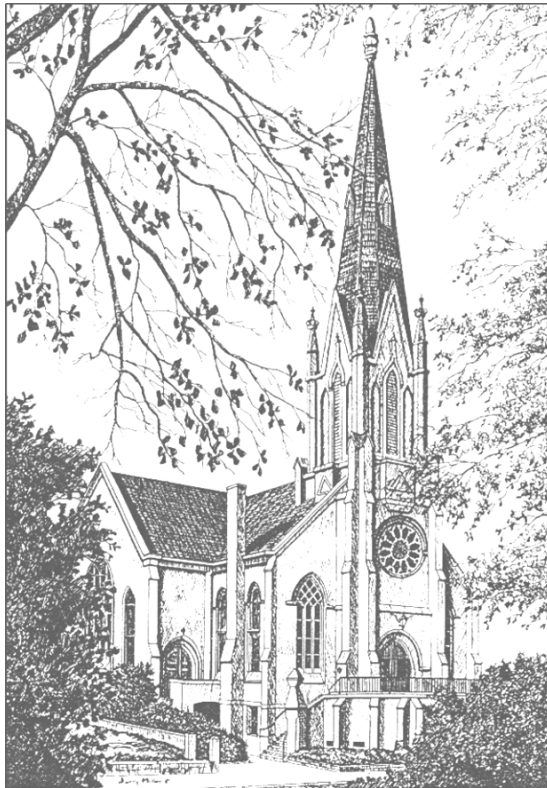


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



August 30, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

THE FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

August 30, 2026

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, we encounter texts that present very traditional messages that lie at the heart of the gospel, which may lead us to believe that this will be a warm and fuzzy kind of day. And the Singing Men will provide a little warm and fuzzy, along with the hymns we sing. But while the gospel does include warm notions of grace and love, it also includes a radical calling to follow Jesus in the way of the cross. Jesus says this explicitly in the reading from Matthew, and Paul expounds upon what this means in the reading from Romans. So, we need to prepare ourselves for a little provocation as we consider this calling, pray for a world that needs an alternative path, and make a commitment to model this way.

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

"I Love To Tell the Story"
Charles W. Ore

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

LEADER: Sing a song of thanksgiving.

PEOPLE: **Declare God's wondrous deeds.**

LEADER: For the Lord dwells among the people;

PEOPLE: **the glory of God abides with us.**

*The Hymn of Praise, 229

"Lift High the Cross"

CRUCIFER

*The Invocation

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 15:15–21

Pam Powell

¹⁵O Lord, you know;
remember me and visit me,
and bring down retribution for me on my persecutors.

In your forbearance do not take me away;
know that on your account I suffer insult.

¹⁶Your words were found, and I ate them,
and your words became to me a joy
and the delight of my heart,

for I am called by your name,
O Lord, God of hosts.

¹⁷I did not sit in the company of merrymakers,
nor did I rejoice;
under the weight of your hand I sat alone,
for you had filled me with indignation.

¹⁸Why is my pain unceasing,
my wound incurable,
refusing to be healed?

Truly, you are to me like a deceitful brook,
like waters that fail.

¹⁹Therefore thus says the Lord:

If you turn back, I will take you back,
and you shall stand before me.

If you utter what is precious and not what is worthless,
you shall serve as my mouth.

It is they who will turn to you,
not you who will turn to them.

²⁰And I will make you to this people
a fortified wall of bronze;

they will fight against you,
but they shall not prevail over you,

for I am with you
to save you and deliver you,
says the Lord.

²¹I will deliver you out of the hand of the wicked
and redeem you from the grasp of the ruthless.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

⁹Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; ¹⁰love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. ¹¹Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. ¹²Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. ¹³Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

¹⁴Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. ¹⁵Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. ¹⁶Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. ¹⁷Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. ¹⁸If it is possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. ¹⁹Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord.” ²⁰Instead, “if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads.” ²¹Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Invitation to Prayer “Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil”

Good-ness is strong-er than e - vil; love is strong-er than

hate; light is strong-er than dark - ness;

life is strong-er than death. Vic-'try is ours, vic-t'ry is

ours through him who loved us. Vic-'try is

ours, vic-t'ry is ours through him who loved us.

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

“Oh, Bless the Lord, My Soul”

Singing Men

Kevin Hildebrand, arr.

Oh bless the Lord, my soul! Let all in me combine,
to aid my tongue to bless his name, whose favor is divine.

Oh bless the Lord, my soul! Nor let his mercies lie
forgotten in unthankfulness, and without praises die.

The Lord forgives my sins; and he relieves my pain;
The Lord has healed thy sicknesses and made me whole again.

He crowns my life with love, he ransoms from the grave,
He that redeem'd my soul from hell has sovereign pow'r to save.

He fills the poor with good; He gives the sufferers rest;
The Lord has judgements for the proud, relief for those oppressed.

His works and laws and ways, He made by Moses known;
But showed the world his loving heart in Christ, his only Son.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719

Tune: St. Thomas, Aaron Williams, 1770

The Gospel

Matthew 16:21–28

²¹From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. ²²And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, “God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you.” ²³But he turned and said to Peter, “Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

²⁴Then Jesus told his disciples, “If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ²⁵For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it. ²⁶For what will it profit them if they gain the whole world but forfeit their life? Or what will they give in return for their life?

²⁷“For the Son of Man is to come with his angels in the glory of his Father, and then he will repay everyone for what has been done. ²⁸Truly I tell you, there are some standing here who will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.”

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 576

ASSAM

“I Have Decided To Follow Jesus”

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“A Reminder of Important Things”

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, 507

“I Then Shall Live”

FINLANDIA

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

“Lift High the Cross”

Maureen Howell

John Leavitt

*The congregation may stand.

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We invite visitors to join us after the service for light snacks and fellowship at our visitors table found right outside the library on the second floor. Members: if you find yourself in conversation with a new guest, don't hesitate to bring them so they can make a good connection here at FBC and learn more about the church!



The Deacon on Call is Pam Powell. A 22-year member, Pam is a member of the Unity Sunday School class. Pam has one child, Rose Matthews.

Today's pulpit parament is presented by Bobby and Nancy Phillips in appreciation for John Baldwin, Tom Childrey, Chase Helms, Holly Ivel, Bob Kimball, and Art Stahmer who faithfully pick up our seniors every Sunday from the Oaks at Whitaker Glen and Springmoor. A gift to the Day Missions Fund has been made in their honor.

Sympathy to the family of Jim Valentine, who died August 21; to the family of Gary Singleton, who died August 22; and to Dawn Wade and her family on the August 25 death of her mother, Mattie Seaton.

Join us for our End-of-Summer Block Party & Fall Kickoff on Wednesday, September 2, from 5:30–7:30pm in the church parking lot for an evening of fun, food, and fellowship. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details and links to RSVP and pay for the event, as well as a sign-up link for our annual cornhole tournament.

Sunday, September 13, is our annual Rise Against Hunger meal packaging event from 12–2:30pm in the fellowship hall. Immediately following worship, you're invited to come for a free pizza lunch, and then we'll get to work packaging 10,000 meals! There are jobs for all ages and abilities, so please join us.

We are currently looking for volunteers to assist with sound and YouTube livestreaming during Sunday worship. No prior experience is necessary. Volunteers serve on a rotating schedule, so you won't be needed every Sunday. Interested? Contact Royce Willmschen (royce.willmschen@gmail.com).

Our August mission project focuses on the Shepherd's Table soup kitchen. We are collecting cleaning supplies for the Kitchen as well as story books, markers, crayons and small stuffed animals for the children who come. Please see the *Rose Window Weekly* for a specific list of items needed. Your donations may be placed in the marked drawer in the cabinet in the Lewis Lobby.

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.

Calendar Highlights • August 30–September 6

Sunday, August 30

- 9:00 Nominating Committee meeting (conference room/Zoom)
- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Joint FBC/JBC worship (sanctuary/YouTube)
- 4:00 GA Taco and Qwirkle party (Holley home)
- 5:00 Youth kick-off (301)

Monday, August 31

- Clothing ministry closed
- 1:00 Memorial service for Jim Valentine (sanctuary)
- 2:00 Visitation for memorial service (Lewis Lobby)

Tuesday, September 1

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 1:00 WMU Group 2 (Independence Village)
- 5:00 Church council meeting (Zoom)

Wednesday, September 2

- 5:30 Block party (parking lot/fellowship hall)

Thursday, September 3

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

Sunday, September 6

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



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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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.