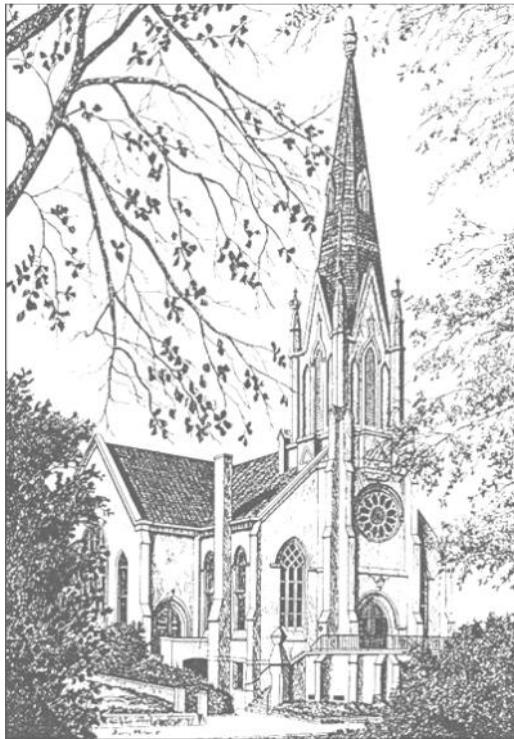


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



October 5, 2025

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP
THE SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WORLD COMMUNION SUNDAY

October 5, 2025

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost and World Communion Sunday. The latter designation, a celebration of Christian unity, began in 1933 at Shadyside Presbyterian Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. It was adopted by the U.S. Presbyterian Church in 1936 and then endorsed by the Federal Council of Churches (now the National Council of Churches) in 1940. In this time of division and hostility at home, and poverty, persecution, and warfare worldwide, it seems particularly important that we name those things that bind us together as Christians and send us into the world with a witness of justice and love. We sing praises to the God who makes us one, we lift up prayers for sisters and brothers in contexts of great need, and we ponder the nature of a faith that endures all things. We conclude with a celebration of communion, a sacred ritual that binds us to believers of all times and places, all cultures and contexts.

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Michael Hood

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

"Prelude in F-sharp major, BWV 858"
JS Bach

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship

from Lamentations 3

LEADER: In the midst of doubt and division, we wait for God:

PEOPLE: **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end.**

LEADER: In the midst of grief and loss, we wait for God:

PEOPLE: **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end.**

LEADER: In the midst of change and uncertainty, we wait for God:

PEOPLE: **The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases,
God's mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning.
Great is your faithfulness, O God!**

The Introit

“This Is the Day”

Gradeschool Choir

Robert Lau

This is the day which the Lord has made;
rejoice all believers and be very glad. Alleluia.
Alleluia, we raise our song to praise God's name.
Alleluia, God loves us all the same.

— Psalm 118:24

*The Hymn of Praise, 356

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

“All Creatures of Our God and King”

*The Invocation

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Lamentations 1:1-6

Linda Roberts

¹How lonely sits the city
that once was full of people!
How like a widow she has become,
she that was great among the nations!
She that was a princess among the provinces
has become subject to forced labor.

²She weeps bitterly in the night,
with tears on her cheeks;
among all her lovers,
she has no one to comfort her;
all her friends have dealt treacherously with her;
they have become her enemies.

³Judah has gone into exile with suffering
and hard servitude;
she lives now among the nations;
she finds no resting place;
her pursuers have all overtaken her
in the midst of her distress.

⁴The roads to Zion mourn,
for no one comes to the festivals;
all her gates are desolate;
her priests groan;
her young girls grieve,
and her lot is bitter.

⁵Her foes have become the masters;
her enemies prosper
because the Lord has made her suffer
for the multitude of her transgressions;
her children have gone away,
captives before the foe.

⁶From daughter Zion has departed
all her majesty.
Her princes have become like stags
that find no pasture;
they fled without strength
before the pursuer.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God, for the sake of the promise of life that is in Christ Jesus,

²To Timothy, my beloved child:

Grace, mercy, and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Lord.

³I am grateful to God—whom I worship with a clear conscience, as my ancestors did—when I remember you constantly in my prayers night and day.

⁴Recalling your tears, I long to see you so that I may be filled with joy. ⁵I am reminded of your sincere faith, a faith that lived first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice and now, I am sure, lives in you. ⁶For this reason I remind you to rekindle the gift of God that is within you through the laying on of my hands, ⁷for God did not give us a spirit of cowardice but rather a spirit of power and of love and of self-discipline.

⁸Do not be ashamed, then, of the testimony about our Lord or of me his prisoner, but join with me in suffering for the gospel, in the power of God, ⁹who saved us and called us with a holy calling, not according to our works but according to his own purpose and grace, and this grace was given to us in Christ Jesus before the ages began, ¹⁰but it has now been revealed through the appearing of our Savior Jesus Christ, who abolished death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. ¹¹For this gospel I was appointed a herald and an apostle and a teacher, ¹²and for this reason I suffer as I do. But I am not ashamed, for I know the one in whom I have put my trust, and I am sure that he is able to guard until that day the deposit I have entrusted to him. ¹³Hold to the standard of sound teaching that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. ¹⁴Guard the good deposit entrusted to you, with the help of the Holy Spirit living in us.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Anthem

“Ubi Caritas”
Victor C. Johnson

Youth Choir

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsultemus, et in ipso jucundemur.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
The love of Christ as gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.
And from a sincere heart let us love one another.*

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 17:5–10

⁵The apostles said to the Lord, "Increase our faith!" ⁶The Lord replied, "If you had faith the size of a mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, 'Be uprooted and planted in the sea,' and it would obey you.

⁷"Who among you would say to your slave who has just come in from plowing or tending sheep in the field, 'Come here at once and take your place at the table?' ⁸Would you not rather say to him, 'Prepare supper for me; put on your apron and serve me while I eat and drink; later you may eat and drink?' ⁹Do you thank the slave for doing what was commanded? ¹⁰So you also, when you have done all that you were ordered to do, say, 'We are worthless slaves; we have done only what we ought to have done!'"

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 712

HANOVER

"The Kingdom of God Is Justice and Joy"

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

"What It Means To Have Faith"

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Celebration of Communion

All of our communion bread this morning is gluten-free.

The Song of Welcome

“The Open Table”

Youth Choir

Mark A. Miller

Claire Carothers, solo

Come, oh come, come to the table.
Gather around, come without fear.
Known by name, here at the table, this table;
Welcome here, to the table of love.

Circle around, let's join together.
Share your joys, and bring your tears.
Strength and hope found at the table, this table;
Welcome here, to the table of love.

All:

3. God is love; Love is cre - at - ing _____
some - thing new, right here, right now. _____ We're
chil - dren of God, here at the ta - ble, _____ this ta - ble; _____
wel - come here, to the ta - ble of love.

The Invitation to the Table
The Prayer of Thanksgiving
The Bread Is Broken
The Cup Is Shared

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, 612

FOUNDATION

“How Firm a Foundation”

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

“The Harvest”
Tom Howard

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

* * * * *

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The Deacon on Call is Linda Roberts. A 26-year member of First Baptist, Linda has served on committees, mission trips, and other volunteer positions in the church during this time. Linda is married to Dan Roberts and is the mother of three children, Todd, David, and Christy (1970-2016). She has four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

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.

Deacon election begins today and concludes on 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.

Japanese Taiko drummer, Takumi Kato, will perform here on Friday, October 10, from 5:15–7pm in the fellowship hall. The drumming will be preceded by Bon Odori dance and there will also be a charity bazaar with unique Japanese items (cash only). Admission is free, but donations are gladly accepted. Presented by the Japanese American Society of NC. More details in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

The last drop-off/collection day will be on Sunday, October 12 from 9:30am–1pm, in the fellowship hall. We are collecting new or GENTLY USED toys, games, puzzles, stuffed animals, and books. Please make sure that all used items are clean and in very good condition, with ALL of their pieces and parts included. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for links to Amazon, Walmart, and Target wish lists. If you prefer for our Toy Joy team to do the shopping, you may also donate funds, specifying *Toy Joy* in the memo line of your check.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, October 8; meal served at 5pm, prayer time and program at 6pm. This week, the director of Church Partnerships with Refuge Hope Partners in Raleigh will speak about the various ways that his agency serves the refugee community in Wake County. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.

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 8 is: spaghetti and green beans; vegetarian option: veggie spaghetti.

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 5–12

Sunday, October 5

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship prep class (230)
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)

Monday, October 6

- 10:00 Clothing ministry open
- 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, October 7

- 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 8

- 5:00 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 5:45 Children's music (301/307/311)
- 6:00 Centerpoint (fellowship hall)
- 6:30 Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
Evening Bells rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, October 9

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

Friday, October 10

- 5:15 Japanese Taiko performance with bazaar (fellowship hall)

Sunday, October 12

- 9:00 Toy Joy donation day (fellowship hall)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 10:45 Worship prep class (230)
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 5:00 Youth choir (choir room)
- 6:00 Youth supper (301)
- 6:30 Youth group (Blue Room)

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

99 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603

(919) 832-4485 x201 Fax: (919) 832-6726 www.fbcraleigh.org

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.