



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

11th Sunday after Pentecost
August 24, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"We are the body of Christ when we open ourselves to the spirit of Jesus and continue what he began. But let us be very careful that we do not limit Jesus. The one who welcomed everyone left us a challenging perspective as our legacy. He identified with those who are hungry and thirsty and lack proper clothes, with the sick, the felon, the stranger, saying: when we attend to their bodily needs, when we give food, drink, clothing, care, compassion, empathy, shelter, we are doing these things for him. Christ's body is one with embodied humanity."*

Miriam Therese Winter

GREETING

Rick Mixon

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Piper and Xan Morgan

Presence by John Philip Newell

One: in the gift of this new day,

Two: in the gift of the present moment,

One: in the gift of time and eternity intertwined,

All: let us be grateful, let us be attentive, let us be open to what has never happened before,

Two: in the gift of this new day,

One: in the gift of the present moment,

Two: in the gift of time and eternity intertwined.

All: let us join together to worship the Holy One

PRELUDE

Allemande

William Byrd

OPENING PRAYER

Piper Morgan

*HYMN 529

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

*SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 58:9-11 (NRSV)

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 God Is So Good (v.1)

SO GOOD

(Children who are going into 5th grade and younger come forward.)

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

BLESSING OF LEARNERS AND EDUCATORS

Xan Morgan & Rick Mixon

Congregational Response:

We pray for you, as you take up this holy task of education.

May Jesus the Great Teacher guide you, may the Holy Spirit nurture you, and may the grace of God uphold you this school year, and all the years to come.

(Children head to Summer Children's Ministry on the 3rd floor.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rick Mixon

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

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

Romans 12:9-21

*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** (see insert)

O for a World

AZMON

SERMON

To Dream a World

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

Come to God
(Crucifix)

Jean-Baptiste Faure
Lucy Thompson, *mezzo soprano*

Vous qui pleurez, venez à ce Dieu, car il pleure.
Vous qui souffrez, venez à lui, car il guérit.
Vous qui tremblez, venez à lui, car il sourit.
Vous qui passez, venez à lui, car il demeure.

*You who weep, come to God, for he weeps.
You who suffer, come to him, for he heals.
You who tremble, come to him, for he smiles.
You who pass by, come to him, for he remains.*

*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

Rick Mixon

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.
Response: And also with you.

*HYMN 384

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Tune: *SLANE*
Arr. by Mary McDonald

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in honor of this church, Pastor Rick, the Board of Christian Education, and in
gratitude for the scholarship that you have granted me to continue my studies.*

~ Rayna Garcia ~

We pray for Bob Reynolds, Jon VanderVliet, Becky Lepley, Adriane Moulton Headley, Rob Snyder, Marlene Francis, Roberta Hause, Betty Doman, Mervyn Juchartz, Esther Floyd, Katherine Cartee, Chuck Suits, Lynda Berg, Marilyn Marsh, Dakota Lawson, Helga Mortensen, Greg DuBois, Cindy Okarski, Keith Maurer, Beth Granberry, Fay Key, and the Pastoral Search Committee.

*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. 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).

Sunday Morning Ministry Tasks. We invite you, our church family, to join us in making Sunday mornings at FBCA2 happen! Please take a moment to check out our signups at the ministry station in the hallway or online (fbca2.org/connect) and indicate when you're able to read, greet, host fellowship time, serve communion, and/or provide flowers for worship. Thank you for being partners with us!

We need a robust team of folks to make Children's Ministry flourish here at FBCA2 this fall! We have 5 ministry openings to fill. Please reach out to Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org) to express your willingness to serve and to discuss which role - lead teacher, support teacher, children's choir volunteer, nursery caregiver - is best for you. You'll be partnering with many experienced volunteers! Thank you in advance!

Shin-Ae Chun is away today. We welcome Alice van Wambeke to the organ this morning. Alice Van Wambeke is recently retired from St. James Episcopal Church in Dexter where she served as organist and choir director for the past twenty-four years. She is currently an organ substitute locally and serves as an accompanist for Ann Arbor Public Schools. Shin-Ae will be back next Sunday.

Join us for Coming Home Sunday on September 7th! Our Board of Worship friends will be offering a meaningful worship experience as we celebrate coming home. And our children's ministry classes will begin for the fall. After worship it will be time to party! Join us for live jazz music, a delicious popcorn bar, and face painting, too. You won't want to miss this festive regathering of our community after summer travels and summer schedules. Youth Group and our Adult Formation class will begin the following Sunday, September 14th.

Wednesday Bible Study. Starting on September 3, the group will meet on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the memorial lounge. Pastor Rick will lead the group. We will be discussing the lectionary readings for not the coming Sunday, but the next. The readings we will look at on September 3 are Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28; Psalm 14; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; and Luke 15:1-10.

New Offering - Evening Scripture Study! This fall the church will offer a Bible study on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM. The study will focus on the book of Genesis and follow the Yale Bible Study curriculum. A key feature of this Bible study is that participants will be asked to read and reflect on the assigned readings in advance of each meeting. Weekly meetings will be devoted to discussing the week's scripture passages and associated material from the Yale curriculum. Most weeks the readings will take 1-2 hours. Participants are asked to commit to attending most, if not all, weekly meetings, which will be facilitated by Clay Scott. The first meeting will take place on September 17 and the final meeting will take place on November 12. There will be no meeting on October 8. Meetings will be in-person at FBC by default, though some could be switched to virtual depending on group preferences. If you are interested, please look for a sign-up sheet at the Ministry Station in the hallway or online at fbca2.org/connect.

The Gathering is our campus ministry during the academic year. 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 for details. If you can help with a meal for the group, contact Mary Davis (madrad@umich.edu). The first Gathering will be on Wednesday, September 3, at 5:30p in the campus center living room.

Come One, Come All! The choir has openings for singers in every section. We have wonderful singers with us now, but we need to build each of our sections, soprano, alto, tenor, and bass. We have section leaders to help you learn your parts too! If you love to sing, or know anyone who does, can read some music (don't need to be an expert), want to worship God through music, desire to help the congregation sing the hymns more fully, and have lots of fun, you could be in the choir! I will admit it takes commitment though, but don't we want to give our best in the worship of the living God? We rehearse together

each Thursday night from 7pm to 8:30pm, starting September 4. We sing around 120 pieces per season. We rehearse on Sunday mornings starting at 9:15am until the end of the worship service at 11:15am. We sing the Christmas Eve Festival of Lessons and Carols Service from King's College, Cambridge. If you or anyone you know would like to join us, please let me know, come to a practice, see how you do, experience singing in the choir! You might find you love it and think, "why have I waited so long? This is GREAT!" You can see me on any Sunday after worship if you would like to chat about it! Think about it. Pray about it. Here is a famous quote from Shakespeare that I edited long ago: To sing or not to sing, there is NO question!!!! - Bonnie Kidd, Choir Director

Children's Choir for kids in Young 5's through 5th grade begins Sunday, September 14th! Michelle Ding and Charlie Duke look forward to meeting with the children each Sunday from 11:30-12:00p in the Children's Choir room in the Children's Ministry wing. Kids may be picked up from the choir room at noon or they can head to our supervised Play Space until 12:30 when adult and teen formation classes end (12:30p). We are looking forward to a year of fun faith formation through song!

FBC Ladies' Book Club. Our next book club meeting is scheduled for tomorrow, August 25th at 6:30pm. We will meet at Mary Gregg's home to discuss *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict, the story of actress and inventor Hedy Lamarr. Please contact Janice Stumpf (jlstumpf@umich.edu) with any questions! All ladies are welcome!

Blessings of the Animals Service! Join us for a short, festive, outdoor service celebrating the gift of relationship between humans and animals this Sunday, September 28th at 4:00p. Bring your pets for a special blessing here at First Baptist! Alternatively, bring a picture of your pet to be blessed. We'll have Washtenaw Dairy donuts, cider, and pup cups, too! You're invited to make a donation to Maryanne Wright Animal Adoption and Education Center as part our gathering together.

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.



The Pastor Search Committee met on Monday, August 18. Our main task was to begin reviewing applicants. We developed an initial screening rubric which we are using to evaluate the current batch of applicants. Going forward we will use this screening tool to evaluate new applicants on a rolling basis. We continue to develop the next levels of our screening and interview process. We very much appreciate your prayers and support as we take these next exciting steps to discern the person God is calling to the role of Pastor at FBC Ann Arbor.- The FBCA2 PSC

Calendar

August 24	Blessing of Educators & Learners
August 25	FBC Ladies' Book Club @6:30p
August 27	The Gathering at Festifall
September 3	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @5:30p
September 7	Coming Home Sunday Children's Ministry begins
September 14	Children's Choir, Youth Ministry, and Adult Formation begins
September 28	Blessing of the Animals

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*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*

Jillian Mast, *Associate for Youth Ministry*

Christina Alaniz, *Associate for Communications*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

Lindsay Duke, *Childcare Supervisor*

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

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*