



# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
October 20, 2024

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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**WORDS OF PREPARATION:** *"The powerful forces of materialism which depend for their success on the weakness and inactivity of the alienated are undermined by the emerging effect of love on the excluded. The alternative characteristic of the Church is not in some separated culture but in its struggle to prevent the world excluding what God has included. Its service is always challenging the assumptions of the prevailing power structures of the time. It constantly points forward refusing to allow the world to stay where it is but encouraging it to move on by addressing the experience of the victims of the present. Social action is not a luxury on the edge of Church life but integral to its identity as a gospel institution."*

John Gladwin, *Love and Liberty: Faith and Unity in a Postmodern Age*

## GREETING

Xan Morgan & Rick Mixon

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge that we are gathered on the ancestral homeland of the, Anishinabae people of the Three Fires Confederacy - the Ojibwe, Ottawa & Potawatomi - and the Wyandot, and that this unceded land is still sacred to them.

## RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Lucas Spotts

One: Who is the one who made the heavens and the earth?

**Many: God is the Architect of the Universe, the Designer of All Things.**

One: Who has given our hearts wisdom, and our minds understanding?

**Many: God is our Creator, the Maker of us All.**

One: Who provides for all creatures, who gives us seasons, rain and sun?

**Many: God is the One our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend.**

## PRELUDE

*Prelude in C Major, BWV 846* Johann Sebastian Bach  
from *Well-Tempered Clavier, Book 1* (1685-1750, German)

## \*OPENING PRAYER

Lucas Spotts, Xan Morgan, Rick Mixon

(\*Please stand in body or spirit)

## \*HYMN

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

*ST. DENIO*

## REFLECTING ON OUR NEED FOR GOD

Words of Reflection

Xan Morgan

Words of Assurance

Rick Mixon

\*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung twice)

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

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *Jesus Loves the Little Children*

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world  
All the children everywhere, they are always in God's care  
Jesus loves the little children of the world

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

[Children are invited to come forward. Kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Church School]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

ANTHEM

*Bless the Lord*

- Michail Ippolitof-Ivanof

Bless the Lord, O my soul; Blessed art Thou, O Lord.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul; and forget not all His benefits.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy Name.  
He is gracious and plenteous in mercy.  
He crowneth thee with loving kindness.  
He will not always chide, nor keep His wrath forever.  
Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

SCRIPTURE READING

Job 38:1-18 (NRSV)

Rick Mixon

Mark 10:35-45 (The Message)

Xan Morgan

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

*Who's in Charge Here?*

Rick Mixon

SILENT REFLECTION

INVITATION TO GIVING

Now we return to God a portion of that with which we have been blessed.  
In this moment and in this act, we pledge ourselves anew to responsible  
stewardship of our financial resources, our time, our talent and of the good  
earth we inhabit by God's grace.

OFFERING OF GIFTS *Choral Reflection on Amazing Grace* arr. by Roger Ames  
Lucy Thompson, *mezzo soprano*

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me.  
I once was lost but now am found; was blind, but now I see.  
Through many dangers, toils, and snares we have already come.  
'Twas grace that bought us safe thus far, and grace will lead us home.  
Kyrie eleison, Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison, Christe eleison, Kyrie eleison.  
'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.  
When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.  
The Lord has promised good to me, His word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

\*DOXOLOGY (see insert) For Fish and Poi Tune: *TALLIS CANON* (England)  
For fish and poi, for bread and meat,  
For all Thou givest us to eat;  
For hands that help and hearts that share  
Lord, offer we our grateful prayer. Text: Edith Wolfe (Hawaii)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE  
Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.  
Response: And also with you.

\*HYMN Are Ye Able *BEACON HILL*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Air in G Minor, HWV 466* George Frideric Handel  
(1685-1759, German-English)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God  
in loving memory of John Anton Wiebe.*

~ Elli Barron ~

We pray for the family and friends of **Spike Burton**, brother of Toni Burton. We also pray for **Bob Reynolds, Rob Snyder, Roberta Hause, Mervyn Juchartz, Esther Floyd, Betty Gerstler, Marilyn Marsh, Bill Nummy, Helga Mortensen, John Milbourne, Greg DuBois, Cindy Okarski, Keith Maurer, Beth Granberry, Grange Burnside, 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.

**Please join us** after worship downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for coffee. We'd love to connect!

**Pastoral Transition.** Rev. Dr. Randle (Rick) Mixon began serving as Interim Pastor of First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor in October 2024. Rick is an ordained American Baptist minister with over 50 years of experience in pastoral ministry, church leadership, and social justice advocacy. He served as the Pastor of First Baptist Church of Palo Alto, California from 2006-2020 and has served as Interim Minister for four congregations over his career – Dolores Street Baptist Church, San Francisco, CA; First Baptist (now United) Church of Granville, OH; Fairview Community Church, Costa Mesa, CA, and Old Cambridge Baptist Church of Cambridge, MA. He is a long-time member of Lakeshore Avenue Baptist Church, Oakland, CA, the church that ordained him in 1996 as the first openly LGBTQIA+ Baptist to be ordained.

Rick brings to First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor a passion for preaching the gospel of love, grace, and liberation, a commitment to fostering a diverse and inclusive community of faith, and a vision for engaging in prophetic witness and service in the world.

**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 adult and youth formation classes. If you would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

**Youth (grades 6-12)** Youth Group's first Sunday is today during the Formation hour (11:30–12:30) in the Youth Room directly below the sanctuary. We have fun together, eat snacks, talk about our lives and explore some exciting Old Testament stories and their real-life justice implications. We also plan to have a couple interfaith experiences this semester, exploring the other Abrahamic faiths of Judaism and Islam. If you would like more information about what's coming up for Youth Ministry or would like to be added to our email list, please contact Valerie Francia ([valerie@fbca2.org](mailto:valerie@fbca2.org)).

**Seven Sins in Six Weeks!** Adult Formation meets in the memorial lounge. We are focusing on *The Seven Sins of White Christian Nationalism* by Carter Heyward. Interim Pastor Rick Mixon will lead the conversation.

**Youth Group Corn Maze.** All youth (6-12th grades) and families are invited to come to Blast Corn Maze (6175 Daly Rd, Dexter) on Sunday night, October 20, at 4:00p for a fun Fall time! We will be meeting on location and plan to wrap up around 6:30/7:00p.

**Wednesday Bible Study.** Join us for Bible study this Wednesday, 1:00 - 2:00. Enjoy Rev. Dr. Rick Mixon leading along with good snacks, coffee, and fellowship as we receive the gift of God's living word. This week's scriptures are Isaiah 25:6-9 \* Psalm 24 \* Revelation 21:1-6a \* John 11:32-44

**The Gathering** is our campus ministry on Wednesday evenings 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 Pastor Rick Mixon. If you can help with a meal for the group, contact Janice Stumpf, sign up at [fbca2.org/connect](http://fbca2.org/connect), or make a financial gift by check to the church or via PayPal (@fbca2).

**Art Memorial Installation in honor of Rev. Dr. Stacey Simpson Duke.** Stacey co-pastored First Baptist with her husband, Rev. Dr. Paul Simpson Duke from 2001 through 2023. She died on February 27, 2023 after living with Stage IV Leiomyosarcoma. Join us on Thursday, October 24th at 6:00p for a brief service to bless and install the memorial weaving created by artist Jenny Schu. Thank you to our Art Memorial Committee - Lucy Thompson, Grace VanderVliet, Kristin Reynolds, David Robbins, and Xan Morgan - for their leadership on this project.

**Mission Action in Action:** Hurricane Relief Match. The FBCA2 Board of Mission Action encourages the congregation to donate to the hurricane relief efforts for Hurricanes Helene and Milton and will be matching all gifts up to \$1,000. Donate by cash or check in the plates at the doors and designate the funds for Hurricane Relief efforts. As of this past Wednesday, \$835 has been contributed. The church will donate funds through One Great Hour of Sharing.

**Register to Vote.** Voting can be a spiritual practice that invites us to learn about our communities and our country and take action to strengthen them. The voter registration deadline for Michigan is on October 21 for the general election on November 5. Make plans now to make sure you can vote! Need a ride? We can help! Pastor Rick, among others, are happy to help get you to the polls. To check your registration, learn about who is on your ballot and find your polling place, visit [vote411.org/michigan](http://vote411.org/michigan).

**Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series** will present its third concert of the season "Bach and Mozart" on Friday, November 8 at noon. Praised for her playing of Bach's music, Pianist Ling-Ju Lai will perform her own transcriptions of Bach's Prelude in G Minor, BWV 808 and Mozart's Concerto No. 23 in A Major, K. 488 along with Bach's Toccata in C Minor, BWV 911. It will be a beautifully unique concert to hear these pieces. Mark your calendar! Invite your friends and neighbors!

**Sign Up for Altar Flowers.** Want to help with flowers on Sunday? There are two ways to sign-up! You can add your name to the calendar posted downstairs in the hallway or at [fbca2/connect](http://fbca2/connect). You can bring the flowers with you on Sunday morning or we can order them for \$50. A dedication will appear in the bulletin and the flowers are yours to take after the service.

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



### Calendar

October 20	Youth Group to the Corn Maze @4:00p
October 23	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @5:30p
October 24	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
October 24	Installation of Memorial Art @6:00p
November 8	Ad Libitum Concert @12 noon

### FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

517 East Washington Street

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-2015

Telephone: 734/663-9376

Email: [office@fbca2.org](mailto:office@fbca2.org)

Website: [fbca2.org](http://fbca2.org)

Rev. Dr. Rick Mixon, *Interim 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*

Christina Alaniz, *Nursery Caregiver*

Michelle Ding & Charlie Duke, *Children's Choir*

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*