

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



April 6, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT

April 6, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: As we draw closer to the cross this Fifth Sunday in Lent, the texts and music reflect this reality. In the reading from John, Mary anoints Jesus' feet, an act he interprets as preparation for his burial; and in the reading from Philippians, the Apostle Paul talks about sharing the sufferings of Jesus by becoming like him in death. The sermon explores these themes of Jesus' suffering and ours, as we ponder the way of the cross. We continue with prayers of confession as we struggle to embrace this way, we sing of the self-giving love of God, and our spirits are lifted by Music Made in Heaven.

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

"Beach Spring"
Kiyō Watanabe, arr.

Music Made in Heaven
Barbara Marley, dir.

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from 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, 634

CWM RHONDDA

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

CONFESSON AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Purifying God,
we grow comfortable with the way things are
in our lives, in the church, and in the world.
We do not always welcome the new life you offer in Christ,
for you overturn our notions of power and protocol.
Sure of our own righteousness, we are critical of others.
Wanting to control our assets, we hoard the gifts you give us.
Forgive us, we pray, for seeking our gain at the expense of others.
Help us to find your path through our wilderness journeys,
that we might be agents of your peace and compassion and selflessness.
Fill us, our homes and churches, the whole world,
with the abundant love of Christ until all are made new.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

LEADER: Our righteousness comes through faith in Christ,
who has made us his own. Hear the good news!

PEOPLE: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

The old life has passed away—and a new life has begun.

The Act of Praise

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for -
giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Words and Music: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 43:16–21

Wes Fulk

¹⁶Thus says the Lord, who makes a way in the sea, a path in the mighty waters, ¹⁷who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior; they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched like a wick: ¹⁸Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. ¹⁹I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert. ²⁰The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people, ²¹the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Philippians 3:4b-14

⁴If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more:
⁵circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

⁷Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. ⁸More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith. ¹⁰I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, ¹¹if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

¹²Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

**Come away from rush and hurry to the stillness of God's peace;
From our vain ambition's worry, come to Christ to find release.
Come away from noise and clamor, life's demands and frenzied pace;
Come to join the people gathered here to seek and find God's grace.**

Words: Marva J. Dawn, 1999

Music: BEACH SPRING, *The Sacred Harp*, 1844

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

“Called Home to Heaven” Music Made in Heaven
 (“Meditation on *Holy Manna*”)
 Fred Gramann

The Gospel

John 12:1-8

¹Six days before the Passover Jesus came to Bethany, the home of Lazarus, whom he had raised from the dead. ²There they gave a dinner for him. Martha served, and Lazarus was one of those at the table with him. ³Mary took a pound of costly perfume made of pure nard, anointed Jesus' feet, and wiped them with her hair. The house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume. ⁴But Judas Iscariot, one of his disciples (the one who was about to betray him), said, ⁵“Why was this perfume not sold for three hundred denarii and the money given to the poor?” ⁶(He said this not because he cared about the poor, but because he was a thief; he kept the common purse and used to steal what was put into it.) ⁷Jesus said, “Leave her alone. She bought it so that she might keep it for the day of my burial. ⁸You always have the poor with you, but you do not always have me.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 644

HOLY MANNA

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Why Jesus Acts out of Character”

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, 215

ST. CHRISTOPHER

“Before the Cross of Jesus”

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

“Festive Intrada”

Tanner Winchester

Paul Fey

*The congregation may stand.

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A Unique Community Handbell Ensemble

Music is one of the most universal means of expression and an ongoing link to the memory of loved ones. In honor and remembrance of their children who passed away, a group of parents created a handbell choir in 2004 as a continuing expression of their love for God and their joy in the gift of these children.

Our handbells are individually donated and carry a child's name and unique inscription created by the parents in each handle. Some of the current ringers are parents or relatives of these children.

The music played by the bells representing our children is unlike any other — it is a beautiful contribution the children are continuing to make to the world each time we ring. From this symbolism comes the name of the ensemble: *Music Made in Heaven*.

Ringers:

Bonnie Woodruff Tammy Hammer Sabrina Tyndall

Ann Lowe Vodicka Dee Munro Phil Herold

Betty Godwin Elise Pangborn Ruth Stevens

Shawn Yates Hunter Brooks Patricia Smith Sterling Smith

Barbara Marley, Director

Our Children

Haywood Griffin Alexander, Jr.	Thomas Richard Glassford	Martha Robertson Powell
George Morris Ashcraft	Corey Chapman Haddon	Amanda Quick
Brenda B. Bailey	Lisa Permar Ham	Baby John Parker Shell
Joy Wagner Bailey	Tara Bliss Hatley	Mark Edward Simpson
Baby Barham	Meredith Lee Herold	Lacy Sheppard Skirvin
Janet Logan Barnes	Robert Tomlinson Hill	Preston Ray Skirvin
Steven Harris Bergman	Kristin Suzanne Jones	Amanda Paige Smith
Janet Faith Briggs	Suzie Jones	Charles Harrison Smith, III
Tammy Briggs	David Michael Kosturko	Eric Scott Smith
Blayne Brown	Amy Lynne Latus	Joseph Drew Smith
Bryan Brown	Matthew William Lee	Paul Michael Spampinato
Bethany Rush Cartledge	Natalie Jean Lippard	Larry E. Stafford
Robin B. Conrad	Jaime McSpadden	Andrew Achilles Stratas
Jimmy Dickinson	Nicolas McSpadden	Lauren A. Thompson
Jackson Todd Dixon	Eric Thomas Metcalf	Shae Marie Tomlin
Sarah Carlyle Herbert Dorroh	Nicholas Joseph Miracola	Donna Lynn Crocker Toms
Jasmine Dominique Douglas	Carol Cope Myers	Mark Adam Tucker
Robert Cording Dower	Dana Nelson	Sarah Abigail Tyndall
Annie Shea Eaton	Sean Hugh O'Donnell	Kathryn Elaine Waters
Macy Wray Erickson	Alexandra Caroline Paccone	Amy Kirsten Whiteman
D. Gordon Freeman, Jr.	Derek Wallace Pearson	Malia Scott Winberry
Nick Galanos	Jill Perlette	Ben Woodruff
Julie Ann Glassford	Baby Piepho	The Sandy Hook Community
	Carol Jean Pigott	

Music Made in Heaven cordially invites you to attend "The Gathering" on Sunday, May 18, 2pm in the fellowship hall. This annual concert will feature several pieces performed by our community handbell choir, along with the traditional reading of inscriptions in our bells honoring the children for whom they have been donated. A reception will follow. Free and open to all; donation baskets available.

Thanks to our guest handbell choir, Music Made in Heaven, (Barbara Marley, director), our organist, Tanner Winchester, and to Anna Anderson, for leading our congregational singing.

The Deacon on Call is Wes Fulk. A 30-year member, Wes is the assistant church treasurer and serves on the Church Nominating Committee. He is also a member of the Connections Sunday School class. He and his wife Renee have two children, Owen and Chloe.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Colonel and Mrs. William T. Joyner by their family.

There is an opening on April 27 for a sponsorship of the pulpit parament or flowers. Please contact Myra Brickell with your interest.

On Saturday, April 12, 10–11:30am, in the courtyard of the Facilities Management Building (431 North Salisbury Street), we'll have an egg hunt for toddlers– 5th graders. Friends, neighbors, and grandchildren are welcome to join us! RSVP to Lynn Lingafelt (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org) by Sunday, April 6. Specific details about parking and our egg hunting process will be emailed out the week of our egg hunt to those who sign up.

We begin Holy Week next week (April 13) with Palm Sunday, April 13, at 11 am, and continue with a Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, April 17, at 7pm. This service will include the celebration of communion. Next, for the first time in a number of years, we will have a Good Friday service on April 18 at noon with a lunch to follow (no reservations are necessary).

Easter is April 20. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of Easter lilies for our sanctuary, with the remaining funds benefitting the Day Mission Fund. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes or on our website — must be received with payment by Wednesday, April 16.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, April 9; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. As a makeup from February 19, we will look at and discuss a speech given by Martin Luther King Jr. Go to this link to watch the TedTalk ahead of time: <https://www.nobelprize.org/prizes/peace/1964/king/acceptance-speech/> .

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 for April 9 is: chicken cordon bleu casserole with stuffing and green beans; non-meat option: non-meat casserole; kids: meatballs.

Calendar Highlights • April 6–13

Sunday, April 6

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)

Monday, April 7

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

Tuesday, April 8

- 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 Music Made in Heaven board meeting (conference room)
- 6:45 Softball game (Millbrook Exchange Park)

Wednesday, April 9

- 5:15 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (307/311)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
Youth Bible study (Blue Room)
Handbell rehearsal (sanctuary)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, April 10

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)
- 7:45 Softball game (Millbrook Exchange Park)

Saturday, April 12

- Landscape Committee workday
- 10:00 Easter egg hunt (FMD courtyard)


Sunday, April 13 *Palm Sunday*

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

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 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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

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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.