



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

1st Sunday in Lent
February 18, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING

Paul Simpson Duke

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: After he was baptized, Jesus went alone to the wilderness, where he was tested.

All: For forty days in the desert, he fasted and was tested.

One: Let us follow him into the wilderness to face our fears, our weaknesses, our temptations.

All: Let us worship, seeking the Spirit as our guide and companion on the way to our truest freedom.

PRELUDE

Contemplation

George Oldroyd
(1887-1956, English)

*INVOCATION

Lincoln Reed

(*If you are able, please stand)

*HYMN 110

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN' FESTE BURG

*THE PSALM

Psalm 25:1-5

Lincoln Reed

One: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

All: O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame.

One: Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.

All: Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long.

EPISTLE READING

Hebrews 4:14-16

Lincoln Reed

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

A financial contribution has been made to the Williard J. Hines Music Scholarship to honor enslaved Black creators of Spirituals. For more information about the scholarship, go to thewjhscholarshipfund.com.

(Hymn 402, v.4) Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart;
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Will Spotts

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

***GOSPEL READING**

Mark 1:9-13

Paul Simpson Duke

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM

The Heart Worships

Music: Gustav Holst
Isaac Thompson, *baritone*

Silence in Heav'n-
Silence on Earth-
Silence within.
Thy hush, O Lord, o'er all the world covers the din.
I do not fear to speak of thee in mortal kind,
And yet to all thy nameless,
I am not blind. Only I need and kneel again
Thy touch to win;
Silence in Heav'n –
Silence on Earth –
Silence within!

SERMON

Who Are We Going to Be?

Paul Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING OF GIFTS

By an' By

African-American Spiritual
arr. by H.T. Burleigh
Lucy Thompson, *mezzo-soprano*

Oh by an' by, by an' by, I'm goin' to lay down dis heavy load.
Oh by an' by, by an' by, I'm goin' to lay down dis heavy load.
I know my robe's goin' to fit me well, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load;

I tried it on at de gates ob Hell, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load.
Oh by an' by, by an' by, i'm going to lay down dis heavy load.
Oh, some-a dese mornin's bright an' fair, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load.
Gonna take-a my wings an' cleave de air, I'm goin' to lay down my heavy load.
Oh, by an' by, by an' by, I'm goin' to lay down dis heavy load.

***DOXOLOGY** (Hymn 95) Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow *OLD 100TH*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

***HYMN 577** 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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE	<i>Calvary</i>	Richard Billingham (b.1934, American)
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The chancel flowers are given to the Glory of God
Deb Levine

We pray for Harvey, Phyllis, and the family of **Essie Slaughter**. We also pray for **David Gregg, Esther Floyd, Joyce Robbins, Marlene Francis, Eva Kelly, Jill Damon, Betty Gerstler, Marilyn Marsh, Mervyn Juchartz, Mike Kelly, Mari Francia, Beth Granberry, Lovely Varghese, Grange Burnside, the Sanford family, Simona Butler, John Rowe, and Fay Key.**

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 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 to the Youth Room below the sanctuary for Youth Group, 11:30a- 12:30p. All youth grades 6-12 are invited to enjoy snacks and games and discuss their faith together. If you would like more information about Youth Ministry, please connect with Valerie Francia (valerie@fbca2.org).

A Singing Church: Hymns of Our Faith - This series is a celebration of hymns! Led by Sorbie Richner, with occasional help from Paul Duke, we will explore questions like: What do hymns do for us, and why are they so important? What is the character of a hymnal? What are our favorite hymns and why? What are the qualities of good hymn tunes and hymn texts, and how do they work? What can we learn from the history of hymns and the different eras and cultures they've come from. And much more. One of the sessions will be a hymn-sing, and singing will be featured as part of many of the sessions. This series promises to be enlightening and inspiring. Come join us!

The Gathering is our campus ministry. This semester we will meet on **Wednesday** 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).

Pastor Paul will be on retreat at St. Meinrad Archabbey from February 19 to 23. He will be back in the pulpit next Sunday.

Office Closed Tomorrow. The church office and buildings will be closed on Monday, February 19.

Honoring Pastor Stacey Simpson Duke - February 27th marks the first anniversary of Pastor Stacey Simpson Duke dying. We are honoring her life and ministry in a few ways; we hope you find these opportunities meaningful and helpful.

Art Memorial - To honor the vibrant life of Pastor Stacey, fiber artist Jenny Schu is weaving a tapestry. The words "Yes, And" appear throughout the vivid threads. A committee has been working with Jenny since Summer 2023 to envision an artwork that will embody Pastor Stacey's love of words, fiber, movement, and abundant life. Some information about the project was shared at the Annual Meeting. If you would like to contribute to this creative memorial, you can: 1) donate cash or check to the church office, designated for Art Memorial Project, 2) donate via PayPal (@fbca2.org). Questions? Connect with Grace VanderVliet (gracevandervliet@gmail.com).

Gathering to Read Stacey's Prayers and Sermons - On Tuesday, February 27th we'll gather to read and listen to prayers and sermons written by Pastor Stacey. The gathering will be led by Xan Morgan at Robbie and Bill Stapleton's house (528 Sunset Road, Ann Arbor) from 7:00-9:00p. You are welcome to bring a salty or sweet treat to share if you'd like.

Mitten Knitting Class. Pastor Stacey was a marvelous knitter and often spun roving into yarn before sitting with a project. A cozy knitted mitten pattern has been found in which one can incorporate pieces of Stacey's roving. We have wool roving of Stacey's that is ready to be made into something beautiful. All knitters are welcome to join us to make thrums from roving and weave them into mittens. The class will be held at Spun on two consecutive Thursdays, March 7 and 14 from 3:30-5:30. For more information, please go to fbca2.org/mitten.

Concert4aCause presents *There's No Place Like Home*, a cabaret of solos & ensembles performed by the U-M Musical Theatre Department highlighting the need for safe homes & communities. Proceeds from this concert will go to SOS Community Services. The concert will be held on Saturday, March 9, at 3:00 PM in the First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor sanctuary and is sponsored by the Reinhart Charitable Foundation. C4aC events are free & open to the public. For information, reservations & donations, please visit: concert4acause.org. Walk-ins welcome.

The FBC Ladies' Book Club. Our next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th at 7 pm, Location TBA. We will discuss *Our Missing Hearts* by Celeste Ng. Hope you can join us! Please do not hesitate to contact Janice Stumpf if you have any questions. All ladies are welcome!

Our AD LIBITUM Concert series will resume on Friday, March 15, at noon with Violin and Piano Concert. A sister duo, Maria and Ekaterina Bessmeltseva will perform Congratulatory Rondo for Violin and Piano by Alfred Schnittke and Sonata in G Major for Violin and Piano by Guillaume Lekeu. Maria teaches violin at University of Toledo (Toledo, OH) and University of Findlay (Findlay, OH). She is also a member of the Toledo Symphony Orchestra (Toledo, OH). Ekaterina is a concert pianist and educator and currently holds a large online private piano studio from California, New York, Alaska, Michigan and South Africa. This concert is free and open to the public. Mark your calendar. 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

February 19	Church Office & Building Closed
February 21	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @5:30p
February 22	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
February 27	Prayer and Sermon Gathering
March 17	AMOS Sunday & Fundraiser
March 30	Women's Book Club @7:00p
April 7	FBCA2 goes Bowling!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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The Reverend Dr. Paul Simpson 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 Santini, *Nursery Caregiver*
Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*
Kat Becker, *Administrator*