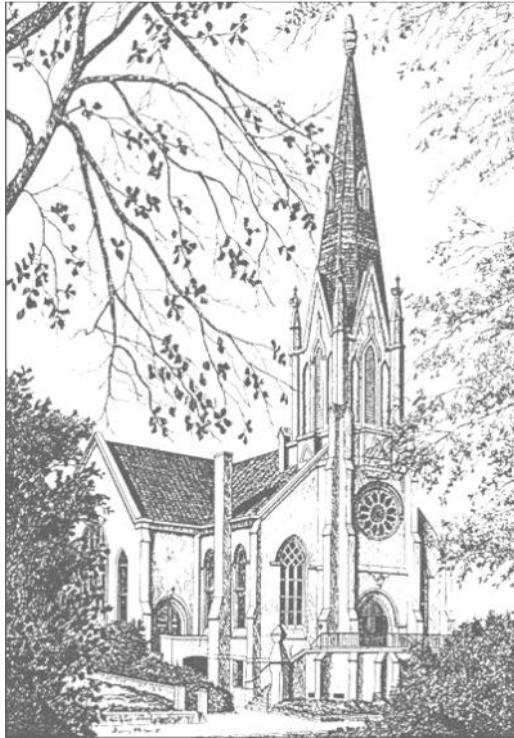


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



August 3, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE EIGHTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 3, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian Year. It is a season to ponder ways to grow in faith, and today's texts provide more possibilities than can be considered in one hour. The reading from Hosea reminds us that God's love is like a mother's love, nurturing and persistent, even when we don't seem very lovable. This ought to provide some motivation to change and grow. The reading from Colossians reminds us of our calling to seek the things that are above, to avoid thoughts and habits that are evil and destructive. In the reading from Luke, Jesus addresses one specific evil to avoid — greed. The sermon addresses this concern while naming the larger challenge of these texts, to seek something nobler than what we see in the world around us. We pray for something nobler, we sing praises to the God who calls us to something better, and we depart to invite others to experience it with us.

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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

"Children's Praise Medley"  
David S. Gaines, arr.

Anna Anderson

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 107

LEADER: O give thanks to the Lord who is good,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

PEOPLE: **Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,  
those redeemed from trouble, and gathered in from the lands.**

LEADER: from the east and from the west,

PEOPLE: **from the north and from the south.**

LEADER: Some wandered in desert wastes,  
finding no way to an inhabited town;

PEOPLE: **hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.**

LEADER: Then they cried the Lord in their trouble,  
and God delivered them from their distress;

PEOPLE: **let them be thankful for God's steadfast love  
and wonderful works to humankind.**

LEADER: for the Lord satisfies the thirsty,

PEOPLE: **and fills the hungry with good things.**

The Invocation

\*The Hymn of Praise, 634 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

CWM RHONDDA

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Hosea 11:1–11

Royce Willmschen

<sup>1</sup>When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son. <sup>2</sup>The more I called them, the more they went from me; they kept sacrificing to the Baals and offering incense to idols. <sup>3</sup>Yet it was I who taught Ephraim to walk; I took them up in my arms, but they did not know that I healed them. <sup>4</sup>I led them with cords of human kindness, with bands of love. I was to them like those who lift infants to their cheeks. I bent down to them and fed them. <sup>5</sup>They shall return to the land of Egypt, and Assyria shall be their king, because they have refused to return to me. <sup>6</sup>The sword rages in their cities; it consumes their oracle priests and devours because of their schemes. <sup>7</sup>My people are bent on turning away from me.

To the Most High they call, but he does not raise them up at all. <sup>8</sup>How can I give you up, Ephraim? How can I hand you over, O Israel? How can I make you like Admah? How can I treat you like Zeboiim? My heart recoils within me; my compassion grows warm and tender. <sup>9</sup>I will not execute my fierce anger; I will not again destroy Ephraim, for I am God and no mortal, the Holy One in your midst, and I will not come in wrath. <sup>10</sup>They shall go after the Lord, who roars like a lion; when he roars, his children shall come trembling from the west.

<sup>11</sup>They shall come trembling like birds from Egypt and like doves from the land of Assyria, and I will return them to their homes, says the Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Colossians 3:1–11

<sup>1</sup>So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. <sup>2</sup>Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth, <sup>3</sup>for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. <sup>4</sup>When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

<sup>5</sup>Put to death, therefore, whatever in you is earthly: sexual immorality, impurity, passion, evil desire, and greed (which is idolatry). <sup>6</sup>On account of these the wrath of God is coming on those who are disobedient. <sup>7</sup>These are the ways you also once followed, when you were living that life. <sup>8</sup>But now you must get rid of all such things: anger, wrath, malice, slander, and abusive language from your mouth. <sup>9</sup>Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have stripped off the old self with its practices <sup>10</sup>and have clothed yourselves with the new self, which is being renewed in knowledge according to the image of its creator. <sup>11</sup>In that renewal there is no longer Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, enslaved and free, but Christ is all and in all!

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

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

“Bright Canaan”

Sanctuary Choir

Robert Shaw/Alice Parker, arr. LaCount Anderson, dir.

O who will come and go with me, I am bound for the land of Canaan.  
I'm bound fair Canaan's land to see, I am bound for the land of Canaan.  
*O Canaan, bright Canaan I'm bound for the land of Canaan,  
O Canaan, it is my happy home. I am bound for the land of Canaan.*  
I'll join with them who've gone before, where sin and sorrow are no more . . .  
Our songs of praise shall fill the skies, and higher still our joys they rise . . .

— Early American Hymn

The Gospel

Luke 12:13–21

<sup>13</sup>Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” <sup>14</sup>But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” <sup>15</sup>And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” <sup>16</sup>Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. <sup>17</sup>And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ <sup>18</sup>Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. <sup>19</sup>And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ <sup>20</sup>But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ <sup>21</sup>So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

**LEADER:** This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

\*The Hymn of Devotion, 644

BEACH SPRING

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending”

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Focusing on Just One of Many Moral Concerns — Greed”

## 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, 539

HOUSTON

“I Want To Walk as a Child of the Light”

## 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

“I Love Thee”

Anna Anderson

Don Schlosser, arr.

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Royce Willmschen. A 22-year member, Royce is on the Audio/Visual Team. He and his wife Debbie have two daughters, Natalie and Claire.

The flowers in the sanctuary are given in honor of Mary Alice Seals and Paul Smith, former FBC Ministers of Music by Rhonda Lowe.

We thank Anna Anderson for being our pianist and LaCount Anderson for directing the choir this morning.

An offering for the Mike Morris Fellowship Fund is received the first Sunday of each month. This fund helps persons seeking emergency aid. Collection baskets are at each exit.

Join us Sunday, August 24, from 5–7pm, at our End-of-Summer Block Party and Fall Kick-off! You can get supper from the *Also With 'Cue* food truck and we'll have a cornhole tournament, music from Eliza Myers and her band, inflatables & face painting for the kids, and complimentary *Howling Cow* ice cream to cool us off. Find a partner, give your team a fun name, and [sign up for the cornhole tournament here](#).

Be sure to pick up the new issue of *First Foundations* magazine! Magazines can be found in the Lewis Lobby by the elevators as well as at all entrances to the sanctuary. You may also access this issue on the church website, along with previous issues of our magazines. If you would like to receive a copy of *First Foundations* in the mail, please email Deborah ([dmast@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:dmast@fbcraleigh.org)).

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.

## Calendar Highlights • August 3–10

### Sunday, August 3

- 9:45 Sunday School
- Community Ministries meeting (conference room)
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
- JBC worship (227)
- 6:00 Youth Senior Night (Blue Room)

### Monday, August 4

Clothing ministry closed

### Tuesday, August 5

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

### Wednesday, August 6

- 9:30 Youth Bible study (Bojangles)

### Thursday, August 7

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

### Saturday, August 9

- 1:00 Memorial Service for Charles Barham (sanctuary)
- 2:00 Visitation (fellowship hall)

### Sunday, August 10

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

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.



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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.*