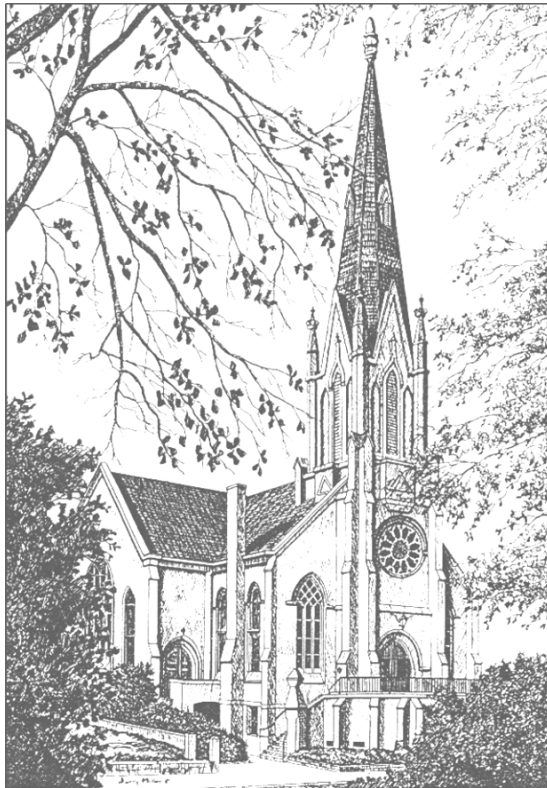


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



July 12, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

July 12, 2026

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, part of what is called Ordinary Time in the Christian year. It is a season in which we ponder various possibilities for growth. The lectionary texts point to the ways God works in the world — through creation, the grace we know in Christ, and the ongoing witness of God's word we seek to discern with the guidance of the Holy Spirit. We sing songs of praise to the God who is still with us and for us, we pray for insight and understanding, and we explore the familiar parable about the sower, the soils, and the word of God. We conclude worship with the celebration of communion.

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

"Fairest Lord Jesus"
Dale Wood

Stephen Schaeffer

The Call to Worship (responsive)

from Psalm 65

LEADER: By awesome deeds you answer us with deliverance,
O God of our salvation;

PEOPLE: **you are the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.**

LEADER: By your strength you established the mountains;
you are girded with might.

PEOPLE: **You silence the roaring of the seas,
the roaring of their waves,
the tumult of the peoples.**

LEADER: The pastures of the wilderness overflow;
the hills gird themselves with joy;

PEOPLE: **the meadows clothe themselves with flocks;
the valleys deck themselves with grain;
they shout and sing together for joy.**

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 52

“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”

ELLACOMBE

LISTENING FOR GOD’S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Isaiah 55:10–13

David Kelley

¹⁰For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven
and do not return there until they have watered the earth,
making it bring forth and sprout,
giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater,

¹¹so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth;
it shall not return to me empty,
but it shall accomplish that which I purpose
and succeed in the thing for which I sent it.

¹²For you shall go out in joy
and be led back in peace;
the mountains and the hills before you
shall burst into song,
and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands.

¹³Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress;
instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle,
and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial,
for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

¹Therefore there is now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ²For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. ³For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. ⁵For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. ⁶To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. ⁷For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law—indeed, it cannot, ⁸and those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

⁹But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. ¹⁰But if Christ is in you, then the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness. ¹¹If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

“The Lone Wild Bird”

Niya Petkova, soloist

David N. Johnson, arr.

The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with thee, nor leaves thy sight.
And I am thine! I rest in thee.
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.
The ends of earth are in thy hand,
The sea's dark deep, and far off land.

Words: Henry R. McFadyen, 1925

Music: W. Walker, Southern Harmony, 1835

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

Matthew 13:1–9, 18–23

¹That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. ²Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. ³And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. ⁴And as he sowed, some seeds fell on a path, and the birds came and ate them up. ⁵Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. ⁶But when the sun rose, they were scorched, and since they had no root, they withered away. ⁷Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. ⁸Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. ⁹ If you have ears, hear!

¹⁸"Hear, then, the parable of the sower. ¹⁹When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. ²⁰As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy, ²¹yet such a person has no root but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. ²²As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of this age and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. ²³But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“A Very Familiar Story with Messages We Still Need To Hear”

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Celebration of Communion

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, 315

BREAD OF LIFE

“Break Thou the Bread of Life”

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

“Toccata in B minor”

Stephen Schaeffer

Eugene Gigout

*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is David Kelley. David has been a member of FBC since 1988 and is a member of the Sharing Thoughts Sunday School class. He and his wife, Lynn Marshbanks, have three grown children — Anna, Jonathan, and Jane.

We thank Stephen Schaeffer for serving as our organist and LaCount Anderson for directing our congregational singing this morning.

The pulpit parament in the sanctuary today is sponsored by Shirley and John Hobson; Lauren, Nick, Caroline and Savannah Bradley; Randy Canady; and Donna and Keith Harden in memory of Joanne Wilkins Canady, Polly Wilkins Garrard, Sam Garrard, and John Wilkins. A gift has been made to the Day Missions Fund.

Sympathy to Kimberly Taylor on the July 8 death of her mother, Marjorie George.

Please join us after worship for *Second Sunday Lunch*. We'll gather in the fellowship hall, split into groups, and decide which nearby downtown restaurants we want to go to for lunch together.

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

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 • July 12–19

Sunday, July 12

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)
JBC worship (227)
- 12:15 *Second Sunday Lunch*

Monday, July 13

- 10:00 Clothing ministry

Tuesday, July 14

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

Thursday, July 16

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Saturday, July 18

- 9:00 Adult Ministries Council planning retreat (301)
- 1:00 Memorial service for Jean Gupton (sanctuary)
- 2:00 Visitation for memorial service (fellowship hall)

Sunday, July 19

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship

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Rev. Dr. Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor

Rev. Warren Howell, Music

Rev. Dr. J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus

Rev. Lynn Lingafelt, Children

Rev. Michael Hood, Youth/College

Rev. Jun Matsuzaki, Japanese Ministry Pastor

Maureen Howell, Organist/Music Assistant

Rev. Leah Anderson Reed, Community

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.