



Unbroken

A living faith

4TH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 30, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"Let us be marked not for false humility or for thinking we are less than we are but for claiming what God can do within the dust, within the dirt, within the stuff of which the world is made..."*

Jan Richardson, "Blessing the Dust",
from *The Painted Prayerbook*

GREETING

Gretchen Sanewsky

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 66:1-4, 5, 8-9

DJ Reed

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

All: **sing the glory of God's name; give to God glorious praise.**

One: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds! Because of your great power, your enemies cringe before you.

All: **All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name."**

One: Come and see what God has done: he is awesome in his deeds among mortals.

All: **Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.**

PRELUDE

Sicilienne

Maria Theresia von Paradis
Arr. by Robert Gower

OPENING PRAYER

DJ Reed

*HYMN (see insert)

The Servant Song

SERVANT SONG

(*Please stand in body or spirit)

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

*SCRIPTURE READING

DJ Reed & Gretchen Sanewsky

Genesis 2:4-14 & Luke 10:1-20

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: **Thanks be to God!**

CONGREGATIONAL SONG *Lord, I Want to Be a Christian*

(Hymn 402, v.4)

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

TIME AS CHILDREN

Gretchen Sanewsky

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

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Gretchen Sanewsky

The Lord's Prayer ("debts" - hymnal page 896)

ANTHEM

Wash Me Thoroughly - Samuel Sebastian Wesley
Michelle Ding, *soprano soloist*

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin.

For I acknowledge my faults, and my sin is ever before me.

Wash me thoroughly from my wickedness, and forgive me all my sin.

REFLECTING ON OUR NEED FOR GOD

Gretchen Sanewsky

Prayer of Reflection *Extraordinary Ordinairiness* John van de Laar

*HYMN 265

O Christ, the Healer

ERHALT UNS HERR

SERMON

What God Can Do with Dust

Gretchen Sanewsky

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

Alas! And Did My Savior Bleed

Deborah Govenor

Maryann Bowen, *oboe*

Alas! And did my Savior bleed,
And did my Sov'reign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For sinners such as I?
Was it for sins that I have done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!
Well might the sun in darkness hid
And shut its glories in,

When Christ, the great Redeemer, died
For His own creatures' sin.
Thus might I hide my blushing face
While His dear cross appears,
Dissolve my heart in thankfulness,
And melt my eyes to tears.
But tears of grief cannot repay
The debt of love I owe;
Here, Lord, I give myself away:
'Tis all that I can do.

***DOXOLOGY** *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* *OLD 100TH*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above you heavenly hosts;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

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

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Wade in Duh Wadduh!* William Farley Smith
(African American Spiritual) (1941-1997, African American)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in memory of our father and grandfather, Murphy Stumpf,
on the anniversary of his birthday.*

~ the Alaniz Family ~

We pray for Bob Reynolds, Rob Snyder, Roberta Hause, Mervyn Juchartz, Esther Floyd, Betty Gerstler, Juliane Mayotte, David Gregg, Jon VanderVliet, David Lamkin & Lynn Suits, Lynda Berg, Becky Lepley, Marilyn Marsh, Dakota Lawson, Bill Nummy, Helga Mortensen, Lindsay Grace, Greg DuBois, Cindy Okarski, Keith Maurer, Beth Granberry, Grange Burnside, 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 after worship downstairs for fellowship time. We'd love to connect!

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 1st grade leave for Children's Ministry 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 12:30 from the Playroom upstairs.

Youth Group (grades 6-12) meets Sunday mornings during the Formation hour (11:30am–12:30pm) in the Youth Room directly below the sanctuary. We have fun together, eat snacks, talk about our lives and explore some exciting stories from the Bible and their real-life justice implications. Feel free to contact Jillian with any questions at Jillian@fbca2.org.

Adult Formation Classes. LJ Brazier leads a Bible Study on the Gospel of Mark looking at several sections and themes. LJ will bring some interpretive perspectives. Bring yours. The group meets in the lounge at 11:30a.

Living Our Stories. We invite you to join us as we continue to explore who we are and plan for the next phase of life for First Baptist Church, Ann Arbor through our Living Our Stories gatherings! *All who are part of our community are welcome and encouraged to participate.* Sign up to gather with others in our church family on Sunday, April 6 (3:30-5:00p) to further examine the stories we tell here at First Baptist and what those stories say about us and our values. WE create the church we want to be! You can sign up online at fbca2.org/connect or in person at the Ministry Station at church. Questions? Connect with members of our Interim Transition Team: Robbie Stapleton, Paula Burton, or Xan Morgan.

Lenten Devotionals. Our Lenten theme for this year is "Unbroken: A Living Faith." Raising questions about faith, the people who developed the curriculum write, "Faith is passed down from generation to generation - it's an unbroken line of ancestry that connects all the way back to Jesus. The powers of the world wanted to break Jesus and

yet this faith that we rest on is strong enough that they couldn't do it. We are part of this great tradition that will not and cannot be broken." In support of our exploration of this theme, there are Lenten devotional booklets available at the ministry stations. Please pick one up and use it to deepen your own Lenten discipline of living out your faith as part of the First Baptist community.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series presents "Beautiful Baroque: Violin and Harpsichord Concert" on Friday, April 11 at noon. This is the second concert of the Baroque Art of Variation and Embellishment Series. Phoebe Gelzer-Govatos on the violin and Shin-Ae Chun on the harpsichord will perform works by Bertali, C.P.E Bach, Vivaldi, Schmelzer, Fischer and Muffat. This will be a nice opportunity to hear the potpourri of the delightful Baroque music. It is a free concert and is open to the public. Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors. Let's celebrate spring with beautiful music.

Transgender Day of Visibility Service. First Baptist is partnering with neighboring churches for a service tomorrow, Monday, March 31st, which is International Trans Day of Visibility. We'll gather at 11:30a at First Congregational Church. We hope to see you there.

Holy Week Schedule:

Soup Supper & Foot Washing on Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 5:30p. We continue our journey through Holy Week with this intergenerational worship experience. We will share a simple soup supper together with an invitation to have your feet washed afterwards as we embody the story of Jesus' last meal with his friends. The Children's Choir will be singing and our friends from Northside Community Church will join us. If you are able to provide a pot of soup for the meal, please let Xan (xan@fbca2.org) know. Thank you in advance!

Community Good Friday Service. We have a longstanding tradition of joining with sister churches First United Methodist and First Congregational to offer the community a midday Good Friday service. Join us at 12:00 noon on Friday, April 18 at First Congregational Church.

Good Friday Tenebrae Service. Join us at First Baptist for our Good Friday service of shadows at 8:00p, as we sit together in the growing darkness to hear again the story of Jesus' Passion in word, song, and silence, and ponder its meaning for our lives.

Wednesday Bible Study will resume on April 9. Pastor Rick leads the study which often includes good snacks, and always coffee and fellowship as we receive the gift of God's living word. We will be looking at Acts 10:34-48; Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24; 1 Corinthians 15:19-26, John 20:1-18, and Luke 24:1-12.

The Gathering is our campus ministry on Wednesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:30pm. 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).

The FBCA2 Ladies' Book Club will meet on Tuesday, April 15th at 6:30pm at Paula Burton's home. We will discuss *Brave the Wild River: The Untold Story of Two Women Who Mapped the Botany of the Grand Canyon*, by Melissa L. Sevigny. The book describes the contributions of two University of Michigan botanists. Work on your taxes early and plan to join us! Please contact Janice Stumpf or Mary Gregg if you have any questions.

American Baptist Women's Annual Conference June 13-15, 2025. I want to encourage you to consider our Annual Conference at the DeWitt Retreat Center in DeWitt Michigan. It is a beautiful and peaceful setting! Our conference theme this year is Stronger Together. A weekend to cultivate Joy! We have two key speakers: Rev. Dr. Laura J. Hunt and Hon. Rev. Dr. Shannon Holmes. You may come for the full weekend or just Saturday. I will have registration forms by the end of March. Our weekend includes workshops, small groups, spiritual gift reassessments, prayer, meditation and time for relaxing and fellowship. Please prayerfully consider this time for relaxation and renewal. -Carolyn Grapentine

Help Needed! The City of Ann Arbor has put out a feedback survey for their Throne Pilot Project. First Baptist reached out to the city and the Throne company to ask that they might have a few of their Thrones available 24/7 for our unhoused neighbors. Through our continued advocacy, the city agreed to rent parking spaces in our lot to host a Throne here at First Baptist. This accessible, free, and clean bathroom was available to our Daytime Warming Center guests and will continue to be for those who spend time here throughout the warmer months. We invite you to fill out the city's feedback form and indicate that the Thrones have been a positive addition to Ann Arbor. Questions? Connect with Xan Morgan or Kat Becker.

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.

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



ITT Update: We have important dates to share with you from our Interim Transition Team. First, our final event related to the present is taking place on April 6 from 3:30-5:00. For those of you who have signed up, we will be sending out an update about your host and where you will be meeting. You will be receiving this information within the next couple of days. Also, our Future group met for the first time this past week. The theme includes the River of Life that has brought us to our present. Imagine a river of life that leads to a beautiful, fertile delta or riverbank. Be thinking about what you would want to grow in this place. Or what do you hope for the future of FBC. Come join the fun on June 1, during second hour, to help plant this garden of hopes and dreams. Thanks to all of you who continue to stay engaged in this process. We truly need you and your prayers as we Transform through Transition!

Calendar

April 2	The Gathering @5:30p
April 3	Choir Rehearsal @ 7:00p
April 6	"Living our Stories" Gatherings @3:30p
April 11	Ad Libitum Concert @12:00 noon
April 17	Maundy Thursday Soup Supper @5:30p
April 18	Community Good Friday Service @12 noon (at First Congregational Church)
	Service of Tenebrae @8:00p
April 27	Annual Program Meeting @11:15a

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Rev. Dr. Rick Mixon, *Transitional Interim Pastor*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Jillian Mast, *Associate for Youth Ministry*

Christina Alaniz, *Associate for Communications and Childcare Supervisor*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

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

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*