



# FIRST BAPTIST

## CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Trinity Sunday  
June 15, 2025

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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**WORDS OF PREPARATION:** *"Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit mean that the mystery beyond us, the mystery among us, and the mystery within us are all the same mystery. Thus, the Trinity is a way of saying something about us and the way we experience God."*

Frederick Buechner, *Wishful Thinking*

## GREETING

Rick Mixon & Xan Morgan

## RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Xan Morgan & Mary Davis

*Walking with Wisdom* by Bruce Sanguin

One: O Holy One, we come in humility and awe, waiting on wisdom, Holy Sophia, to reveal to us her way.

Two: She, incarnate in Jesus, embodied in cells and centipedes, woos us with a wink into an unknown and unknowable future: except that it shall be delightful, for She is delighted by creation;

One: and it shall be beautiful, for beauty is the path She walks;

Two: and it shall be good, for She is the irrepressible goodness of creation;

One: and it shall be just, for She is outraged by oppression of all her children, human and other-than-human.

All: O Holy One, we turn now from our foolish ways to walk the path of Wisdom – lightly, lovingly – upon this beautiful green planet.

## PRELUDE

*Nicaea (Excerpt)*  
(Holy, Holy, Holy)

Piet Post  
(1919-1979, Dutch)

## RESPONSIVE OPENING PRAYER

Mary Davis

Bruce Prewer, inspired by St. Patrick

One: I bind unto myself this day the strong name of the Trinity.

All: The Creator's gifts of earth and sky,  
the flowing creeks and fertile land,  
the winter sun and summer moon,  
the roaring sea and golden sand.

One: I bind unto myself this day the Christ who wears our human clay.

All: The Baby sleeping in a stall,  
the Healer touching our disease,  
the One of love upon the Cross,  
the risen Friend who hears our pleas.

One: I bind unto myself this day the Spirit who is here to stay.

**All:** The Breath that makes the broken whole,  
the Truth that flows like liquid light,  
the Wind that sweeps my dusty soul,  
the Fire that warms the darkest night.

One: From now unto infinity, the strong name of the Trinity. Amen.

**\*HYMN 64** *Holy, Holy, Holy* *NICAEA*  
(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

**\*SCRIPTURE READING** from Proverbs 8 (NRSV) Rick Mixon & Xan Morgan

One: The Word of God for the People of God

**All:** Thanks be to God!

**\*GLORIA** (Hymn 72, sung twice)

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

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG** We Are the Church (Hymn 558 refrain, sung twice)  
(Children 5th grade and younger come forward.)

**TIME AS CHILDREN** Xan Morgan  
(Children leave for church school.)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Rick Mixon  
The Lord's Prayer ("debts" - hymnal page 896)

**ANTHEM** *O Lord, How Excellent Is Thy Name* - Benedetto Marcello

O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the Earth. I will be glad and rejoice in Thee. I will sing praise unto Thy name, for Thou shalt judge in righteousness. The Lord shall judge in righteousness. O Thou Most High, Great God of Zion, we put our trust in Thee. O Lord, our Lord, how excellent is Thy name in all the Earth.

**REFLECTING ON OUR NEED FOR GOD** Rick Mixon

Responsive Prayer of Reflection

One: Creating God, your love is the color that ripples through all that is made  
Your wisdom gives balance to life that keeps the universe alive.

**All:** May this be our living prayer: to live in partnership with creation,  
blessing it, loving it, sharing it wisely.

One: Living Wisdom, you are the lilt in the song of justice sung by God's  
people around the world. Your truth spoken and incarnate guides us in  
the ways of abundant life for all.

**All:** May this be our living prayer: to live as a community of Christ, blessing  
it, loving it, sharing it wisely.

One: Empowering Spirit, you are the energy that lifts up the discouraged and dances alongside the inspired. You cast a vision of the way things can be and give shape to God's shalom in creation.

All: May this be our living prayer: to live as partners of Godly change, blessing it, loving it, sharing it wisely.

*Silence is kept for a time so that we might meditate, reflect, be still, draw closer to the holy, lift our own prayers of desire and recognition.*

Words of Assurance *Life-giving, Restoring, Fulfilling God* by John van de Laar

**\*HYMN 506**

*Wellspring of Wisdom*  
v. 1 Choir vv. 2-4 All

*WELLSPRING*

**SERMON**

*This Hallowing Place*

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**

*The Irish Blessing*

Joyce Eilers Bacak

May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face,  
the rains fall soft upon your fields.  
And until we meet again  
May the God that loves us all  
hold you in the palm of His hand. Amen.

**\*DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*

*OLD 100<sup>TH</sup>*

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 (see insert)

*We Are the People of God*

John R. Landgraf &  
David L. Bartlett

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Lasst uns Erfreuen (Excerpt)*  
(All Creatures of Our God and King)

William Faulkes  
(1863-1933, English)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God  
In remembrance of our wonderful fathers: Ulysses Slaughter and John Wright  
and for our brother Lewis McCoy Wright.*

*~ Harvey & Phyllis Slaughter ~*

We pray for **Bob Reynolds, Jon VanderVliet, Marlene Francis, Grange Burnside, David Gregg, Joan Blunt, Becky Lepley, Adriane Moulton Headley, Peg & Joe Bradford, Rob Snyder, Roberta Hause, Mervyn Juchartz, Esther Floyd, Katherine Cartee, Chuck Suits, Lynda Berg, Marilyn Marsh, Pidgey Karolyi, Dakota Lawson, Bill Nummy, Helga Mortensen, Lindsay Grace, Greg DuBois, Cindy Okarski, Keith Maurer, Beth Granberry, and Fay Key.**

\*Please stand in body or spirit

**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 coffee.** 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 leave for Children's Ministry following Time as Children. Today is our last day of Children's Choir (PreK-5th grade) from 11:30-noon. You may pick up your children at 11:30 from the Play Space upstairs, at 12:00 from the choir room, or at 12:30 from the Play Space.

**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](mailto:Jillian@fbca2.org).

**Adult Formation Classes.** Join us in the lounge at 11:30 today for a session on worship. In the first we considered what worship is both traditionally and in the practice of First Baptist. Why do we do what we do in the service? What is the significance of each of the elements? In this second session we will look at music in worship, particularly the hymns and songs we sing.

**Board and Staff Retreat.** We look forward to gathering on Wednesday, June 18th from 5:00-8:00p to connect, reflect, and plan with all FBCA2 board members and staff! Dinner and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP online at [fbca2.org/connect](http://fbca2.org/connect) if you haven't already.

**Let's have some fun and spread some love while we volunteer together at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival!** Let's have some fun and spread some love while we volunteer together at the Ann Arbor Summer Festival! On Sunday, June 22 from 5-7:00p, the Board of Outreach invites folks from FBCA2 to greet at Top of the Park and offer guidance regarding compost, recycling, and landfill items to help reach the Festival Footprint goals! There will be a fun performance, Squonk: Brouhaha just before and at the end of our shift. All ages are welcome; sign up at [fbca2.org/connect](http://fbca2.org/connect)! Volunteers under the age of 10 yrs do not need to officially sign up but are invited to come with their families. We encourage volunteers to wear one of our "Love over..." t-shirts. Let's spread the love! If you'd like to purchase a t-shirt, long-sleeve shirt, or sweatshirt you can do so at [fbca2.org/connect](http://fbca2.org/connect). Youth and adult sizes are available. Church is happy to subsidize the cost when needed.

**We're excited to host Derek Webb's Survival Songs concert** on Saturday, June 28, at 7:00p here at First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor! Derek Webb is a veteran singer-songwriter known for his fearless honesty, razor-sharp lyrics, and genre-bending artistry. With a career spanning decades, from his early days with Caedmon's Call to a bold solo catalog, Webb has never shied away from tackling the hard questions. His latest project, Survival Songs, is no exception. Written and recorded in just one month, the new album is a powerful response to the urgent need for comfort, courage, and empowerment, especially for queer youth facing growing threats in today's world. As an artist, citizen, and dad of teens, Webb invites listeners to join him on tour and experience these powerful songs live: a soundtrack for survival in dangerous times. Get your tickets at [fbca2.org/derekwebb](http://fbca2.org/derekwebb) and spread the word!

**Pizza in the Park!** Join us Tuesday, July 22nd for a midsummer, intergenerational gathering of dinner and connection at County Farm Park from 5:30-7:30p. We'll have pizza, fruit, and drinks. Bring a lawn chair if you'd like! Please RSVP online ([fbca2.org/pizzainthepark](http://fbca2.org/pizzainthepark)) or at the Ministry Station so that we can prepare accordingly. Questions? Connect with Xan Morgan or a member of the Board of Christian Ed.

**Post-secondary Education Scholarships Available.** Scholarships are available to members of the First Baptist family from the Chester and Violet Loucks and Fullerton funds for post-secondary education. Also, scholarship funds are available from the Diane Chadsey Keivit Scholarship Fund. For this scholarship, preference is given to applicants who plan to study music, and/or have participated in FBC's music programs, but others may apply. Applications are available from Robbie Stapleton (robbiestapleton@gmail.com), chair of Board of Christian Education. The deadline for receipt of applications is June 15, 2025 for Loucks and June 30 for Chadsey Kievit.

**Church Camp Scholarships.** We hope your kids and teens are able to enjoy some church camp fun! Scholarships for camp are available through the Board of Christian Education; reach out to Xan Morgan, Jillian Mast, or Robbie Stapleton if you have any questions.

**Board and Staff Retreat.** We look forward to gathering on Wednesday, June 18th from 5:00-8:00p to connect, reflect, and plan with all FBCA2 board members and staff! Dinner and childcare will be provided. Please RSVP online at [fbca2.org/connect](https://fbca2.org/connect) by Wednesday, June 11.

**FBC Men's Book Club** next meets at 7:00p on Monday, July 28 at the home of Scott Diels. They are reading *The Second Mountain, the Quest for a Moral Life* by David Brooks.

**Habitat for Humanity FBC Workdays.** The 2025 house is located at 1015 Gault Drive, Ypsilanti. Our Friday workday is **Aug 1st**. The FBC volunteers will work with another congregation to provide labor and perhaps lunches on workdays. If you have the time and wish to volunteer during the week go to the Good News house website: [H4H.org/goodnewsgroup](https://H4H.org/goodnewsgroup) for home page and [H4H.org/goodnewsvolunteer](https://H4H.org/goodnewsvolunteer) for signing waivers.

As in past years, our congregation has also committed financial support to the project. We are asking you to contribute as you have in the past to aid this effort to provide affordable housing in our community. We have committed to raising \$2500 in 2025. Checks can be written to FBC, with H4H in the memo line. Reach out to Scott Diels if you have any questions.

**FBC Ladies Book Club.** Our next book is *Before the Coffee Gets Cold* by Toshikazu Kawaguchi. We will meet at Madeline Drake's home on July 15th at 6:30pm to discuss. For those reading ahead, *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict is next in line. Happy Reading! Janice

**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](https://fbca2.org/connect) or use the QR code to the right.



## Calendar

June 18	Board & Staff Retreat @5:00p
June 22	A2 Summer Festival @5:00p
June 28	Derek Webb Concert @7:00p
July 15	FBC Ladies Book Club @6:30p
July 22	Pizza in the Park @5:30p
August 1	Habitat for Humanity Workday

**The Pastor Search Committee (PSC)** met on Monday, June 9 with our regional representative from American Baptist Churches of MI, Rev. Nikita McCalister. We felt her loving embrace of us as a congregation and her support for this search process. She brought us a strong reminder of God's presence on this journey and deep affirmation of God's unique call to us as FBCA2. Rev. McCalister educated us on the current search process through the American Baptist Personnel system. We feel well-informed about next steps and the resources available to us.

Following our time with Rev. McCalister the PSC discussed next steps. To that end, we will meet again on June 16 to complete the pastor job description, complete the job posting, and gather all the needed information to participate in the America Baptist personnel system.

The PSC continues to be in thoughtful prayer together and individually for God's guidance as this journey unfolds. Thank you for joining us in prayer! We appreciate your support. You can reach the PSC at: [psc@fbca2.org](mailto:psc@fbca2.org).

L.J. Brazier, Toni Burton, Bill Foster, DJ Reed, Gretchen Sanewsky, Julie Smith, David Suell

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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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*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

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

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*