

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



May 24, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

PENTECOST SUNDAY

May 24, 2026

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Sunday is Pentecost Sunday in the Christian year, celebrating the gift of the Holy Spirit and the birth of the Church. The lectionary texts explore how the Spirit moves among God's people, transforming fear into courage and division into community. The worship music and scripture readings reflect themes of renewal, understanding, and shared mission, while the sermon, "From Spectacle to Spirit: The Deeper Miracle of Pentecost," considers the deeper miracle of Pentecost: not merely dramatic signs and speech, but the Spirit's power to draw people together across barriers of language, culture, and difference. We depart reflecting on what it means to be known as Christ's people by our love.

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

"Spirit of the Living God"
Fred Bock

Maureen Howell

The Invocation

How many are your works, Lord!
In wisdom you made them all;
the earth is full of your creatures.
There is the sea, vast and spacious,
teeming with creatures beyond number—
living things both large and small.

All creatures look to you
to give them their food at the proper time.
When you give it to them, they gather it up;
when you open your hand,
they are satisfied with good things.

When you hide your face, they are terrified;
when you take away their breath,
they die and return to the dust.
When you send your Spirit, they are created,
and you renew the face of the ground.

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;
may the Lord rejoice in his works—
he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
who touches the mountains, and they smoke.

I will sing to the Lord all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.

*The Hymn of Praise, 356 “All Creatures of Our God and King” LASST UNS ERFREUEN

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Prayer of Enlightenment

Sanctuary Choir

“Gracious Spirit, Dwell with Me”

K. Lee Scott, arr.

Gracious Spirit, dwell with me, I would gracious be;
help me know Thy grace to see, I would be like Thee;
and, with words that help and heal, Thy life would mine reveal;
and, with actions bold and meek, for Christ my Savior speak.

Truthful Spirit, dwell with me, I would truthful be;
help me now Thy truth to see, I would be like Thee;
and, with wisdom kind and clear, Thy life in mine appear;
and, with actions, lovingly, speak Christ's sincerity.

Holy Spirit, dwell with me, I would holy be;
show Thy mercy tenderly, make me more like Thee;
separate from sin I would and cherish all things good,
and whatever I can be give Him who gave me Thee.

Mighty Spirit, dwell with me, I would mighty be;
help me now Thy power to see, I would be like Thee;
'gainst all weapons hell can wield, be Thou my strength and shield;
let Thy word my weapon be, Lord, Thine the victory.

Words: Thomas Lynch, 1855, and K. Lee Scott, 1984

Music: ADORO TE DEVOTE, French Chant, 1697

The First Reading

Numbers 11:24–30

Nancye Gaj

²⁴So Moses went out and told the people the words of the Lord, and he gathered seventy of the elders of the people and placed them all around the tent. ²⁵Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him and took some of the spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders, and when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. But they did not do so again.

²⁶Two men remained in the camp, one named Eldad and the other named Medad, and the spirit rested on them; they were among those registered, but they had not gone out to the tent, so they prophesied in the camp. ²⁷And a young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.” ²⁸And Joshua son of Nun, the assistant of Moses, one of his chosen men,[a] said, “My lord Moses, stop them!” ²⁹But Moses said to him, “Are you jealous for my sake? Would that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put his spirit on them!” ³⁰And Moses and the elders of Israel returned to the camp.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them, “Fellow Jews and all who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and listen to what I say. ¹⁵Indeed, these are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only nine o’clock in the morning. ¹⁶No, this is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷In the last days it will be, God declares,
that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions,
and your old men shall dream dreams.

¹⁸Even upon my slaves, both men and women,
in those days I will pour out my Spirit,
and they shall prophesy.

¹⁹And I will show portents in the heaven above
and signs on the earth below,
blood, and fire, and smoky mist.

²⁰The sun shall be turned to darkness
and the moon to blood,
before the coming of the Lord’s great and glorious day.

²¹Then everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

“If You Believe and I Believe”

The image shows four staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and folk-like. The lyrics are written below each staff.

If you be-lieve and I be-lieve and we to-gether pray,
The Ho-ly Spir-it must come down and set God's peo-ple free,
And set God's peo-ple free, and set God's peo-ple free;
The Ho-ly Spir-it must come down and set God's peo-ple free.

Words: Zimbabwean traditional
Music: Zimbabwean derivative of English folk melody

The Morning Prayer

Lynn Lingafelt

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

John 20:19–23

¹⁹When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” ²⁰After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. ²¹Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” ²²When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 286

BRIDEGROOM

“Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song”

The Sermon

Dennis Ellis

“From Spectacle to Spirit: The Deeper Miracle of Pentecost”

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, 120 “There's a Spirit in the Air”

LAUDS

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

“Every Time I Feel the Spirit”

Maureen Howell

Kurt Kaiser

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Nancye Gaj. A 21-year member, Nancye is a member of the Sanctuary Choir, chair of the Hospitality Committee, a member of the Dream Team, and a teacher of the Pathfinders Sunday School class. Nancye has a grown son, Carter.

The Everette Miller Friendship Class is providing the pulpit parament today in thanksgiving for all our wonderful teachers especially Steve Austin, Bob Bailey, and Laura Maness, and in memory of class members Charles Barham, Rebecca Clayton, Rance Henderson, and Betty Purser.

Sympathy to David Kelley and his family on the May 15 death of his father, Rev. Donel Kelley.

Dr. Chapman is away on vacation until Wednesday, May 27. Dennis Ellis is preaching today in his absence.

The annual church picnic is Wednesday, June 3, 5–7pm, at Pullen Park (shelter #4). Bring a blanket or chairs to sit on. 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 that night is: hot dogs and burgers with potato salad, cole slaw, and baked beans; veg option: veggie burgers. Please prepay online or at the kiosk—we cannot collect money at the park.

Register now for VBS, July 27–31, 9am–12pm. More information and a registration form may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*.

Church conference: Wednesday night, May 27, meal served at 5pm, meeting at 6pm. Look for documents and Zoom link 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 on May 27 is: chili (meat or vegetarian).

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." 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 • May 24–31

Sunday, May 24

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

Monday, May 25 *Memorial Day holiday*

Church office and clothing ministry closed

Tuesday, May 26

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

Wednesday, May 27

- 5:15 Meal served (fellowship hall)
- 6:00 Church conference (fellowship hall)
- 7:00 Adult choir rehearsal (310)

Thursday, May 28

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

Saturday, May 30

- 2:00 Memorial service for Charles Parker (sanctuary)
- 3:00 Memorial service reception (fellowship hall)

Sunday, May 31

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 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

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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.