



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

17th Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP Xan Morgan

PRELUDE *Nun bitten wir den Heiligen Geist* Georg Böhm
(Now We Implore the Holy Spirit) (1661-1733, German)

*INVOCATION Deb Levine
(*If you are able, please stand)

*HYMN 384 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling *BEECHER*

*THE PSALM Psalm 145:1-5, 21 Deb Levine

One: I will give you glory, God my Sovereign, and bless your name forever.

All: **I will bless you day after day, and praise your name forever.**

One: You are great, Lord, highly to be praised. Your greatness is immeasurable.

All: **One generation shall praise your works to another, and tell your mighty deeds.**

One: On your splendor, your glory, and your wondrous works, I will meditate.

All: **My mouth will speak your praise, Lord; all flesh will bless your holy name forever,
for ages unending.**

*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung twice)

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

EPISTLE READING Philippians 1:27-29 Deb Levine

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CONGREGATIONAL SONG (see insert) God Be in My Head *LYTLINGTON*

TIME AS CHILDREN Xan Morgan

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Gretchen Sanewsky

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

ANTHEM *Praise the One Who Makes Us One* Tom Trenney

Praise the One who breaks the darkness with a liberating light.

Praise the One who frees the prisoners, turning blindness into sight.

Praise the One who preached the Gospel, curing every dread disease,

Calming storms and feeding thousands with the very bread of peace.

Praise the One who blessed the children with a strong yet gentle word.

Praise the One who drove out demons with a piercing two-edged sword.

Praise the One who brings cool water to the desert's burning sand.

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
are honor of our mothers, Gladys Wright, always in our hearts,
and Essie Slaughter for her 95th birthday.*

~ Harvey & Phyllis Slaughter ~

We pray for Betty Doman, Christina Alaniz, Eva Kelly, Jill Damon, Betty Gerstler, Marilyn Marsh, Esther Floyd, David Gregg, Grange Burnside, Mrs. Essie Slaughter, 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 for refreshments after worship in the fellowship hall. We look forward to connecting with you!

Children's Ministry. 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 years). Children (through 5th grade) leave for Church School following Time as Children. Children's Choir (PreK-5th grade) meets from 11:30-noon. You may pick up your children at 11:30 from their Church School classrooms, at 12:00 from the choir room, or at the end of 2nd Hour programming (12:30) back in the classrooms. If you would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org)

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-12:30p. All youth grades 6-12 are invited to enjoy snacks, play pool, and discuss their faith together. We're beginning a study based on Rachel Held Evans' book *Inspired: Slaying Giants, Walking on Water, and Learning to Love The Bible Again*. If you would like more information about Youth Ministry, please connect with Valerie Francia (valerie@fbca2.org).

New Adult Formation Class. 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!

Women's Breakfast on Saturday, September 30. We had a great celebration of the history of our American Baptist Women's Circles this past summer. If you missed our celebration or want to watch it again, reach out to the office for the YouTube link. We have a great history of giving to our churches, and local, regional, and international missions. As our women's lives have changed over the years, it is time to look at new ways to support our churches, missions, and our own fellowship. We invite all of the FBCA2 women to a breakfast on September 30 at 9:00a to fellowship and discuss ways to continue supporting one another and our churches and local, regional and international missionaries. I hope we will see you there! Please RSVP if you can at csgrape@aol.com, but come whether you RSVP or not! - Carolyn Grapentine

Blessing of the Animals. Join us for a short, festive, outdoor service celebrating the gift of relationship between humans and animals on Sunday, October 1st at 4:00p at Burns Park. Bring your pets for a special blessing! Alternatively, bring a picture of your pet to be blessed. We'll have Washtenaw Dairy donuts, Starbucks coffee, and pup cups, too! You're invited to bring donations of pet food for Pet Pals Mutual Aid.

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 (psduke718@gmail.com).

Meals for The Gathering. The Gathering, our campus ministry led by Pastor Paul, meets each Tuesday evening for dinner and conversation. Our hope is to support this ministry by providing dinner – home-cooked or otherwise! Please choose a date that works for you to provide a meal. We currently have 16 people attending! Of those gathered, one is vegetarian and one is vegan. The whole meal does not have to be vegetarian/vegan, but please keep them in mind as you are able. Dinners should be dropped off ready to serve by 5:15p. Contact Paul (734.663.9376) when you arrive. You can sign up at fbca2.org/connect/.

Join us for Midweek Bible Study! 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.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series begins the season of its 11th year this 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 Strojček 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

September 26	The Gathering @5:30p
September 27	Bible Study @1:00p
September 28	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
September 29	Ad Libitum Concert @12:00p
September 30	Women's Breakfast @9:00a
October 1	Children's Ministry Team Meeting @ 12:30
	Blessing of the Animals @ 4:00p