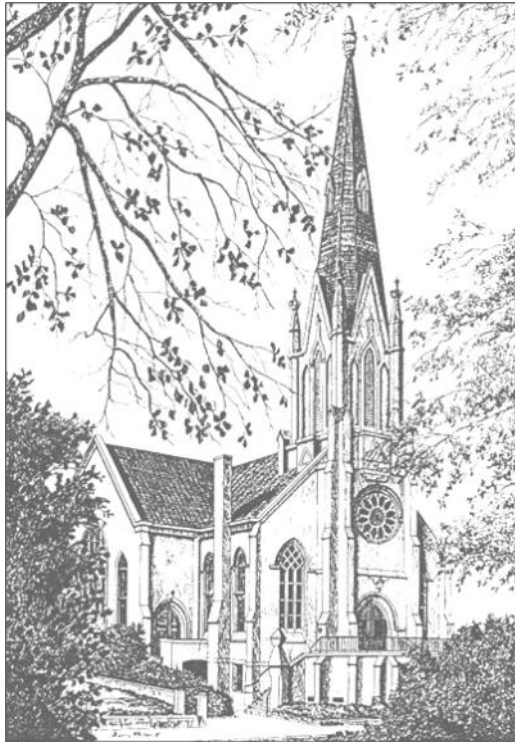


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 27, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 27, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, our worship is shaped by texts that describe the great reversals God makes possible, as tears turn to shouts of joy, a nation returns home from exile, and a blind man sees again. It offers hope in a time when we need it and moves us to songs of rejoicing, especially when we realize that everyone is included in this reversal, even those who are often left out. The sermon offers a reflection on this latter dimension of hope and the challenges it brings. Like the disciples and many others around Jesus, we may be tempted to screen the people who come our way, and there are practical reasons to consider some boundaries, but the broader trajectory of Jesus' ministry calls us be hospitable to all.

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

"Bless the Lord, O My Soul"
Robert J. Powell

Maureen Howell

The Introit

“Psalm 100”
Robert N. Roth

Sanctuary Choir

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands: serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his presence with a song.
Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us,
and not we ourselves. We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise;
be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.

Words: Psalm 100 with antiphon

The Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 126

LEADER: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those
who dream.

PEOPLE: **Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue
with shouts of joy;**

LEADER: then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great
things for them.”

PEOPLE: **The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.**

LEADER: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

PEOPLE: **May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.**

ALL: ***Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing,
shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.***

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 34

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”

MARION

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Ryan Willis

⁷For thus says the Lord: Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, "Save, O Lord, your people, the remnant of Israel." ⁸See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, those with child and those in labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will let them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I have become a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Hebrews 7:23-28

²³Furthermore, the former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office; ²⁴but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. ²⁵Consequently he is able for all time to save those who approach God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

²⁶For it was fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, blameless, undefiled, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. ²⁷Unlike the other high priests, he has no need to offer sacrifices day after day, first for his own sins, and then for those of the people; this he did once for all when he offered himself. ²⁸For the law appoints as high priests those who are subject to weakness, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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.**

The Anthem

“Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”
Thomas Keesecker

Sanctuary Choir

Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
such a way as gives us breath;
such a truth as ends all strife;
such a life as killeth death.

Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
such a light as shows a feast;
such a feast as mends in length;
such a strength as makes a guest.

Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
such a joy as none can move;
such a love as none can part;
such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert, 1633

The Gospel

Mark 10:46–52

⁴⁶They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹Jesus stood still and said, “Call him here.” And they called the blind man, saying to him, “Take heart; get up, he is calling you.” ⁵⁰So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. ⁵¹Then Jesus said to him, “What do you want me to do for you?” The blind man said to him, “My teacher, let me see again.” ⁵²Jesus said to him, “Go; your faith has made you well.” Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 499

O WALY WALY

“Lord, I Was Blind”

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Good Help Is Hard To Find”

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.

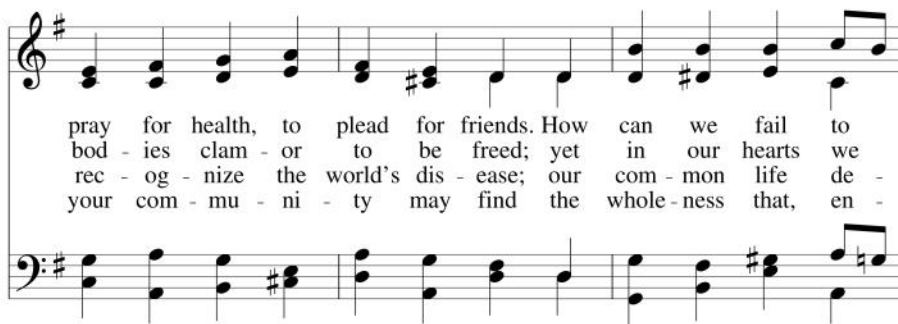
*The Hymn of Discipleship

CANONBURY

“O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come”



1 O Christ, the heal - er, we have come to
2 From ev - ery ail - ment flesh en - dures our
3 In con - flicts that de - stroy our health we
4 Grant that we all, made one in faith, in



pray for health, to plead for friends. How can we fail to
bod - ies clam - or to be freed; yet in our hearts we
rec - og - nize the world's dis - ease; our com - mon life de -
your com - mu - ni - ty may find the whole - ness that, en -



be re - stored when reached by love that nev - er ends?
would con - fess that whole - ness is our deep - est need.
clares our ills. Is there no cure, O Christ, for these?
rich - ing us, shall reach the whole of hu - man - kind.

Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1989
Music: Robert Schumann, 1839, alt.

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

“Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart”
Emma Lou Diemer

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Ryan Willis. A 10-year member, Ryan serves on the Board of Trustees and is the chair and council rep for the Financial Committee and a member of the Church Nominating Committee. He is a member of the Adult Ministries Council and a teacher for the Grades 4 & 5 Sunday School class. Ryan and his wife Robin have one daughter, Lucy.

The sanctuary flowers are given in memory of Jim Clary by Margaret, Greg and Julie, Mark and Amy, and their grandchildren.

Our acolytes today are Eller and Martha Collins.

Deacon election concludes today! Please place your ballot in the ballot box in the church office prior to noon. Address questions to any of the current deacons. Please prayerfully consider your choices for our deacon leadership.

Daylight saving time ends this coming Saturday, November 2. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed!

Due to record numbers of clients, the clothing ministry finds itself in need of men's clothing in all sizes, and especially warmer clothing (sweatpants, jeans/casual pants, hooded sweatshirts, long-sleeve shirts) as the nights and mornings get cooler. Email Sabrina Tyndall for larger donations, so there can be volunteers on hand to make space and quickly process your donation.

The CROP Walk is today at 3pm. You may donate to the Walk through November 30 (click the QR code to the right to donate).



Centerpoint: Wednesday, October 30; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. Our program that day is the third and final session on the topic "How To Know a Person" and another opportunity for a contemplative walk.

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 October 30 is: meatloaf with mashed potatoes and corn; non-meat option: veggie meatloaf; kids: nuggets.

The City of Oaks Marathon is next Sunday, November 3. Your downtown pathway to FBC that morning may be blocked prior to 8:30am. After 8:30am, the racers will be out of the downtown area. Please make your plans accordingly.

Dr. Jemar Tisby, author of *The Color of Compromise*, will be coming to the church to promote his latest book, *The Spirit of Justice*, on Friday, November 8, 7-8:30pm in our sanctuary. This is a FREE event open to all, and we'll have Dr. Tisby's latest book for sale at a discounted rate. Childcare will be available for Pre-K and under – please email Lynn Lingafelt by Friday, November 1.

Toy Joy will be held Saturday, November 16. For ways to donate and sign up to volunteer, please see the *Rose Window Weekly*.

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.



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.

Visiting? We'd love to get to know you. Scan the QR code to the right to share your contact information.



Calendar Highlights • October 27–November 3

Sunday, October 27

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 12:00 Youth lunch (301)
- 12:45 Youth choir (choir room)
- 2:00 CROP Walk registration (fellowship hall)
- 3:00 CROP Walk step-off (FBC parking lot)

Monday, October 28

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, October 29

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (301)

Wednesday, October 30

- 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, October 31

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

Sunday, November 3

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (Blue Room)

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.