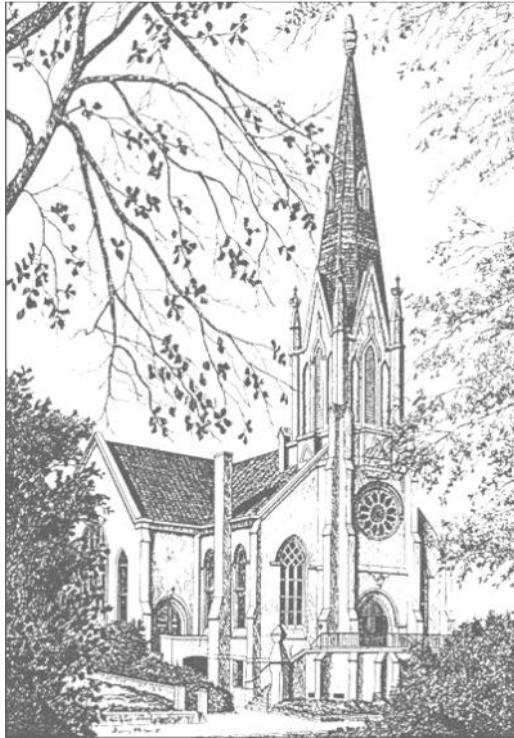


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 6, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 6, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. We continue with readings from 2 Kings, Galatians, and Luke which connect the struggle for faithfulness in ancient Israel with the challenge of following Jesus. We sing songs of praise to the God of all creation. And we pray for our own faithfulness in a time of much uncertainty. The sermon explores the reading from the Hebrew canon, focusing on the lesser-known characters who play critical roles. The text offers a reminder that it is not just the well-known leaders who shape history, something worth remembering as we celebrate our national independence, as well as an assurance that each of us has a role to play in the working out of Providence.

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

"Morning Has Broken"
Chuck Marohnic

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based on Psalm 30

LEADER: Call upon the Lord!

PEOPLE: I asked for help and I was healed!

LEADER: You have turned our mourning into dancing!

PEOPLE: You have clothed us with joy!

The Invocation

The Introit

“The Sun Is on the Land and Sea”

Sanctuary Choir

Austin Lovelace

The sun is on the land and sea, the day begun;
Our morning hymn begins with Thee, blest Three in One;
Our praise shall rise continually till day is done.
Thy love was ever in our view, like stars, by night;
Thy gifts are every morning new, O God of light;
Thy mercy, like the heavens' blue, fills all our sight.
We do not know what grief or care the day may bring;
The heart shall find some gladness there that loves its King;
The life that serves Thee everywhere can always sing.

Words: Louis F. Benson, 1897

*The Hymn of Praise, 362

“Morning Has Broken”

BUNESSAN

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

2 Kings 5:1-14

Brenda Mullins

¹Naaman, commander of the army of the king of Aram, was a great man and in high favor with his master because by him the Lord had given victory to Aram. The man, though a mighty warrior, suffered from a skin disease. ²Now the Arameans on one of their raids had taken a young girl captive from the land of Israel, and she served Naaman's wife. ³She said to her mistress, "If only my lord were with the prophet who is in Samaria! He would cure him of his skin disease." ⁴So Naaman went in and told his lord just what the girl from the land of Israel had said. ⁵And the king of Aram said, "Go, then, and I will send along a letter to the king of Israel."

He went, taking with him ten talents of silver, six thousand shekels of gold, and ten sets of garments. ⁶He brought the letter to the king of Israel, which read, "When this letter reaches you, know that I have sent to you my servant Naaman, that you may cure him of his skin disease." ⁷When the king of Israel read the letter, he tore his clothes and said, "Am I God, to give death or life, that this man sends word to me to cure a man of his skin disease? Just look and see how he is trying to pick a quarrel with me."

⁸But when Elisha the man of God heard that the king of Israel had torn his clothes, he sent a message to the king, "Why have you torn your clothes? Let him come to me, that he may learn that there is a prophet in Israel." ⁹So Naaman came with his horses and chariots and halted at the entrance of Elisha's house. ¹⁰Elisha sent a messenger to him, saying, "Go, wash in the Jordan seven times, and your flesh shall be restored, and you shall be clean." ¹¹But Naaman became angry and went away, saying, "I thought that for me he would surely come out and stand and call on the name of the Lord his God and would wave his hand over the spot and cure the skin disease! ¹²Are not Abana and Pharpar, the rivers of Damascus, better than all the waters of Israel? Could I not wash in them and be clean?" He turned and went away in a rage. ¹³But his servants approached and said to him, "Father, if the prophet had commanded you to do something difficult, would you not have done it? How much more, when all he said to you was, 'Wash, and be clean?'" ¹⁴So he went down and immersed himself seven times in the Jordan, according to the word of the man of God; his flesh was restored like the flesh of a young boy, and he was clean.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

⁷Do not be deceived; God is not mocked, for you reap whatever you sow. ⁸If you sow to your own flesh, you will reap corruption from the flesh, but if you sow to the Spirit, you will reap eternal life from the Spirit. ⁹So let us not grow weary in doing what is right, for we will reap at harvest time, if we do not give up. ¹⁰So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us work for the good of all and especially for those of the family of faith.

¹¹See what large letters I make when I am writing in my own hand! ¹²It is those who want to make a good showing in the flesh who try to compel you to be circumcised—only that they may not be persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³Even the circumcised do not themselves obey the law, but they want you to be circumcised so that they may boast about your flesh. ¹⁴May I never boast of anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by which the world has been crucified to me and I to the world. ¹⁵For neither circumcision nor uncircumcision is anything, but a new creation is everything! ¹⁶As for those who will follow this rule—peace be upon them, and mercy, and upon the Israel of God.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Solo

“What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

Greg Flowers

Dale Wood, arr.

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.**

¹After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ²He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves. ⁴Carry no purse, no bag, no sandals, and greet no one on the road. ⁵Whatever house you enter, first say, ‘Peace to this house!’ ⁶And if a person of peace is there, your peace will rest on that person, but if not, it will return to you. ⁷Remain in the same house, eating and drinking whatever they provide, for the laborer deserves to be paid. Do not move about from house to house. ⁸Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; ⁹cure the sick who are there, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰But whenever you enter a town and they do not welcome you, go out into its streets and say, ¹¹‘Even the dust of your town that clings to our feet, we wipe off in protest against you. Yet know this: the kingdom of God has come near.’”

¹⁶“Whoever listens to you listens to me, and whoever rejects you rejects me, and whoever rejects me rejects the one who sent me.”

¹⁷The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” ¹⁸He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 611 “There Is a Balm in Gilead”

BALM IN GILEAD

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Recognizing the Value and Purpose of the Seemingly Insignificant”

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

I'M GONNA LIVE

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"



I'm gon-na live so God can use me



an - y time and an - y - where.



I'm gon-na live so God can use me



an-y time and an-y - where.

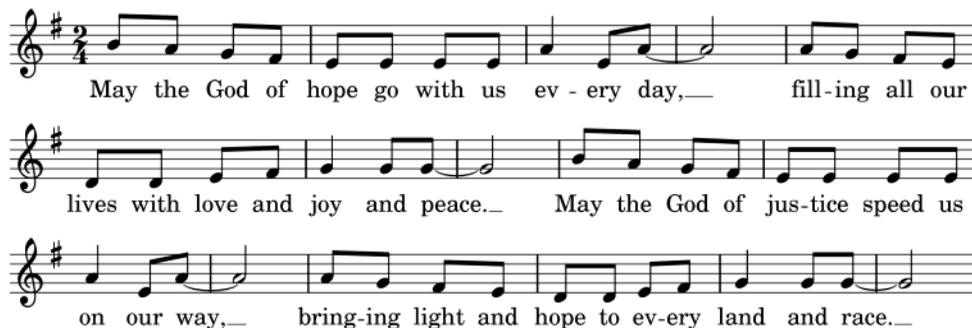
2. I'm gonna work... 3. I'm gonna pray... 4. I'm gonna sing...

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Charge and Benediction

“Song of Hope”

ARGENTINA



May the God of hope go with us ev - ery day, fill-ing all our
lives with love and joy and peace. May the God of jus-tice speed us
on our way, bring-ing light and hope to ev-ery land and race.

Refrain (All)



Pray-ing, let us work for peace; sing-ing, share our joy with all;
work-ing for a world that's new, faith-ful when we hear Christ's call.

Words: Alvin Schutmaat, 1984
Music: Argentine folk melody

*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.

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The Deacon on Call is Brenda Mullins. A 25-year member and first-term deacon, Brenda is a member of the Everett Miller-Friendship Sunday School class and WMU Group 7. She and her husband Ken live in Raleigh.

The pulpit parament in the sanctuary today is sponsored by Shirley and John Hobson, Lauren, Nick, Caroline and Savannah Bradley, Randy Canady, and Donna and Keith Hardin in memory of Joanne Wilkins Canady, Polly Wilkins Garrard, Sam Garrard and John Wilkins.

Please keep the 10 people going on the Passport Kids trip to Camp Bob Cooper from Monday until Thursday and the 21 people going on the high school beach trip at Pine Knoll Shores from Monday until Friday in your prayers.

The sanctuary choir loft renovation continues. 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!

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.

Calendar Highlights • July 6–13

Sunday, July 6

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

Monday, July 7–Thursday, July 10

Passport Kids (Camp Bob Cooper, Summerton, SC)

Monday, July 7–Friday, July 11

High school beach week (Pine Knoll Shores)

Monday, July 7

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open

Tuesday, July 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 White Flag Town Hall (fellowship hall)

Wednesday, July 9

- 7:00 Adult choir rehearsal (310)

Thursday, July 10

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Sunday, July 13

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



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
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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.