



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

4th Sunday of Easter
April 30, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP Xan Morgan

PRELUDE *All Glory Be to God on High* Johann Pachelbel

***INVOCATION** Larry Bates
(*If you are able, please stand)

***HYMN 304** Easter People, Raise Your Voices *REGENT SQUARE*

***THE PSALM** Psalm 23 (unison) Larry Bates

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff – they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

***GLORIA** (Hymn 72, sung twice)

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, Gloria! Alleluia! Alleluia!

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 40:28-31 Larry Bates
Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God!

TIME AS CHILDREN Xan Morgan
(Children are invited to come forward. Following Time as Children, kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Church School)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Heather Entrekin
Lord's Prayer ("debts") on hymnal page 896

ANTHEM *My Shepherd Will Supply My Need* - arr. V. Thomson

My Shepherd will supply my need. Jehovah is his Name.
In pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.
He brings my wand'ring spirit back when I forsake his ways.
He leads me for his mercy's sake in paths of truth and grace.
When I walk through the shades of death thy presence is my stay.
One word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread.
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days.
O may thy house be my abode and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come.
No more a stranger or a guest but like a child at home.

EPISTLE READING

Ephesians 3:14-21

Paul Simpson Duke

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Beyond All We Can Imagine

Paul Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

How Blessed, How Beautiful

- Carl J. Nygard, Jr.
Coley Roberts, *soprano*

How blessed are the lovely messengers that preach the good news, the gospel of peace.
How beautiful, how great, how wonderful the messengers that preach good news,
that preach the gospel of peace.
For thy word, O Lord, is a lamp for my feet, a guide to my wand'ring footsteps,
when your world and your law I obey.
How blessed are the lovely messengers that preach the good news, the gospel of peace.
How beautiful, how great, how wonderful the messengers that preach good news,
that preach the gospel of peace.

***HYMN 577** (stanzas 1, 3-4) God of Grace and God of Glory

CWM RHONDDA

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

BIDDING FAREWELL

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in G Minor, BuxWV149

Dietrich Buxtehude

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of my dad, Barry Smith,
who would have been 80 this month.*

~ Julie Smith ~

We pray for the family and friends of **Richard Bowser**. We pray for **Marlene Francis, Jill Damon, Betty Gerstler, Marilyn Marsh, Esther Floyd, Lauren Bowen, Jay Arnett, Grange Burnside, Graham DePriest, Fred Vanosdall, Mrs. Essie Slaughter, Allison Lovell, Mia Jermano, Tom and Terri Rubenstein, John Rowe, Fay Key, Kris Ledyard Arges, and Jackie.**

Our organist, **Dr. Shin-Ae Chun**, is on leave. We welcome **Cary Dumas** to the organ this morning. Cary Dumas serves as a substitute organist and pianist at a variety of churches throughout Ann Arbor and metro Detroit. He studied piano at Michigan State University and organ with several private instructors. In his spare time, he is an attorney with the Internal Revenue Service in Detroit.

Church service hearing aids are available at the back of the sanctuary.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-2015

Telephone: 734/663-9376

Email: office@fbca2.org Website: fbca2.org

The Reverend Dr. Paul Duke, *Pastor*

The Reverend Dr. Heather Entrekin, *Interim Pastor*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

Coley Roberts, *Children's Choir Director*

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*



We're glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in the offering plate when it comes by later in the service. You can indicate any prayer requests you have and let us know if you'd like a name tag and/or our bi-weekly communication about the life of the church.

You may place your offering in one of the plates when they are passed. Or make your offering online using this QR code or via PayPal (@fbca2) and place a Connection Card indicating so in the offering plate.

Children and youth are an important part of our life together at First Baptist Church. All children are welcome in worship. Worshipful Play Bags are available as you enter the sanctuary. Nursery care is available for children (infant through 3 yrs) on the top floor. Children (through 5th grade) leave for Church School following Time as Children.

Following worship, children (Young 5s-K) have Children's Choir with Coley Roberts and younger children (birth-4s) are invited to have supervised time in our play space. Care is provided for children until 12:15p when children will join their families for the potluck. Youth (grades 6-12) are invited to join adults for Fellowship Time following worship and then head down to the Youth Room (directly underneath the Sanctuary) for Youth Group, 11:30a-12:15p. Youth will be joining their families for the potluck as well. If you are visiting and would like more information, please connect Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

Annual Program Meeting after worship today. Our Annual Program Meeting will be held after worship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to stay after the meeting for a potluck lunch. The Board of Care and Community will provide chicken, rolls, and beverages. Some windows will be open to provide ventilation in the space.

Beginning May 7 and concluding on June 4, our Adult Spiritual Formation series will be "Journeys Worth Sharing." On these Sundays (with the exception of the Memorial Day weekend), some members of our congregations will share stories of their own faith experience. Two people will speak each week, telling of how their faith has developed and changed through the years. We will hear of the challenges some of them have faced, perhaps their doubts and triumphs, their spiritual practices and insights, and what their faith means to them now. Ample time will be given each week for questions and group discussion. This series promises to be thought-provoking and inspiring, and will provide a great opportunity to get to know each other better. Please join us!

Our next Shared Suppers evenings are May 13 and 14. The Board of Care and Community sponsors this opportunity for our FBC Family to gather and get to know one another better. What better way to do that than around a table? We gather in smallish groups (6-8ish) in homes for Shared Suppers. The groups will be different every time so folks can interact with those they may not know so well. If you are interested in being on the list of participants email Mary Davis or stop

by the Ministry Station at church to leave your name and email. Being on the list only indicates interest, not a commitment to come. You will be contacted for availability about two weeks before each supper. Of course, everyone won't be able to come every time. Children/youth are welcome to participate. Shared transportation can also be arranged.

Join us for Midweek Bible Study! Wednesdays at 1:00p in the memorial lounge. The group is studying the Gospel of Luke, led by Dr. Astrid Beck.

Campus Ministry on Wednesdays at 6:45p in the Campus Center living room. Subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter at <https://bit.ly/2N0FYGa>.

American Baptist Churches of Michigan (ABC-MI) Regional Offering. During the month of May, the ABC-MI has a special offering to promote our shared ministry and mission. Your contribution helps with planting new churches, renewing existing churches, and raising pastors. You can donate directly to ABC-MI at their website (abc-mi.org/regionoffering) or write a check to First Baptist Church, add "regional offering" in the memo line, and drop it in the offering plate.

Scholarships Available. Applications are available for the Chester & Violet Loucks and Fullerton scholarships which are awarded to members of the FBC family in support of post-secondary education. Applications are available from Mary Davis (madrad@umich.edu) and are due by June 1.

Seek, serve, and grow with us! More information about these opportunities at fbca2.org/connect or use the QR code to the right.



Calendar

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| April 30 | Annual Program Meeting @11:30a in the fellowship hall |
| May 3 | Bible Study @1:00p in Lounge The Gathering @6:45p in the Lounge |
| May 4 | Sanctuary Choir rehearsal @7:00p |
| May 7 | Children & Youth Sunday @10:00a in the sanctuary "Journeys Worth Sharing" discussion group @11:30a in the Lounge |