



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 10, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Paul Simpson Duke

PRELUDE

Prelude on Spanish Hymn
(Come, Christians, Join to Sing)

Neil Harmon
(b.1967, American)

*INVOCATION

(*If you are able, please stand)

Valerie Francia

*HYMN 92 (stanzas 1-2, 4, 6)

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX

*THE PSALM

from Psalm 149:1-5

Valerie Francia

One: Praise the Lord! Sing to the Lord a new song!

All: **Let us be glad in our Maker; let God's children rejoice in their Sovereign.**

One: Let them praise God's name with dancing, and make music to the Lord!

All: **For God takes pleasure in God's people, and crowns the humble with victory.**

Let the faithful exult in glory! Let them sing for joy!

*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung twice)

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

EPISTLE READING

Romans 13:8-12

Valerie Francia

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

God Be In My Head (see insert)

God be in my head, and in my understanding;

God be in mine eyes, and in my looking;

God be in my mouth, and in my speaking;

God be in my heart, and in my thinking;

God be at mine end, and at my departing.

BLESSING OF LEARNERS AND EDUCATORS

Congregational Response: We pray for you, as you take up this holy task of education. May Jesus the Great Teacher guide you, may the Holy Spirit nurture you, and may the grace of God uphold you this school year, and all the years to come.

Following Time as Children, kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Church School.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

D.J. Reed

Lord's Prayer ("debts") on hymnal page 896

***GOSPEL READING**

Matthew 25:14-30

Paul Simpson Duke

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Taking the Risk

Paul Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Sing to the Lord a New Song

- Robert Lau

People and tongues of ev'ry nation sing to the Lord a new song.

Bring him a song of jubilation, sing to the Lord a new song.

All God's creatures, old men and children, voices raised in hymns of love.

He crowns the humble with salvation. Sing to the Lord a new song.

Mountains and hills and all creation sing to the Lord a new song.

Join in a hymn of adoration. Sing to the Lord a new song.

Praise him! Praise His name, sing "Alleluia!" Praise Him for his mighty deeds.

This is our song, our supplication: "Sing to the Lord a new song."

***HYMN 383 (stanzas 1-4)**

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

BEGINNINGS

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Tune by William Bradbury

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in celebration Coming Home Sunday.*

~ The Board of Worship ~

We pray for Mary Gregg, Christina Alaniz, Eva Kelly, Jill Damon, Betty Gerstler, Mary Margaret Hatt, Marilyn Marsh, Esther Floyd, David Gregg, Grange Burnside, Mrs. Essie Slaughter, Robin Sitten, Marjorie Minor, Simona Butler, John Rowe, Fay Key, and Jackie.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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The Reverend Dr. Paul Duke, *Pastor*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Valerie Francia, *Associate for Youth Ministry and Communications*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

Coley Roberts, *Children's Choir Director*

Kate Gregg, *Nursery Caregiver*

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 an 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.

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

Join us after worship for cake and punch outside as we continue our Coming Home celebration! We can't wait to connect with you!

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. Please pick up your kids in the Children's Ministry wing after worship. Our Youth Church School class for 6th-12th graders begins after worship next Sunday, the 17th. If you are visiting and would like more information, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org) about Children's Ministry or Valerie Francia (valerie@fbca2.org) about Youth Ministry.

Our Youth Group activities begins today! Our Youth Group activities begin today! All families with youth going into grades 6-12 are invited to a gathering at the Morgan home (2614 Page Court) this evening at 5:00 PM. We'll have dinner, roast s'mores, and kick off the new school year.

The Gathering is our campus ministry on Tuesday nights from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. It's a safe, open space where undergraduate and graduate students can explore and express their questions and their doubts, learn from others, and be supported in their personal faith and growth. If you're interested in being a part of this ministry, contact Paul Duke.

New Adult Formation Class. The new church programming year begins September 17. All adults are invited to a new series of discussions, based on some of the important commitments that define our church. As most of you have seen, a large sign just inside the East Washington entrance has the heading "We Seek To," and then lists ten of our commitments. The first of these is to Follow Jesus. The other nine name particular components of how we seek to do this as a church community.

The new Adult Formation series is called "We Seek To...," and will focus on various aspects of three of the nine, beginning with: "Respect All People." The sessions are bound to be illuminating and inspiring. Please join us!

The FBC Ladies' Book Club will next meet on Tuesday, September 12th at 6:30pm to discuss *The Trees* by Percival Everett. Paula Burton will be hosting the group. All ladies are welcome! Please contact Janice Stumpf or Mary Gregg if you have any questions.

Join us for Midweek Bible Study! Starting on September 13, the group will meet on Wednesdays at 1:00pm in the memorial lounge. They continue to study the Gospel of Luke, led by Dr. Astrid Beck.

Overnight Youth Retreat at the Howell Nature Center on September 23–24. FBCA2 teens will be participating in an immersive Global Gateway program to learn more about food preparation in nature and global food inequities. If you are interested in learning more, please connect with Valerie Francia (valerie@fbca2.org).

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series begins the season of its 11th year on Friday, September 29, at noon. The "Organ" concert will feature organ music from Poland, Czech, Norway, Denmark and Sweden. It will be a great opportunity to hear music by composers, whom we do not get to hear often, such as Mieczysław Surzyński, Einar Traerup Sark, Oskar Lindberg, Sverre Eftestol, Jiří Strejc and Bent Lorentzen. Our guest organist Józef Kotowicz teaches organ and improvisation at the Fryderyk Chopin Music University in Białystok, Poland and is often invited to play in festivals in the countries which will be featured in the concert and many others. This is a free concert and open to the public. Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors.

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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| September 10 | Children’s formation classes begins!
Youth Group Gathering @5:00p |
| September 12 | The Gathering @5:30p
Ladies Book Club @6:30p |
| September 13 | Wednesday Bible Study @1:00p |
| September 14 | Choir Rehearsal @7:00p |
| September 17 | Youth and Adult formation classes and Children’s Choir begin! |
| September 23-24 | Youth Overnight Retreat at Howell Nature Center |
| September 29 | Ad Libitum Concert @12:00p |