FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812



May 4, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

May 4, 2025

bout our Worship: Today is the Third Sunday of Easter, a season in which we $\int \mathbf{\Lambda}$ celebrate the good news of resurrection and what that means for us as followers of Jesus. Today's readings from both Acts and John include stories of the Risen Christ appearing (though in different ways); both stories present a call to action. Today, we'll focus on the last chapter in John as we consider how Jesus is present among his disciples and us in this post-resurrection world as well as Jesus' interaction with Peter and what that interaction means for us today. We celebrate communion and remember Christ's presence among us and his call to take care each other.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

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	"Morning on the Milkweed" Jeanne Cotter	Maureen Howell
The Call to Wo	rship (responsive)	
LEADER:	Mysterious Lord, as you surprised your disciples,	
PEOPLE:	surprise us today.	
LEADER:	Risen Savior, as you fed your disciples,	
PEOPLE:	feed us today.	
LEADER:	Loving Jesus, as you called your disciples in love,	
PEOPLE:	so call us today.	
*The Hymn of P	raise, 99 "When Morning Gilds the Skies"	LAUDES DOMINI

*The Invocation

Leah Reed

Eleven o'clock

"A Repeating Alleluia" Calvin Hampton Sanctuary Choir

Tyson Graves

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The First Reading Psalm 30 ¹I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up and did not let my foes rejoice over me. ²O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. ³O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. ⁴Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. ⁵For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. ⁶As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." ⁷By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. ⁸To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication: ⁹"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness? ¹⁰Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord, be my helper!" ¹¹You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, ¹²so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever. LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. PEOPLE:

¹Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ²and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" ⁵He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do." ⁷The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one. ⁸Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus. ⁹For three days he was without sight and neither ate nor drank.

¹⁰Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord." ¹¹The Lord said to him, "Get up and go to the street called Straight, and at the house of Judas look for a man of Tarsus named Saul. At this moment he is praying, ¹²and he has seen in a vision a man named Ananias come in and lay his hands on him so that he might regain his sight." ¹³But Ananias answered, "Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much evil he has done to your saints in Jerusalem, ¹⁴and here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who invoke your name." ¹⁵But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is an instrument whom I have chosen to bring my name before gentiles and kings and before the people of Israel; ¹⁶I myself will show him how much he must suffer for the sake of my name." ¹⁷So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ¹⁸And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized, ¹⁹and after taking some food, he regained his strength.

For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus, ²⁰and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

Vords and Music: Zulu, South African Transcribed: Anders Nyberg, 1984

The Morning Prayer

Lynn Lingafelt

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 Gospel

¹After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. ²Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. ³Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. ⁴Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. ⁵Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." 6He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. ⁷That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. ⁸But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. ⁹When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹⁰Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." ¹¹So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fiftythree of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn. ¹²Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. ¹³Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. ¹⁴This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." ¹⁶A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." ¹⁷He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. ¹⁸Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." ¹⁹(He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Celebration of Communion The Invitation to the Table The Prayer of Thanksgiving 1 Refrain (All) one Lord One bread, one bod-y, of all, 0 bless. of bless - ing which we And one cup though man-y, through-out the earth, we, e bod - y in this Lord. we are one one

Verses: (Congregation to join on stanzas 2 & 3)

- 1. Gentile or Jew, servant or free, woman or man no more.
- 2. Many the gifts, many the works, one in the Lord of all.
- 3. Grain for the fields, scattered and grown, gathered to one for all.

Words and Music: John B. Foley, SJ, 1978

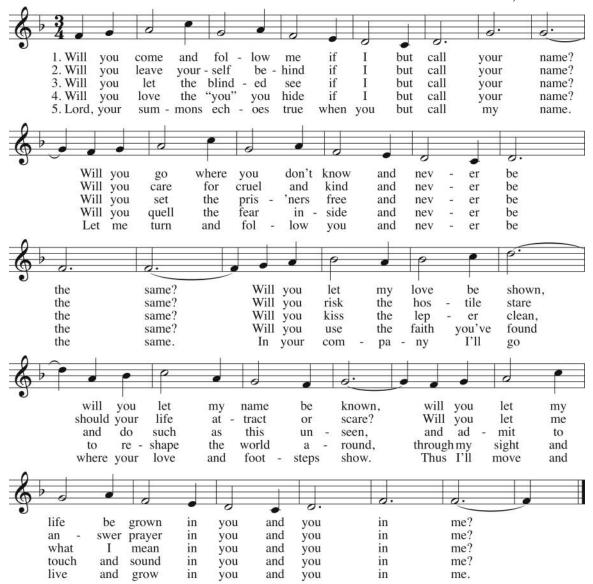
The Bread Is Broken The Cup Is Shared

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

"Will You Come and Follow Me?"

KELVINGROVE Beth McCollum, violin



Text: John L. Bell, 1987 Music: Scottish Melody; arr. John L. Bell, 1987 *The Benediction

LEADER:	Christ asks if we love him? If we say yes, he says; "Then care for one another." This is our opportunity to make a difference, to live lovingly on the frontiers of his bright new world.
People:	We cannot promise to do it perfectly, but we can give it a go, relying on his abundant wisdom to take our small love, and fit it into a larger pattern of good for all creation.
Leader:	So as you go, may God bless the world in which you move, and bless your home and bless your friends. May God bless the eyes with which you see, and bless the ears with which you listen. May God bless the way you use your hands, bless the way you employ your tongues. May the grace, mercy, and peace of the Risen Christ go with you, today and always.

PEOPLE: Amen.

*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

"Sanctus" John Leavitt Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Benediction was written by Bruce Prewer, and posted on his homepage, <u>www.bruceprewer.com</u>, with portions from a Celtic prayer.

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The Deacon on Call is Tyson Graves. A 34-year member, Tyson is a member of The Journey Sunday School class. He and his wife Ginger have one son, Zachary, and a grandson, Owen.

The sanctuary flowers are given today in loving memory of Bill Simpson by Edith and Steve.

Lynn Lingafelt is our preacher today while Dr. Chapman is out of the office. He returns tomorrow. Contact one of the ministers if you need assistance in his absence.

Class of 2025, congratulations! If you are graduating from college, email Jennie Herrick (<u>iherrick@fbcraleigh.org</u>) by Friday, May 23,with the following information for our church's publications: graduate's name, college, degree, and your relationship to the graduate, and any family connections within our church.

VBS will be held June 23–27, 9am–12pm. More details in the *Rose Window Weekly*, as well as registration form which you should submit to <u>Lynn Lingafelt</u> no later than June 1.

The choir loft renovation has begun and is projected to last 4 to 6 weeks. Work will include a complete demolition and rebuilding of the present choir risers in the loft. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details on this exciting project!

Centerpoint: Wednesday, May 7; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. This week, we will have our annual Spring Music Celebration. Join us for performances by our Pre-K/Kindergarten and Grade-school choirs and the Evening Bells and recognition of our children and leaders.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (<u>www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice</u>), by email (<u>dmast@fbcraleigh.org</u>), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu for May 7 is: hamburger steak and gravy with potatoes, fried apples, and corn; non-meat option: mock hamburger steak.

In the event of an emergency, first aid kits can be found in the kitchen, at the greeting desk in the Lewis Lobby and in the workroom in the church office. Bandaids can be found in the preschool and the children's suites. The church has two defibrillators (AED): one between the elevator and the church offices on the second floor and one on the main floor behind the sanctuary on the Edenton Street side, near the elevator.

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.

Calendar Highlights • May 4–11

Sunday, May 4

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion/Lynn Lingafelt preaching (sanctuary/YouTube) JBC worship (Lake Crabtree)
- 12:00 Everette Miller Friendship class social (301/302)
- 5:00 Youth choir rehearsal (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)

Monday, May 5

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

Tuesday, May 6

10:00	Staff meeting (conference room)
10:45	WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
1:00	WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
1:30	Yoga (302)
5:30	VBS teachers' meeting (131)
6:45	Softball game (Millbrook Exchange Park)

Wednesday, May 7

- 5:15 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (307/311)
- 6:15 Spring Music Celebration (fellowship hall)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, May 8

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 11:45 Thirty-Niners (fellowship hall)
- 5:30 VBS teachers' meeting (233)
- 6:45 Softball game (Millbrook Exchange Park)

Friday, May 9

11:00 Memorial service for Ace Millsaps (Springmoor)

Sunday, May 11

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



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J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus Wayne Hager, Church Administrator Michael Hood, Youth/College Maureen Howell, Organist/Music Assistant Leah Anderson Reed, Community

Warren Howell, Music Lynn Lingafelt, Children Jun Matsuzaki, Japanese Ministry Pastor

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.