



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

3rd Sunday after Pentecost
June 29, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"The ministries of the church are part of the organization of church life as it responds to the spirit of Christ continually at work in its midst. This Spirit leads to a new order of freedom, in which Christ has set us free to be for others. In this understanding, ministry is the response of each and every Christian to Christ's call to freedom. In their baptism Christians are set free to serve now, in and through many communities and situations. The call to ministry is not an option for some Christians. It is basic to the existence of all Christians as they seek to live together as partners in Christ's service."*

Letty M. Russell, *Church in the Round: Feminist Interpretation of Church*

GREETING

Rick Mixon

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

LJ Brazier

One: We have come from East and West, from North and South to worship God together!

All: We come, praising God!

One: We have come – a beautifully diverse collection of many genders, many sexual orientations, many races and ethnicities, many ages and abilities

All: We come, praising God!

One: We have come in peace, breaking down old misunderstandings, welcoming strangers and being welcomed, learning and growing together, greeting one another as siblings in the family of God!

All: We come, praising God!

One: Praise God who made us all, who loves us all, who calls us together so that we might sing alleluias!

All: We come, praising God!

PRELUDE

Andante grazioso

Kate Emma Bounty
(1865-1913, English)

OPENING PRAYER

LJ Brazier

*HYMN

Quirky, Queer, and Wonderful

ROYAL OAK

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

*SCRIPTURE READING

Galatians 5:1a, 13-26 (The Message)

Rick Mixon

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

Rick Mixon

(Children through 4th grade complete head to Children's Ministry on the 3rd floor.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rick Mixon

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

ANTHEM

I Will Sing New Songs

- Antonín Dvořák

Isaac Thompson, baritone

I will sing new songs of gladness; I will sing Jehovah's praises upon a ten-stringed psaltery. Every day will I extol thee and will bless thy holy name. Great is God and great his mercy; who shall tell of all his greatness? Who shall his power declare? My song shall be of praise and honor, and of thy glorious acts. Thy works are wonderful, past our knowing. Yea, I shall tell of thy great kindness and of thy wondrous might; and my voice shall proclaim aloud thy glory.

REFLECTING ON OUR NEED FOR GOD

Rick Mixon

*"You have made us for yourself, O God, and hearts
are restless till they rest in you." St. Augustine*

A Time for Reflection

Call to Reflection

Unison Prayer of Reflection

Holy One, God of many names and identities, we praise you for the extravagant diversity of your creation. We confess that sometimes our understandings of gender and sexuality limit the ways in which we know each other and know you. Forgive us when we, personally and as a society, use names and definitions as weapons to oppress or exclude. Free us from the constraints of our narrow views and expand our vision so that we might recognize and enjoy the creativity of bodily expressions that reveal your infinite glory. In the name of the One who is Many, we pray. Amen.

*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

*HYMN *Help Us Accept Each Other* *ACCEPTANCE*

SERMON *A New Order of Freedom!* 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 *I Love to Tell the Story* Arr. by Hwa-Pyeong Oh

*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 *Called as Partners in Christ's Service* *BEECHER*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Chaconne in G Major, BWV 435 (excerpt)*
George Frideric Handel
(1685-1759, German-English)

We pray for the family and friends of **David Gregg**. We also pray for **Bob Reynolds, Jon VanderVliet, Martin Magers, Judy Burton, Marlene Francis, Grange Burnside, Joan Blunt, Becky Lepley, Adriane Moulton Headley, 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.



Join us after worship for refreshments right here in Fellowship Hall. 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) upstairs. Children who have completed 4th grade and younger, leave for Summer Children's Ministry following Time as Children in the Play Space upstairs and should be picked up after worship. If you are visiting and would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

Youth Group (grades 6-12) during second hour is on break until the fall, but we have some activities planned for the summer. 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 Jillian (jillian@fbca2.org).

Support for the Magers. After having emergency surgery a couple weeks ago, Martin Magers has been diagnosed with Thoracic Outlet Syndrome. He will be having a second surgery on Friday, June 27th and will be in the hospital for a week. To express love and support for the Magers, Xan will be collecting funds to purchase gift cards to some of their favorite restaurants. You can donate via PayPal, Venmo, or check/cash to Xan Morgan. Please reach out to Xan (xan@fbca2.org) if you have any questions.

Kids are off to Camp Christian! We invite you to pray for Emma Francia, Tess Magers, and Simeon Suell while they are at church camp for the first time this week. Please also pray for our CITs who are returning this year - Lincoln Reed, Emmanuel Morgan, and Piper Morgan. Xan Morgan is the director for the week. May they have a great week filled with laughter, learning, and new tastes of God's love.

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) 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.

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 lunch that day. If you have the time and wish to volunteer during the week go to the Good News house website: H4H.org/goodnewsgroup for home page and 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 or use the QR code to the right.



Calendar

July 15	FBC Ladies' Book Club @6:30p
July 22	Pizza in the Park @5:30p
July 28	FBC Men's Book Club @7:00p
August 1	Habitat for Humanity Workday

The Pastor Search Committee (PSC) The Pastor Search Committee (PSC) met on Monday, June 23. We finalized the documents that we will need to send to our American Baptist Churches of MI region representative including the job description, the job posting, and the church's eight ministry priorities. The other item we need to send to the region representative is the salary and benefits package. The personnel committee will be working on that package in early July. While that process is in motion, the PSC will be working on an interview process and rubrics to help us assess candidates. As always, please be in touch with us to share your input at psc@fbca2.org or speak with any of us in person. It is a privilege to represent this congregation and to be about this work together. Thank you for your continued prayers and support!

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

517 East Washington Street

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-2015

Telephone: 734/663-9376

Email: office@fbca2.org Website: fbca2.org

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*