



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

15th Sunday after Pentecost
September 21, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING

Xan Morgan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Sandra Bouma

One: Let the light fall golden and warm upon the land;
Let the birds sing their morning song
And let God's people say "Amen."

Many: AMEN.

One: Let tools be stored away,
Let our daily work be over and done
And let God's people say "Amen."

Many: AMEN.

One: Let the autumn flower open and the leaves of fall appear,
Let hearts be glad and minds be calm
And let God's people say "Amen."

Many: AMEN.

PRELUDE

Pastorale (Excerpt)
from *Organ Symphony No. 1, Op. 42*

Alexandre Guilmant
(1837-1911, French)

*INVOCATION (from the Breastplate of St. Patrick)

Sandra Bouma

One: I bind unto myself today
Many: the strong name of the Trinity,
by the invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.

One: I bind unto myself today
Many: the power of God to hold and lead,
God's eye to watch, God's might to stay,
God's ear to hearken to my need;

One: the wisdom of my God to teach,
Many: a hand to guide, a shield to ward,
the word of God to give me speech,
the heavenly host to be my guard.

One: I bind unto myself the name,
Many: the strong name of the Trinity,
by invocation of the same,
the Three in One, and One in Three.

***HYMN** (see insert) *This Day God Gives Me* *ANDREA*
(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

***THE PSALM** from Psalm 103 Sandra Bouma

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul,

Many: All that is within me, bless God's holy name.

One: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and do not forget all God's kindnesses -

Many: who forgives all your sins, who heals all your diseases,

One: who redeems your life from the depths of despair,

Many: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

One: who satisfies you with good as long as you live

Many: so that our youth is renewed like the eagle's.

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

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

***OLD TESTAMENT READING** 2 Kings 5:1-14 Sandra Bouma

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

CONGREGATIONAL SONG (see insert) God Be in My Head *LYTLINGTON*
(Children 5th grade and younger come forward while we sing.)

TIME AS CHILDREN Xan Morgan
(Following Time as Children, kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Church School.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rolf Bouma
The Lord's Prayer ("debts" - hymnal page 896)

ANTHEM *O How Amiable* R. Vaughan Williams

O how amiable are thy dwellings; thou Lord of hosts! My soul hath a desire and longing to enter in to the courts of the Lord: My heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God. Yea, the sparrow hath found her an house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young: even thy altars O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. Blessed are they that dwell in thy house: They will be always praising thee. The glorious Majesty of the Lord our God be upon us: prosper thou the work of our hands upon us. O prosper thou our handy-work. O God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come, Our shelter from the stormy blast, and Our eternal home.

***NEW TESTAMENT READING** 1 Corinthians 1:26-29

Rolf Bouma

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The Beauty in Heroic Anonymity

Rolf Bouma



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

Ubi Caritas

Ola Gjeilo

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exsulemus et in ipso jucundemur.
Timeamus et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincere.
Amen.

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be glad in Him.
Let us fear and love the living God.
May we love each other with a
sincere heart. Amen.*

***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**

Rolf Bouma

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

***HYMN** (see insert) We Cannot Measure How You Heal *YE BANKS AND BRAES*

UPDATE FROM PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE

Gretchen Sanewsky

BENEDICTION

Rolf Bouma

POSTLUDE

Festal Finale

Henry Coleman
(1888-1965, English)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in appreciation of the FBCA2 Staff Team.*

~ The Alaniz family ~

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

We welcome **Rolf Bouma** back to the pulpit this morning. Rolf and Sandy Bouma have lived in Ann Arbor since 2002 and joined FBC in September 2022. They have attended First Baptist since Rolf retired from his campus ministry position at the Campus Chapel in 2018. Rolf continues to teach in the Program in the Environment at the University of Michigan.

Pastor Rick is away visiting family and will return to the pulpit on September 28th.

*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 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 - 3 years). Children through 5th 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 when our formation hour ends.

The Youth Group for students in grades 6-12. Join us in the Youth Room (in the library wing below the sanctuary) from 11:30-12:30 for snacks, games, and meaningful discussion. This fall we will focus on the subjects of hospitality, emotions, relationships, and justice in the Bible and our Christian faith. We will also have some fun afternoon/evening weekend activities! For more information, please contact Jillian Mast (jillian@fbca2.org).

Adult Formation Classes on Sundays at 11:30 in the Memorial Lounge. In today's class, Rolf Bouma will have a sermon "talk back" to discuss this morning's message.

Other scheduled discussions:

- **September 28**, the Board of Mission Action will be discussing the work of Detroit Friendship House.
- **October 5**, Town Hall Transition Update
- **October 12 & 19**, Pastor Rick continues a discussion on *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*, by Walter Brueggemann.

"In our own contemporary context of the rat race of anxiety, the celebration of Sabbath is an act of both resistance and alternative. It is resistance because it is a visible insistence that our lives are not defined by the production and consumption of commodity goods." - Walter Brueggemann.

Wednesday Bible Study. The group meets on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the memorial lounge with Pastor Rick. On September 24, we will be discussing the texts for October 5. These are Lamentations 1:1-6; Psalm 137; 2 Timothy 1:1-14; and Luke 17:5-10.

New Offering - Evening Scripture Study! You are welcome to join us on Wednesday evenings from 7 to 8 PM as we work through the Yale Bible Study curriculum on the book of Genesis. 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. The study will conclude the week before Thanksgiving. If you are interested, please contact the church office.

Faith and Family Gathering for all Children's Ministry families on Friday, September 26th from 6-8p. We'll gather at the Magers' home (4861 Polo Fields Dr. 48103) for pizza, conversation, and supervised play for the kiddos. Can you join us? We hope so! RSVP 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), 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)). The Gathering meets on Wednesdays at 6:00p in the campus center living room.

Blessings of the Animals Service! Join us for a short, festive, outdoor service celebrating the gift of relationship between humans and animals 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.

The Pastor Search Committee met on Monday, September 15 and began our meeting reminded of trusting in God, trusting one another, and trusting the process. We continue to pray together for God's leading for our congregation. We spent our meeting discussing first-level reviews of a group of applicants and shared our experiences of our process.. Our team continues to balance one another and come to solid consensus. We began work on the next level of the interview process anticipating that some of this initial group of applicants may move forward. This week we will be evaluating sermons of this group of applicants. This is an exciting time of discernment that requires us all to trust in God's goodness to us. Thank you for your prayers as we move forward.

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



Calendar

September 24	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @6:00p Evening Scripture Study @7:00p
September 25	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
September 26	Faith & Family Small Group @6:00p
September 28	Blessing of the Animals

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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*