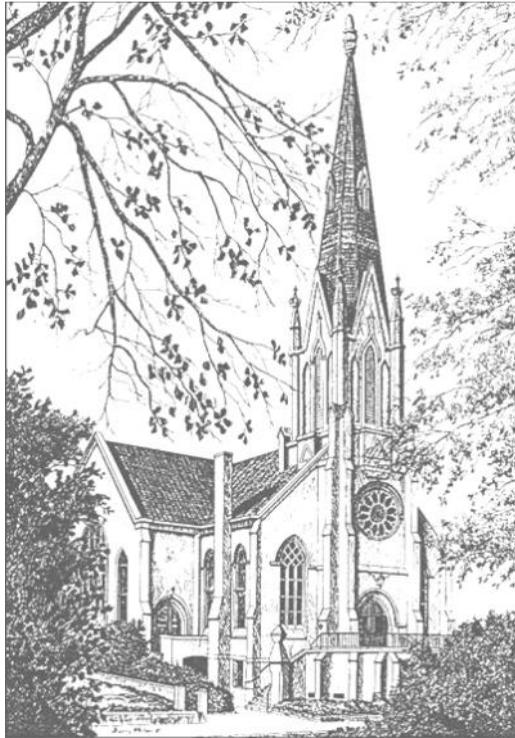


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



June 29, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

June 29, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Third Sunday after Pentecost, part of what we call Ordinary Time. It is a season to ponder possibilities of growth which is why we wear green stoles. These particular stoles and the altar cloth were made from materials contributed by church members and assembled by church members. They present a visible sign of our growing community. The texts address different aspects of growth in a faith community — the one from 2 Kings, transitions in leadership; the one from Galatians, the avoidance of evil and the pursuit of good; the one from Luke, the radical nature of discipleship. The sermon explores the Galatians text, pointing to the broad nature of Christian calling, we sing songs of praise to our God of grace and love, and we pray for the church's witness to a world that needs us to grow in all the ways we can.

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

Handbell Ensemble

"Shall We Gather at the River?"

Anna Krentz Organ, arr.

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based on Psalm 77

LEADER: I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; I will remember your wonders of old.

PEOPLE: I will meditate on all your work, and muse on your mighty deeds.

LEADER: Your way, O God, is holy. What god is so great as our God?

PEOPLE: You are the God who works wonders; you have displayed your might among the peoples.

LEADER: With your strong arm you redeemed your people, the descendants of Jacob and Joseph.

PEOPLE: I will call to mind the deeds of the Lord; Your way, O God, is holy.

*The Hymn of Praise, 3 “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” GROSSER GOTT

*The Invocation

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Anthem

“Sing of the Lord’s Goodness”

Sanctuary Choir

Ernest Sands

Sing of the Lord's goodness,
Father of all wisdom,
come to him and bless his name.
Mercy he has shown us,
his love is forever,
faithful to the end of days.

*Come, then, all you nations,
sing of your Lord's goodness,
melodies of praise and thanks to God.
Ring out the Lord's glory,
praise him with your music,
worship him and bless his name.*

Power he has wielded,
honor is his garment,
risen from the snares of death.
His word he has spoken,
one bread he has broken,
new life he now gives to all.

Courage in our darkness,
comfort in our sorrow,
Spirit of our God most high;
solace for the weary,
pardon for the sinner,
splendor of the living God.

Praise him with your singing,
praise him with the trumpet,
praise God with the lute and harp;
praise him with the cymbals,
praise him with your dancing,
praise God till the end of days.

¹Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. ²Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel.

⁶Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. ⁷Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. ⁸Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

⁹When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." ¹⁰He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not."

¹¹As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven.

¹²Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.

¹³He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. ¹⁴He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹For freedom Christ has set us free. Stand firm, therefore, and do not submit again to a yoke of slavery.

¹³For you were called to freedom, brothers and sisters, only do not use your freedom as an opportunity for self-indulgence, but through love become enslaved to one another. ¹⁴For the whole law is summed up in a single commandment, “You shall love your neighbor as yourself.” ¹⁵If, however, you bite and devour one another, take care that you are not consumed by one another.

¹⁶Live by the Spirit, I say, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷For what the flesh desires is opposed to the Spirit, and what the Spirit desires is opposed to the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to prevent you from doing what you want. ¹⁸But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not subject to the law. ¹⁹Now the works of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity, debauchery, ²⁰idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, anger, quarrels, dissensions, factions, ²¹envy, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these. I am warning you, as I warned you before: those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²²By contrast, the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, ²³gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against such things. ²⁴And those who belong to Christ have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. ²⁵If we live by the Spirit, let us also be guided by the Spirit.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

“If You Believe and I Believe”



If you be-lieve and I be-lieve and we to-gether pray,



The Ho-ly Spir-it must come down and set God's peo-ple free,



And set God's peo-ple free, and set God's peo-ple free;



The Ho-ly Spir-it must come down and set God's peo-ple free.

Words: Zimbabwean traditional

Music: Zimbabwean derivative of English folk melody

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.**

⁵¹When the days drew near for him to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. ⁵²And he sent messengers ahead of him. On their way they entered a village of the Samaritans to prepare for his arrival, ⁵³but they did not receive him because his face was set toward Jerusalem. ⁵⁴When his disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?" ⁵⁵But he turned and rebuked them. ⁵⁶Then they went on to another village.

⁵⁷As they were going along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go." ⁵⁸And Jesus said to him, "Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head." ⁵⁹To another he said, "Follow me." But he said, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father." ⁶⁰And Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead, but as for you, go and proclaim the kingdom of God." ⁶¹Another said, "I will follow you, Lord, but let me first say farewell to those at my home." ⁶²And Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand to the plow and looks back is fit for the kingdom of God."

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

"Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult"

GALILEE

1. Je-sus calls us o'er the tu-mult Of our life's wild rest-less sea; Day by
 2. Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship Of the vain world's gold-en store, From each
 3. In our joys and in our sorrows, Days of toil and hours of ease, Still He
 4. Je-sus calls us: by Thy mercies, Sav-ior, may we hear Thy call, Give our

day His sweet voice sound-eth, Say - ing, "Chris-tian, fol - low Me!"
 i - dol that would keep us, Say - ing, "Chris-tian, love Me more."
 calls, in cares and plea-sures, "Chris-tian, love Me more than these."
 hearts to Thine o - be-dience, Serve and love Thee best of all.

Words: Cecil Frances Alexander, 1852

Music: William H. Jude, 1887

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“A Broader Calling than Being Agin' Wicked Wiles”

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, 290

MORECAMBE

“Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart”

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

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

Shall We Gather at the River?, Anne Krentz Organ, arr. © 2022, Augsburg Fortress; *Sing of the Lord’s Goodness*, Music and Words: Ernest Sands, Christopher Walker, and Paul Inwood © 1981, OCP Publications; *If You Believe and I Believe*, arr. by John L. Bell, Arr. © 1991, Iona Community, GIA Publications, Inc., agent;

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The Deacon on Call is Pam Powell. A 21-year member, Pam is a member of the Unity Sunday School class. Pam has one child, Rose Matthews.

The sanctuary flowers are given in memory of her husband, Robert S. Page, and her parents, Bennie Ray and Mary Gupton, by Paula Gupton Page.

Thanks to the following for their musical leadership this morning: Handbell Ensemble: Anna Anderson, Dana Chapman, Ginger Graves, and Kimberly Taylor; trumpet: Mike Mole.

The sanctuary choir loft renovation has resumed. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for regular updates.

A special church conference will be held on Sunday, July 20 at 6pm in the fellowship hall to vote on important recommendations from the Properties Committee. Please bring a dish to share for a potluck dinner at 5pm to enjoy some mid-summer fellowship before the meeting 6pm. We look forward to seeing you!

As clothing ministry volunteers are on vacation this next week (June 29–July 6), they ask you to please hold all donations. You may resume bringing items on July 7.

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. Band-aids 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.

 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 • June 29–July 6

Sunday, June 29

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

Monday, June 30

Clothing ministry closed

Tuesday, July 1

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

Wednesday, July 2

- 9:30 Youth Bible study (Bojangles)

Thursday, July 3

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Friday, July 4 *Independence Day*

Church office closed

Sunday, July 6

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 6:00 Summer youth group (Blue Room)

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.