FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812







October 25, 2026

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

The Twenty-Second Sunday After Pentecost

October 25, 2026 Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: As today's colorful bulletin cover indicates, children are a special focus for this day's worship. They will serve as our worship leaders through song and reading the scriptures; some will be receiving Bibles from the church as an encouragement to grow in their love and understanding of God. We will also be surrounding these children and their parents with words of promise and gratitude.

In confirmation that the gospel for the young and the old is Jesus, "crucified, dead, and buried...and [risen] "from the dead" [Apostles' Creed], today's sermon discusses the centrality of Jesus' death and how it may be understood today.

Our guest proclaimer for this service is our Pastor Emeritus, J. Daniel Day (1996-2007).

****

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 — "Prelude on Adorote te Devote" — Maureen Howell
Plainsong Melody, Anne Krentz Organ, arr. — Handbell Ensemble

The Call to Worship (responsive) from Psalm 90 — Asher Helms

Leader: God, you are like a home to us…

People: **where we can feel safe and cozy, where we can have all we need.**

Leader: Before the mountains were born, before the world began…

People: **you have always been God, strong as rocks and bigger than we can imagine.**

Leader: Seasons go by fast, like grass that is green in the summer and turns whitish-brown in the winter…

People: **but your love lasts forever, even though other things change.**

All: ***Let everyone see the wonderful things you do and give thanks. Amen.***

The Invocation

*The Hymn of Praise, 62 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" St. Denio

The Presentation of Bibles

Savannah Bradley, Ryder Helms, and Finley Teague

*Crosby Rohrbaugh and Camden Sasser will be assisting with the presentation of Bibles.

The Prayer of Blessing (unison) Lynn Lingafelt

Loving God, we give thanks for the stories of faith we find in the Bible and for all who help us to understand these stories. We give thanks for the gift of children and the excitement they bring to every opportunity to learn. Bless these children as they seek to grow in faith. Guide our efforts as a church that we may prove faithful to our calling to tell the stories of our faith to our children and grandchildren. Grant us the grace to realize that we have as much to learn from children as we have to teach them. For we offer our prayer in the name of Jesus who welcomes children into his arms in love and says that to such as these belongs the kingdom of God, amen.

Listening for God's Word

The Hebrew Bible Psalm 32:8–11 Elizabeth Yelverton

8 You said to me,
"I will point out the road
that you should follow.
I will be your teacher
and watch over you.
9 Don't be stupid
like horses and mules
that must be led with ropes
to make them obey."
10 All kinds of troubles
will strike the wicked,
but your kindness shields those
who trust you, Lord.
11 And so your good people
should celebrate and shout.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

[13]God rescued us from the dark power of Satan and brought us into the
kingdom of his dear Son, [14]who forgives our sins and sets us free.

[15]Christ is exactly like God,
who cannot be seen.
He is the first-born Son,
superior to all creation.
[16]Everything was created by him,
everything in heaven
and on earth,
everything seen and unseen,
including all forces
and powers,
and all rulers
and authorities.
All things were created
by God's Son,
and everything was made
for him.
[17]God's Son was before all else,
and by him everything
is held together.
[18]He is the head of his body,
which is the church.
He is the very beginning,
the first to be raised
from death,
so that he would be
above all others.
[19]God himself was pleased
to live fully in his Son.
[20]And God was pleased
for him to make peace
by sacrificing his blood
on the cross,
so that all beings in heaven
and on earth
would be brought back to God.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.
PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Anthem "The Vine and the Branches" Grade-School Choir
Warren and Maureen Howell Rhonda Lowe, director

I am the vine, you are the branches,
stay joined to me, you will be strong.
Fruitful and growing, forever knowing
you are my friends, and here you belong,

Rooted in the soil below,
trunks reach up and branches grow.
Rain and sun on stem and shoot,
leaves and blossoms bearing fruit.

And the fruit of the spirit is:

Love, joy, peace and patience, kindness, goodness too;
faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

All:

I am the vine, you are the branches,
stay joined to me, you will be strong.
Fruitful and growing, forever knowing
you are my friends, and here you belong.

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 Anthem "Come, My Soul, 'Tis Time for Waking" Sanctuary Choir

Felix Mendelssohn

Come, my soul, tis time for waking,
O'er the earth the day is breaking,
Praise the Lord in morning light.

Sing my soul, as day is ending,
moon and stars their radiance lending;
praise the Lord through silent night.

Praise my soul, God's guidance needing,
For the Lord's wide mercy pleading;
praise the Lord of love and might.

Come and praise your Savior, singing
hymns with adoration ringing,
ever blessed be his name.
Through the ages, still the same!
Holy, holy! Praise God's holy name.

Music: from *Lauda Sion*, op. 73, 1846
Words: Charles C. Hirt, 1975, adapt.

The Gospel Matthew 27:38–46 Dan Day

[38]The soldiers also nailed two criminals on crosses, one to the right of Jesus and the other to his left. [39]People who passed by said terrible things about Jesus. They shook their heads and [40]shouted, "So you're the one who claimed you could tear down the temple and build it again in three days! If you are God's Son, save yourself and come down from the cross!"

[41]The chief priests, the leaders, and the teachers of the Law of Moses also made fun of Jesus. They said, [42]"He saved others, but he can't save himself. If he is the king of Israel, he should come down from the cross! Then we will believe him. [43]He trusted God, so let God save him, if he wants to. He even said he was God's Son." [44]The two criminals also said cruel things to Jesus.

[45]At noon the sky turned dark and stayed that way until three o'clock. [46]Then about that time Jesus shouted, "Eli, Eli, lema sabachthani?" which means, "My God, my God, why have you deserted me?"

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: Praise be to you, O Christ.

*The Hymn of Devotion, 212 "What Wondrous Love Is This?" WONDROUS LOVE

The Sermon "Cherishing an Old Ragged Cross" Dan Day

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, 480 Greenwell
"I Am Not Skilled To Understand"

Departing To Serve

*The Benediction Dan Day

*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 "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Maureen Howell
Alice Jordan

*The congregation may stand.

* * * * * * * * *

The following is reprinted and/or streamed with permission, all rights reserved, under ONE LICENSE #A-708116: *Prelude on Adorote te Devote*, Anne Krentz Organ, arr. © 2019 Augsburg Fortress; *The Vine and the Branches*, Warren and Maureen Howell © 2026 Choristers Guild; *Come, My Soul, 'Tis Time for Waking*, Musical arrangement and words: Charles C. Hirt © 1975 Hinshaw Music, Inc.; *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*, Alice Jordan © 1987 Van Ness Press, Inc.

All scripture quotations contained herein are from the *Contemporary English Version Bible*, © 1995, by the American Bible Society. Used by permission. All rights reserved worldwide.

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 cover artwork on our bulletins today is by our first graders Savannah Bradley, Ryder Helms, and Finley Teague as they reflected on ways they can connect with God during worship. Our Call to Worship this morning, inspired by themes in Psalm 90, was also written and illustrated by our first graders in their Worship Preparation class. Many thanks to our fifth graders who assisted in our Worship Preparation class and are also leading in worship today: Eller Collins, Asher Helms, Crosby Rohrbaugh, Camden Sasser, and Elizabeth Yelverton.

The Deacon on Call is Mary Nash Rusher. A 37-year member, Mary Nash serves as a member of the Board of Trustees and is a member of the Unity Sunday school class. She and her husband John have three children: David, Tom, and Kelly.

Our acolyte and Bible bearer today are Eller and Martha Collins.

Today's pulpit parament has been placed by the Weekday Preschool with heartfelt gratitude for our ministers, church staff, and everyone at First Baptist Church who pours into our preschool ministry. Whether you lead in chapel, include our children and families in church programs and special events, provide and care for the spaces we use each day, or support us in countless other ways, you help make Weekday Preschool a very special place. We are so thankful to be part of a church community that welcomes, encourages, and supports our preschool children, families, and staff! A donation has been made to the Day Missions Fund

Please keep the eight people returning today from the Wilderness class retreat at Arapahoe in your prayers.

Dr. Chapman is out of the office through Wednesday, October 28. Rev. Dr. Dan Day is preaching in his absence.

Daylight Saving Time ends this Saturday night. Be sure to set your clocks back one hour before going to bed!

The City of Oaks Marathon is next Sunday, November 1. Your downtown pathway to FBC that morning may be blocked prior to 8:30am. After 8:30am, the racers will be out of the downtown area. Please make your plans accordingly.

The church maintains a list of members who are military service veterans and those on active duty having connections to First Baptist. If you know of eligible individuals whose names have not previously been on these lists, please email Jennie Herrick (jherrick@fbcraleigh.org) by Wednesday, November 4. We will print this list in our bulletin the Sunday prior to Veterans Day.

Deacon election ends today. You may submit your ballot in the offering plate or in the ballot box in the church office. Address questions to any of the current deacons. Please prayerfully consider your choices for our deacon leadership.

Church conference: Wednesday, October 28; meal served at 5pm, prayer time and meeting at 6:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for documents and Zoom link.

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 28 is: baked ziti with garlic bread; vegetarian option: baked ziti (no meat) with garlic bread.

Come to the Fall Festival this Friday, October 30, from 5:30–7pm for games, activities, crafts, and fun for all ages as well as supper for purchase from the *And Also with 'Cue* truck. We will also have a cake walk; contact Lynn Loomis (lynn.loomis@gmail.com) if you'd like to donate a baked good.

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.

Calendar Highlights • October 25–November 1

Sunday, October 25

9:45	Sunday School
11:00	FBC worship/Dan Day preaching/deacon ballots (sanctuary/YouTube)
	JBC worship (227)
12:00	Youth lunch (301)
12:30	Deacons' meeting (302/Zoom)
	Youth choir (choir room)
2:00	CROP Walk registration (fellowship hall)
3:00	CROP Walk step-off (parking lot)

Monday, October 26

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

Tuesday, October 27

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

Wednesday, October 28

5:00	Meal served (fellowship hall)
5:45	Children's music (301/307/311)
6:15	Church conference (fellowship hall)
6:30	Children's missions (preschool and children's suites)
	Evening Bells rehearsal (302)
7:30	Adult choir rehearsal (choir room/sanctuary/301)

Thursday, October 29

7:00	Band of Brothers (Zoom)
11:30	Thirty-Niners meeting (fellowship hall)

Friday, October 30

5:30	Trunk or Treat/Fall Festival (parking lot)

Sunday, November 1

9:45	Sunday School
11:00	FBC worship/communion (sanctuary/YouTube)
	JBC worship (227)
5:00	Youth group (choir room/301/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

Rev. Dr. Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor
Rev. Dr. J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus
Rev. Michael Hood, Youth/College
Maureen Howell, Organist/Music Assistant
Rev. Warren Howell, Music
Rev. Lynn Lingafelt, Children
Rev. Jun Matsuzaki, Japanese Ministry Pastor
Rev. Leah Anderson Reed, Community

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