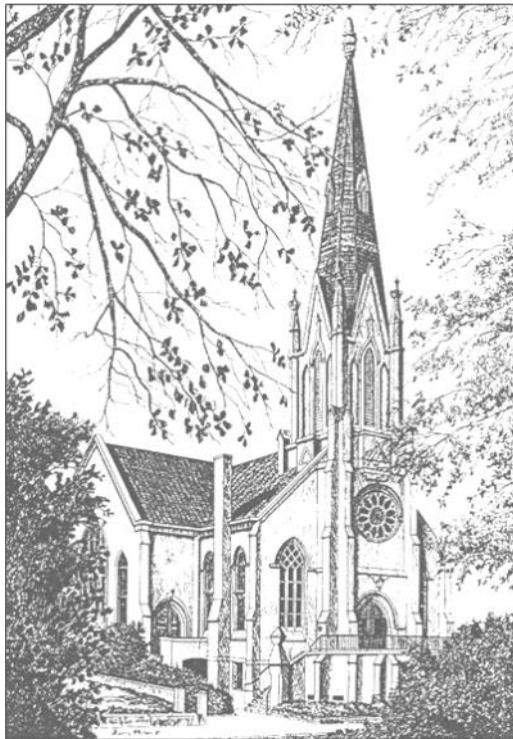


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



November 16, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 16, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost, as the Christian Year winds down, we finally hear a prophetic word of hope from Isaiah. It is desperately needed in his time and ours. It is what enables us not to be weary in doing what is right, as 2 Thessalonians counsels. It is what empowers us to give faithful witness in times of testing, as Jesus counsels in Luke 21. We sing songs of praise to the God who inspires hope, we pray that we may have the faith to live toward the vision God makes clear, and we respond by offering gifts to make hope possible for others. Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God, alleluia!

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

"Adoration"
Florence Price

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based on Isaiah 12:5-6

LEADER: Sing praises to the Lord, for God has done gloriously;

PEOPLE: let us sing God's praises throughout all the earth.

LEADER: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

PEOPLE: from the highest peaks, to the deepest caverns.

LEADER: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

PEOPLE: from the tiniest creatures, to the greatest herds.

LEADER: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

PEOPLE: in the midst of our joys and our sorrows.

LEADER: Shout aloud and sing for joy,

ALL: as we come to worship the God of all creation!

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 558 "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

BEECHER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 65:17–25

LaCount Anderson

¹⁷For I am about to create new heavens
and a new earth;
the former things shall not be remembered
or come to mind.

¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever
in what I am creating,
for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy
and its people as a delight.

¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem
and delight in my people;
no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it
or the cry of distress.

²⁰No more shall there be in it
an infant who lives but a few days
or an old person who does not live out a lifetime,
for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth,
and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed.

²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them;
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.

²²They shall not build and another inhabit;
they shall not plant and another eat,
for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be,
and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands.

²³They shall not labor in vain
or bear children for calamity,
for they shall be offspring blessed by the Lord—
and their descendants as well.

²⁴Before they call I will answer,
while they are yet speaking I will hear.

²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall feed together;
the lion shall eat straw like the ox,
but the serpent—its food shall be dust!
They shall not hurt or destroy
on all my holy mountain, says the Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

⁶Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹²Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

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

“The Wayfaring Stranger”
Paul Smith, arr.

Sanctuary Choir

I am a poor wayfaring stranger,
While traveling through this world of woe,
Yet there's no sickness, toil, or danger
in that bright world to which I go.
I'm going there to see my Father;
I'm going there no more to roam,
I'm only going over Jordan,
I'm only going over home.

I know dark clouds will gather round me;
I know my way is rough and steep,
But golden fields lie out before me
where God's redeemed shall ever sleep.
I'm going there to see my Mother;
she said she'd meet me when I come.
I'm only going over Jordan,
I'm only going over home.

I'll soon be free from every trial,
my body sleep in the churchyard.
I'll drop the cross of self-denial
and enter on my great reward,
I'm going there to see my Savior;
to sing His praise for evermore.
I'm only going over Jordan,
I'm only going over home.

Words and Music: American folk song

⁵When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, ⁶“As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹“When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹²“But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹By your endurance you will gain your souls.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 596 “We’re Marching to Zion”

MARCHING TO ZION

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“Something More than Sad Songs”

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 “Great God of Every Blessing”

AURELIA



1. Great God of ev - 'ry bless - ing, of
2. Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the
3. Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the



faith - ful, lov - ing care, you are the fount of
source of end - less grace, in death and life ex -
light that guides our search, trans - form - ing bro - ken



good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share. How can we
tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace. In Christ we
peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church. For feed - ing



hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start—
are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part—
us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part—



sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

Words: David Gambrell, 2009

Music: AURELIA, Samuel Sabastian Wesley, 1864

*The Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

“Praise the Lord”
G.F. Handel

Youth Choir

Praise the Lord, let songs of joy break forth.
Sing alleluia. Praise God's name forevermore.
Shout, sing, come dance and celebrate.
Rejoice, let all within us praise God's name.
Shout, sing, let songs of joy break forth, sing for joy.

Words: Hal Hopson, 1974

*The Doxology

AURELIA

**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

The Word About Stewardship

Holly Cook, Elizabeth Santana

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

“Hornpipe”
G.F. Handel

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is LaCount Anderson. A three-year member and a first-term deacon, LaCount serves as the chair of the Denominational Relations and the Fellowship Fund committees. He is a member of the Sanctuary Choir and has designed our Advent pulpit parament and artwork for several of our service bulletins. He and his wife Anna live in Rocky Mount and have an adult daughter, Leah Reed, and two grandsons, Jennings and Merritt.

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

The sanctuary flowers are given in memory of Jim Clary by Margaret, Greg and Julie, Mark and Amy, and their grandchildren.

On November 23 at 12pm in the fellowship hall, the Japanese congregation would like to treat you to a luncheon of a traditional Japanese-style chicken curry and rice. There is no cost for the luncheon, although they would welcome your donations.

Due to lack of storage space, the clothing ministry asks that you hold all donations of women's clothing, with the exception of coats. Additionally, when they resume accepting women's clothing, they would appreciate fall/winter clothes only. They are still in need of men's and children's fall/winter clothing (especially coats!) and appreciate those donations.

We Promise To Do Our Best, our 2026 stewardship emphasis, is underway. Please prayerfully consider how you can give generously and with gratitude to God. If you don't receive a stewardship packet in the mail, please contact the church office. As of November 13, we have received 21 pledges totaling \$193,810.00.

Church conference: Wednesday, November 19; meal served at 5pm, prayer time and meeting at 6pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for documents and Zoom link.

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 on November 19 is: chicken pot pie; vegetarian option: mock chicken pot pie; kids: cheese sticks.

During November, we are collecting a special offering for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Recent cuts to SNAP benefits have placed increased financial strain on many families in our community and in light of this, our church has the opportunity to respond compassionately to the growing needs of our local neighbors. The Food Bank plays a vital role in addressing food insecurity, and our collective support could make a significant difference during what will likely be the worst hunger crisis in a generation. This organization is not in our current or 2026 budget, making this a special opportunity to give back to a program that desperately needs our support.

A Holiday Service of Hope and Remembrance, offering hope and assurance to those who have lost loved ones, will be held here at First Baptist in the sanctuary on Thursday, November 20, at 7pm.

We will be handing out free biscuits and bottled water to parade-goers at the Raleigh Christmas parade this Saturday, November 22. Volunteers will be needed starting at 7:30am to help wrap the biscuits in the fellowship hall. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details and for the link to sign up.

It's time again to place your pre-orders for your Thanksgiving feast from *And Also with 'Cue!* See the *Rose Window Weekly* for the link to place an order.

Hanging of the Greens will be held on Sunday, December 7, at 6pm, followed by a reception. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of holiday decorations for our sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes or on our website— must be received with payment by Friday, December 5.

If you can make two or three dozen cookies for the Hanging of the Greens reception, please email Sheila Jordan (jbwsaj@yahoo.com). The cookies need to be brought to the kitchen on Sunday morning, December 7.

In the event of an emergency, first aid kits can be found at the greeting desk in the Lewis Lobby and in the workroom in the church office. 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.

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 the 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 • November 16–23

Sunday, November 16

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 12:15 Deacons' meeting (220/Zoom)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (Blue Room)

Monday, November 17

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 6:15 Finance Committee meeting (Zoom)
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, November 18

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 1:30 Yoga (301)

Wednesday, November 19

- 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, November 20

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners meeting (fellowship hall)
- 7:00 Holiday Service of Hope and Remembrance (sanctuary)

Saturday, November 22

- 9:30 Raleigh Christmas parade (meet in FH at 7:30 to wrap biscuits)

Sunday, November 23

- 8:00 Buddy Breakfast (301)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:30 JBC worship (227)
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
- 12:00 JBC curry luncheon (fellowship hall)
- 5:00 Evening bells (302)
Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth program (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

Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

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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.