



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

23rd Sunday after Pentecost
October 27, 2024

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"In his concern for [humankind] and [its] history of suffering, for publicans and sinners, for the poor, the lame and the blind, for the dispossessed and those alienated from themselves by 'evil spirits', Jesus is a living parable of God: this is the way in which God looks on [humankind.] The story of God is told in the story of Jesus. It is God himself who in the life story of Jesus discloses to us a new world, another way of experiencing reality and another life-style: so the New Testament story about Jesus is an answer of the first Christians to the story of Jesus himself. Therefore all the life-stories of Jesus come alive again in the life or the story of the church itself. The church becomes a community in which those who have opened themselves to the critical force of the parable of Jesus' life tell stories round a shared table. In this way we too can listen to the Jesus' story today. We are simply asked whether we will stake our life on it."*

Edward Schillebeeckx, *God among Us: The Gospel Proclaimed*

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

Psalm 34:1-8

paraphrased by Bruce Prewer

Michelle Ding

One: We will be happy in God each minute of the day,
praise will always be on our lips.

We make our song and dance about God!

Many: **We hope others hear and begin to smile.**

**Join together in singing loftiest praises,
and let us soar high on the name of God.**

One: When we've asked for help, God heard us,
We've been set free from the shadows of fear.

Why not sunbathe in God's light?

then our faces shall never be sour again.

Many: **We are just poor people, humble humans, yet God hears us,**

In trouble we are saved from fear and gloom.

**The angels of God pitch their tents around here,
encircling those who love their Savior.**

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

Come to Jesus

arr. by Lloyd Larson

Are you weary, heavy laden? Come and lay your burdens down.

Jesus calls you, Jesus draws you, rest in Him.

He is gentle, He is lowly, He delights to bring us peace.

Tender Shepherd, mighty Savior, rest in Him.

How sure His compassion for us! O how deep is His love!

So come, come to Jesus and rest in Him.

Are you hopeless, are you guilty? Caught in shame for all your sin?

He pursues you to forgive you, rest in Him.

He has paid for every failure, mercy flows in endless streams.

Come and follow, freedom calls you, rest in Him. *Refrain*

Are you waiting in your sorrows for this broken world to heal?

He is coming, soon returning, rest in Him.

We will see Him, we will know Him. O what heights of grace revealed.

From His kindness, every promise then fulfilled.

Trust in Jesus, He will keep us to the end. *Refrain*

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

*HYMN

Sent Out in Jesus' Name

ENVIADO (CUBAN MELODY)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Praeludium in D Minor, BuxWV 140 (Excerpt)

Dieterich Buxtehude
(1637-1707, German)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Pearl Hsu and Harry & Elizabeth Lee.*

~ The Lee family ~

We 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.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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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*

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 Group (grades 6-12) meets Sunday mornings 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).

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.

Wednesday Bible Study. Join us for Bible study this Wednesday, 1:00 - 2:00. Dr. Astrid Beck will be leading this week along with good snacks, coffee, and fellowship as we receive the gift of God's living word.

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, or make a financial gift by check to the church or via PayPal ([@fbca2](https://www.paypal.com/@fbca2)).

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 voting by mail has passed, but you can register to vote up until and including 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.

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](https://fbca2.org/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.

Kat will be away from the office starting tomorrow (October 28) through November 10. Office hours will be limited, starting 9am and closing early afternoon. She is grateful for everyone's efforts to make this vacation possible.

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



Calendar

October 30	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @5:30p
October 31	Choir Rehearsal @7:30p
November 3	Grace in Action: Reflecting God's Nature Stewardship Season begins
November 8	Ad Libitum Concert @12 noon
December 1	Advent Workshop