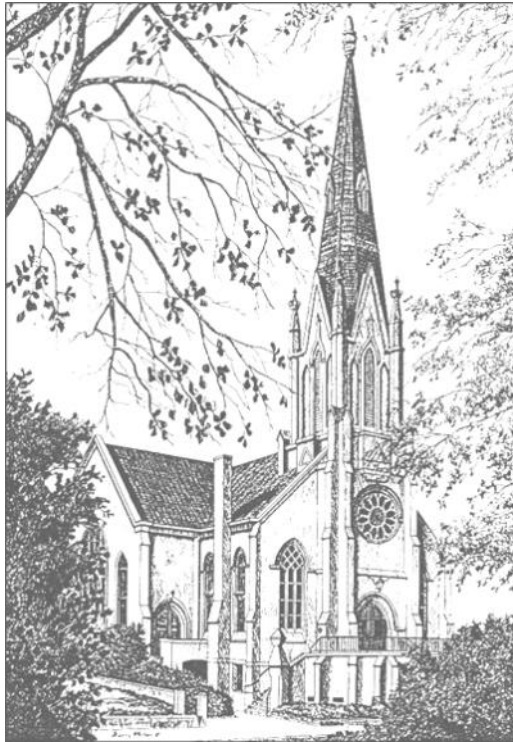


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



November 24, 2024

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

November 24, 2024

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Reign of Christ Sunday, the last Sunday of the Christian year, a day we celebrate the sovereignty of Christ over human history, indeed all creation. We sing praises to the Christ who reigns, we pray for God's realm to come on earth as it is in heaven, and we consider ways we embrace Christ's rule in every aspect of our lives, including the stewardship of resources God has entrusted to us. The sermon explores the familiar reading from John in light of the history of this great feast day. Is Jesus sovereign, we ask with Pilate, and if he is, what kind of sovereign? What might it mean for Christ to rule in our lives? And how might the world be different if Christ did?

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Leah Reed

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

"Voluntary on DARWALL"  
Healey Willan

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: Through the power of God, Christ our Lord sits on the throne of truth.

PEOPLE: **As we worship, may this truth guide our praise.**

LEADER: Christ our Lord sits on the throne of love.

PEOPLE: **May this love guide our hearts.**

LEADER: Let us worship our Lord.

\*The Hymn of Praise, 262

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

DARWALL

\*The Invocation

The Word About Stewardship

Meg Foster and Hayes Strickland

### LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14

Eddie Sasser

<sup>9</sup>As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

<sup>13</sup>As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Revelation 1:4b-8

<sup>4</sup>Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

**Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1747

Music: HYFRYDOL, Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

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

“Christus Paradox”

Alfred V. Fedak, arr.

Sanctuary Choir

Beth McCollum, violin

You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd.	You, who walk each day beside us,
You, Lord, are both prince and slave.	sit in power at God’s side.
You, peacemaker and swordbringer	You, who preach a way that’s narrow,
of the way you took and gave.	have a love that reaches wide.
You the everlasting instant;	You, the everlasting instant;
You, whom we both scorn and crave.	You, who are our pilgrim guide.
Clothed in light upon the mountain,	Worthy is our earthly Jesus!
stripped of might upon the cross,	Worthy is our cosmic Christ!
shining in eternal glory,	Worthy your defeat and vict’ry.
beggar’d by a soldier’s toss,	Worthy still your peace and strife.
You, the everlasting instant;	You, the everlasting instant;
You, who are both gift and cost.	You, who are our death and life. Alleluia.

Words: Sylvia Dunstan, 1991

Music: PICARDY, French Carol

The Gospel

John 18:33–38a

<sup>33</sup>Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” <sup>35</sup>Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” <sup>37</sup>Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup>Pilate asked him, “What is truth?”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Hymn of Devotion, 277

“The King Shall Come”

MORNING SONG

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“The History behind the Reign of Christ Sunday and What It Implies for Us”

## 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, 712

HANOVER

“The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy”

## 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

“Now Thank We All Our God”  
JS Bach (from *Cantata 79*)

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Eddie Sasser. A 28-year member of First Baptist, Eddie is a member of the Formations Sunday School class. He and his wife, Rebecca, have two children, Ella and Nathan.

Our acolytes today are Camden and Charlotte Sasser.

The sanctuary flowers today, a permanent floral gift — a Southern hydrangea plant, come from the family of Viridiana (Virginia Diane) Noyola Villagrava, who is a former ESL student of Joann Cooper's in Whiteville. She and various members of her family often visited our Sunday School. Today's gift is to announce Viridiana has been granted a formal path to reach her often-stated goal of becoming an American citizen.

*Hospitality + Community*, our 2025 stewardship emphasis, is underway. Please prayerfully consider how you can give generously and with gratitude to God through First Baptist Church. Use the QR code to the right to make your pledge today! As of November 21, we have received 22 pledges totaling \$194,500.



Today is the last day to place a pre-order for your Thanksgiving feast from *And Also with 'Cue!* Go to [www.and-also-with-cue.square.site](http://www.and-also-with-cue.square.site) to place your order.

Dr. Chapman will be on vacation from Monday, November 25–Monday, December 2. Michael Hood will be preaching in his absence on Sunday, December 1.

For our November mission project, we are collecting children's winter clothing for the clothing ministry. These are our current needs: boys' winter clothing size 2T–youth XL; teen boys' winter clothing, adult size S–L (hoodies, casual running/sweatpants); and boys' and girls' winter coats, all sizes. You may place your donations in the bin located just inside the parking lot doors.

Hanging of the Greens will be held on Sunday, December 8, at 6pm, followed by a reception. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of holiday decorations for our sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes, on our website, or in the *Rose Window Weekly* — must be received with payment by Friday, December 6.

If you can make two or three dozen cookies for the Hanging of the Greens reception, please email Sheila Jordan ([jibwsaj@yahoo.com](mailto:jibwsaj@yahoo.com)). The cookies need to be brought to the kitchen on Sunday morning, December 8.

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.

## Calendar Highlights • November 24–December 1

### Sunday, November 24

- 9:00 Buddy Breakfast (301)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC/JBC joint worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
- 12:00 Landscaping Committee meeting (conference room)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (Blue Room)

### Monday, November 25

- Clothing ministry closed
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

### Tuesday, November 26

- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (301)
- 7:00 Adult choir rehearsal (310)

### Wednesday, November 27–Friday, November 29

Church office closed

### Sunday, December 1

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/Michael Hood preaching (sanctuary/YouTube)  
JBC worship (227)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth choir pizza outing (Mellow Mushroom)



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.





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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.*