

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



March 29, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

PALM SUNDAY

March 29, 2026

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is Palm Sunday, the first day of Holy Week, a great day of celebration yet also a complicated day in emotional and spiritual terms. While a crowd gathers to praise Jesus today, we remember that another crowd will soon call for his death. Everything that happens this week takes place under the shadow of the cross yet also in the light of the resurrection. Thus, songs of praise are appropriate, as are prayers of confession. We reflect on this day as a kind of parade, an act of protest, and a form of proclamation. As always, we view Jesus' actions as a sign of our calling.

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

"Processional on TRURO"
Maureen Howell

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based on Psalm 118

LEADER: Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

PEOPLE: Give thanks for this day that leads to the cross.

LEADER: Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!

PEOPLE: Fling wide the gates that the righteous may enter.

LEADER: Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

PEOPLE: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

*The Hymn of Procession, 204 "All Glory, Laud and Honor"

ST. THEODULPH

*During the singing of this hymn, the children and youth
will be presenting palms at the communion table.*

*The Invocation

CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Anthem

“Kyrie”

Sanctuary Choir

(from *A Caribbean Mass*)

Glenn McClure

Kyrie eleison, *Lord have mercy,*
Christe eleison, *Christ have mercy,*
Kyrie eleison. *Lord have mercy.*

Alto e glorioso Dio,
illumina le tenebrae del cuore mio,
e dammi fede retta, e carità perfetta
speranza certa, umiltà profonda,
saggezza e conoscenza,
O Signore, affinché io faccia il tuo santo
e verace comandamento.

*Most high and glorious God,
illuminate the darkness of my heart
and grant an upright faith, perfect love,
certain hope, profound humility,
wisdom and understanding,
O Lord, that I might follow your holy
and true commandment.*

Words: trad. Roman Catholic Mass
and Francis of Assisi (1182-1226)

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession (unison)

**Holy God,
sure of your faithfulness even in your dying,
comforted by your compassion toward your people in every age,
we need your mercy for our imperfect gratitude.
We have looked to you for small favors,
when you have given everything.
We have withheld from your people, our neighbors,
and from your creation, our Earth,
the care and tending they deserve.
We have rejected the cornerstone you sent
to build a people of righteousness even here, today.
Forgive our failings.
Heal what we have broken,
nurture what we have neglected,
and lead us to your vision,
so that we may know the peace of wholeness in you;
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

The Silent Confession

The Assurance of Pardon

The Act of Praise

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to
God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en. We are for -
giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Words: Hal H. Hopson, 1995

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 50:4–9a

Jen Foster

⁴The Sovereign Lord has given me a well-instructed tongue,
to know the word that sustains the weary.

He wakens me morning by morning,
wakens my ear to listen like one being instructed.

⁵The Sovereign Lord has opened my ears;
I have not been rebellious,
I have not turned away.

⁶I offered my back to those who beat me,
my cheeks to those who pulled out my beard;
I did not hide my face
from mocking and spitting.

⁷Because the Sovereign Lord helps me,
I will not be disgraced.

Therefore have I set my face like flint,
and I know I will not be put to shame.

⁸He who vindicates me is near.
Who then will bring charges against me?
Let us face each other!

Who is my accuser?
Let him confront me!

⁹It is the Sovereign Lord who helps me.
Who will condemn me?

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

⁵In your relationships with one another, have the same mindset as Christ Jesus:

⁶Who, being in very nature God,
did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage;

⁷rather, he made himself nothing
by taking the very nature of a servant,
being made in human likeness.

⁸And being found in appearance as a man,
he humbled himself
by becoming obedient to death—
even death on a cross!

⁹Therefore God exalted him to the highest place
and gave him the name that is above every name,

¹⁰that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,

¹¹and every tongue acknowledge that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

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 Hymn of Devotion, 205 “Ride On, Ride On in Majesty”

TRURO

The Gospel

Matthew 21:1–11

¹As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, ²saying to them, “Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. ³If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away.”

⁴This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet:

⁵“Say to Daughter Zion,
‘See, your king comes to you,
gentle and riding on a donkey,
and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.’”

⁶The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. ⁷They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on.

⁸A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. ⁹The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted,

“Hosanna to the Son of David!”

“Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!”

“Hosanna in the highest heaven!”

¹⁰When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, “Who is this?”

¹¹The crowds answered, “This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

The Anthem

“Ride On, King Jesus”
African-American Spiritual
Alice Parker and Robert Shaw, arr.

Sanctuary Choir

Ride on, King Jesus, no man can-a hinduh me.
I was but young when I began,
but now my race is almost done.
King Jesus rides on a milk-white horse.
The River of Jordan he did cross.

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman
“Palm Sunday as Parade, Protest, and Proclamation”

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.

"O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us"



1. O Christ, what can it mean for us to
 2. You came, the im - age of our God, to
 3. Though some would make their great - ness felt and
 4. You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and



claim you as our king? What roy - al face have
 heal and to for - give, to shed your blood for
 lord it o - ver all, you said the first must
 shunned the world's re - nown; you died for us up -



you re - vealed whose praise the church would sing? As -
 sin - ners' sake that we might rise and live. To
 be the last and serv - ice be our call. O
 on a cross with thorns your on - ly crown. But



pir - ing not to glo - ry's height, to
 break the law of death you came, the
 Christ in work - place, church, and home, let
 still, be - yond the span of years, our



pow - er, wealth, and fame, you walked a dif - ferent,
 law of love to bring: a dif - ferent rule of
 none to pow - er cling; for still, through us, you
 glad ho - san - nas ring, for now at God's right



low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.
 right - eous - ness, a dif - ferent kind of king.
 come to serve, a dif - ferent kind of king.
 hand you reign, a dif - ferent kind of king!

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

“All Glory, Laud, and Honor”
Lloyd Larson

Maureen Howell

*The congregation may stand.

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Calendar Highlights • March 29–April

Sunday, March 29 *Palm Sunday*

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room/Zoom)
- 9:45 Sunday School
 Children's palm processional practice (sanctuary)
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
 JBC worship (227)

Monday, March 30

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

Tuesday, March 31

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 6:00 Softball practice (Walnut Creek Athletic Center)

Wednesday, April 1

- 6:30 Evening Bells rehearsal (302)
- 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary)

Thursday, April 2 *Maundy Thursday*

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners meeting (fellowship hall)
- 7:00 Maundy Thursday service with communion (sanctuary)

Friday, April 3 *Good Friday*

- 12:00 Good Friday service (sanctuary)
- 12:30 Good Friday lunch (fellowship hall)

Saturday, April 4

- 10:00 Easter egg hunt (sanctuary/Capitol grounds)

Sunday, April 5 *Easter*

- 6:30 Easter Sunrise service (Capitol Square)
- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room/Zoom)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
 JBC worship and reception (301/302)

The Deacon on Call is Jen Foster. A 25-year member, Jen is a member of the Journey Sunday School class and serves on the Adult Ministries Council and the ministry team that publishes the *First Foundations* magazine. She and her husband Derek have three children: Jay, Luke, and Meg.

Our thanks to Stephen Hambright, Dennis Ellis, and Maria Childrey for percussion.

The sanctuary flowers are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Gordon Maddrey by their family, Charles and Joseph and Libby Maddrey.

Sympathy to Jennifer Talley on the March 24 death of her sister Becky Whitwam.

We continue Holy Week this week with a Maundy Thursday service on Thursday, April 2, at 7pm. This service will include the celebration of communion. Next, we will have a Good Friday service on April 3 at noon with a lunch to follow (no reservations are necessary). Next Sunday is Easter, and you have two opportunities to worship and celebrate the resurrection: the Easter Sunrise Service at the Capitol at 6:30am (music begins at 6:20am) and our worship service in the sanctuary at 11am.

Easter is next Sunday, April 5. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of Easter lilies for our sanctuary, with the remaining funds benefitting the Day Mission Fund. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes or on our website — must be received with payment by this Wednesday, April 1.

Join us on Saturday, April 4, from 10–11:30am for our Easter egg hunt. We'll start in our sanctuary and then move to the west lawn of the Capitol. Toddlers – 5th graders and their parents, friends, and neighbors are all invited. RSVP to Lynn Lingafelt by Thursday, April 2. Specific details will be emailed out on Friday before our egg hunt to those who have signed up.

There is no Centerpoint this Wednesday. It resumes April 8 with meal served at 5pm, prayer time and program at 6pm. We begin a two-week book study of *I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening)* by Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers. Holly Ivel will lead our discussion as we unpack the challenges of political conversations. Together we'll reflect on how our faith calls us to approach disagreement with compassion, courage, and a commitment to community. Email Leah Reed with any questions.

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 April 8 is: BBQ ribs with potato salad, baked beans, and green beans; veg option: non-meat patty with sauce; kids: grilled cheese and apple sauce.


Join us for a landscape workday on April 18 from 8:30am until noon. Everyone is welcome and we will have jobs for all age groups. If you can help that day, contact Jeff Hobart at Hobart2473@gmail.com so we will know how many volunteers to expect. If you have any of the following items, please bring them: rakes, shovels, leaf blowers, wheelbarrows.

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 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.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
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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.