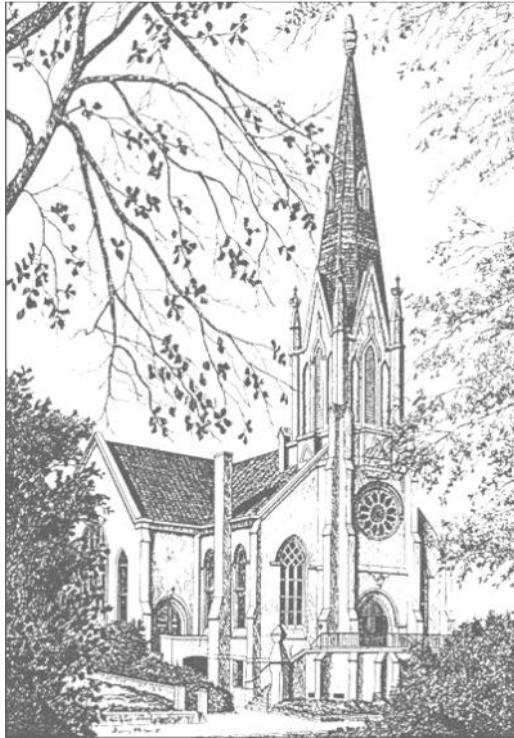


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 19, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

October 19, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. It is a season in which we ponder possibilities for growth — hence the green stoles and altar cloth — and today's texts invite us to grow in different ways. The reading from Jeremiah points to a new covenant with heightened individual privilege and responsibility. The reading from 2 Timothy underscores the value of scripture to teach, correct, and train us. The reading from Luke includes a calling to persevere in prayer and an assurance of justice. The sermon explores this latter text, examining the questions that arise from it, while we sing hymns and hear sacred music that call us to offer praise to the God who is ever more than we can know. We voice prayers in fulfillment of Jesus' calling and offer gifts in gratitude for the love we have known.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Leah Reed

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

Maureen Howell

"Song Without Words (Contemplation) Op. 30, No. 1"
Felix Mendelssohn

LEADER: I lift up my eyes to the hills—from where will my help come?

PEOPLE: **My help comes from the Lord, who made heaven and earth.**

LEADER: The Lord will not let your foot be moved; the Lord who keeps you will not slumber.

PEOPLE: **The One who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

LEADER: The Lord is your keeper; the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

PEOPLE: **The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.**

LEADER: The Lord will keep you from all evil; God will keep your life.

PEOPLE: **The Lord will keep your going out and your coming in from this time on and forevermore.**

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 77 “Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” LOBE DEN HERREN

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 31:27–34

Lee Smith

²⁷The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. ²⁸And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the Lord. ²⁹In those days they shall no longer say:

“The parents have eaten sour grapes,
and the children’s teeth are set on edge.”

³⁰But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of the one who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge.

³¹The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴No longer shall they teach one another or say to each other, “Know the Lord,” for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord, for I will forgive their iniquity and remember their sin no more.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹⁴But as for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that the person of God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

¹In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, be sober in everything, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Sing Praise to God from the Heavens” Sanctuary Choir
Maureen Howell

Sing praise to God from the heavens.	Lift up your praise to the Lord,
Sing praise to the Lord in the highest.	you animals creeping and flying,
Praise the name of the Lord.	Lift up your praise to the Lord,
	from the depths of the ocean.
Sing praise to God from the heavens.	
Sing praise to the Lord, all angels.	Sing praise to God from the heavens,
Praise the name of the Lord.	you mountains, hills,
	and orchards, forests,
Sun, moon, and stars in the heavens,	through wind, rain, and snow,
and waters above the sky,	through storms and lightning.
Let them praise God’s name forever.	

Sing praise to God from the heavens.

All people praise the Lord.

Sing praise 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 Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

¹Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, "In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, 'Grant me justice against my accuser.' ⁴For a while he refused, but later he said to himself, 'Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.'" ⁶And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion

“Kum ba Yah”

KUM BA YAH

1 *Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba
2 Some-one's cry-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's cry-ing, Lord, kum ba
3 Some-one's sing-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's sing-ing, Lord, kum ba
4 Some-one's pray-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! Some-one's pray-ing, Lord, kum ba

yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!
yah! Some-one's cry-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!
yah! Some-one's sing-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!
yah! Some-one's pray-ing, Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

*Come by here

—African-American Spiritual

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Trying To Process a Difficult Text”

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”

*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory “Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart” Maureen Howell
Thomas Keesecker, arr.

*The Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose pow’r uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Words: Thomas Ken, 1674, adapt

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

“Praise to the Lord, the Almighty” Maureen Howell
John Carter

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Lee Smith. A 62-year member of First Baptist, Lee is a member of the Pathfinders Sunday School class. He and his wife Donna together have six children and seven grandchildren.

Today's pulpit parament is given in loving memory of Jack Padgett, husband, father, and grandfather; their dear Jack, Dad, and Poppie; by Mary, Zach, Alison, Jack, and Brooks. *Girasole* is the Italian word for sunflower, and it translates to "turns toward the sun."

Our offering helper is Asher Helms, reminding us that no matter our age, we all can offer our gifts of thanksgiving to God.

Sympathy to Mary Lou Dodd on the October 13 death of her sister, Annabelle Kennedy, and to the family of Jane Kibler, who died on October 15.

The rose on the altar is in celebration of the October 10 birth of Edgar Tyson Harvey, son of Tina and Warren, brother of Julia, and grandson of Margaret Harvey.

Please join us on Sunday, October 26, at 6pm for an ordination service for Lynn Lingafelt. The service will be in our sanctuary with a reception following in the fellowship hall.

If you are interested in volunteering with the White Flag ministry this winter, please attend a volunteer orientation in the fellowship hall on Tuesday, October 28, from 6–8pm. A pizza supper will be provided. Please email Leah Reed by Sunday, October 26, if you can attend.

When you enter the church during office hours during the week, we ask that you wear a badge that indicates your name and purpose for being in the facility. Badges are located at the parking lot ramp door and at the welcome center if you enter through Edenton Street.

Deacon election is happening now until Sunday, October 26. You may submit your ballot in the offering plate at Sunday worship services, in the ballot box in the church office, or by mailing it to the church office. Address questions to any of the current deacons. Please prayerfully consider your choices for our deacon leadership.

In conjunction with our October Centerpoint focus, our mission project this month is collecting 20-lb bags of basmati rice that will be presented to Kim and Marc Wyatt for Welcome House on October 29. They will be added to Christmas bags that will be shared with the Welcome House families to provide them practical meals. You may place your donation in the designated tote located on the stage in the fellowship hall.

The church maintains a list of members who are military service veterans and those on active duty having connections to First Baptist. If you know of eligible individuals whose names have not previously been on these lists, please email Jennie Herrick (jherrick@fbcraleigh.org) by Wednesday, November 5. We will print this list in our bulletin the Sunday prior to Veterans Day.

Toy Joy is November 15. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for links to Amazon and Target wish lists if you'd like to purchase new toys, or you may donate funds (specifying *Toy Joy* in the memo line of your check) and the team will purchase them for you. The newsletter also has links to sign up to volunteer at the event or set-up the day before.

Church conference: Wednesday, October 22; meal served at 5pm, prayer time and meeting at 6pm, in person and via Zoom (link and documents may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*).

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 October 22 is: pork tenderloin with sweet potatoes and veggies; vegetarian option: vegetarian meatballs; kids: macaroni and cheese.

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 • October 19–26

Sunday, October 19

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship prep class (230)
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (220/Zoom)
- 3:00 Thirty-Niners outing (Theatre in the Park)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)

Monday, October 20

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

Tuesday, October 21

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

Wednesday, October 22

- 5:00 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (301/307/311)
- 6:00 Church conference (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, October 23

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners meeting (fellowship hall)

Sunday, October 26

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 4:00 Evening Bells rehearsal
- 4:30 Youth choir (choir room)
- 5:30 Youth supper (301)
- 6:00 Ordination service (sanctuary)
- 7:00 Ordination reception (fellowship hall)

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.