



FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

18th Sunday after Pentecost
October 12, 2025

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *“Worship has power to heal. Important stories of redemption need to be remembered and celebrated. Though a few of us may differ with the psalmist about whether God tests us or tries us, intentionally laying burdens upon our backs, we can certainly celebrate with radical gratitude the spacious places in which we find ourselves, and sing the glory of God’s name.”*

Steve D. Miller

GREETING

Rick Mixon

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 66:1-12

Jamie Mills

One: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth; sing the glory of God’s name; give to the Holy One glorious praise.

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

One: All the earth worships you; they sing praises to you, sing praises to your name.”

All: Come and see what God has done: God’s deeds on our behalf are wondrous.

One: The Holy One turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There we rejoiced in God, who rules by might forever, whose eyes keep watch on the nations— let the rebellious not exalt themselves.

All: Bless God, all you peoples, let the sound of God’s praise be heard, who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.

One: For you, O God, have tested us; you have tried us as silver is tried.

All: You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs; you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water; yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

PRELUDE

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Harold DeCou
(1932-2008, American)

OPENING PRAYER

Jamie Mills

SCRIPTURE READING

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7

Rick Mixon

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

***HYMN 126** Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above *MIT FREUDEN ZART*
(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

***GOSPEL READING** Luke 17:11-19 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 (see insert) God Be in My Head *LYTLINGTON*
(Children 5th grade and younger come forward while we sing.)

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

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

ANTHEM *Come and Taste* arr. by Alice Parker

Come and taste along with me consolation flowing free,
From the Father's wealthy throne, sweeter than the honeycomb.
*I'll praise God and you praise God, and we'll all praise God together;
We'll praise the Lord for the work that He has done,
And we'll bless His Name forever.*

All that come with free good will make the banquet sweeter still;
Now I go to Mercy's door, asking for a little more. *Refrain*

Goodness, running like a stream through the new Jerusalem,
By a constant breaking forth sweetens earth and heaven both. *Refrain*

O, return, ye sons of grace, turn and see God's smiling face.
Hark, He calls backsliders home, then from Him no longer roam. *Refrain*

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.

A Time for Reflection Bruce Prewer

One: Holy Friend, words about you are no substitute for the real thing. We
thank you for the special times of the spirit; for those brief moments of
Divine light, when nothing separates us from you and we can
experience a fragment of pure wonder and love. We thank you for the
simple triggers you choose for these moments of light:

All: A piece of music, a walk by the sea, a phrase in a prayer.

One: The song of a thrush, the eyes of a friend, a line in a hymn.

All: A ripple on still waters, a word of Scripture, the soft cheek of a baby.

One: A tiny bush orchid, a loved one's hug, a parable from Jesus.

All: The midnight stars, an awakened memory, the sharing of bread and wine.

One: Recovering from an illness, a thought in a sermon, the scent of a flower.

All: A child's wonderful discovery, the striking of a clock, the glimpse of a mountain peak.

One: We thank you that we cannot manufacture these times of awe; or predict them; that they are your serendipity gifts, free as grace, more precious than gold.

All: Help us to treasure them, to measure them by what Christ taught us, and to use them as inspiration for the common love and service of ordinary days. To your endless praise and glory. 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 433

All Who Love and Serve Your City
v. 1 Choir vv. 2-5 All

CHARLESTOWN

SERMON

Spacious Places

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

O Jesus, I Have Promised
English Folksong

SALLY GARDENS
arr. by Thomas Keesecker

O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
Be now and always near me, my Savior and my friend.
I shall not fear the journey if you are by my side,
nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.
Oh, let me feel you near me; the world is ever near.
I see the sights that dazzle, the tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me, around me and within;
but Jesus, then draw nearer and shield my soul from sin.

O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still
above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me; your words will make me whole;
now speak and make me listen, O Guardian of my soul.
O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you
that where you are in glory your servants shall be too.
And Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;
Oh give me grace to follow, my Savior and my friend.

***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** *O for a World* *AZMON*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Voluntary in C Major* Alec Rowley
(1892-1958, English)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Pearl Hsu and Harry & Elizabeth Lee.*

~ The Lee family ~

We pray for the family & friends of **Jason Beckman**. We also pray for **Bob Kidd**,
Bob Reynolds, **Jon VanderVliet**, **Becky Lepley**, **Rick Zimmerman**, **Adriane**
Moulton Headley, **Erica Diels**, **Kim Williamson**, **Marlene Francis**, **Roberta Hause**,
Betty Doman, **Mervyn Juchartz**, **Esther Floyd**, **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 downstairs 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. On 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 October 15, we will be discussing the texts for October 26. These are Joel 2:23-32; Psalm 65; 2 Timothy 4:6-8, 16-18; and Luke 18:9-14.

Wednesday 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.

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). The Gathering meets on Wednesdays at 6:00p in the campus center living room.

American Baptist Women's Ministries Fall Fling on Saturday, November 1. This year's theme is "It's Time to Elevate." It will be an encouraging and uplifting day! We will meet at FBC Southfield (21200 Southfield Rd., Southfield, MI 48075) from 8:30a-3:00p, with Keynote Speaker: Rev. Dr. Tamara Scott - Co-Pastor, Galilee Baptist Church, Kalamazoo. Presenters are Rev. Dr. Jessica Kendall Ingram, Rev. Cheryl Swaker, and Rev. Sheree Gidcomb Clark. Innovation Panelists are Rev. Dr. Genetaa Hatcher, The Room Church; Dr. Marilyn French Hubbard, 100 Caring Congregations; and Rev. D. Irene Key, Healing Word Artists. \$35 fee includes breakfast and lunch. This is supported by the ABC Metropolitan Detroit Area (MDA) Women's Ministry and the ABWM Central Area. Hope you will be able to come - see Carolyn Grapentine with any questions.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series presents "Voice and Piano" on Friday, November 7, at noon. Tenor Wesley Donnagan (Assistant Professor at St. Olaf) and pianist Mariah Boucher (Collaborative Pianist at UM) will perform art songs from the different periods written by Strauss, Bonds, Helsel, Beach, Marx, Schubert and Laitman. It will be a beautiful concert. This concert is free and open to the public. Mark your calendar. Invite your friends and neighbors. For more information, visit our church website (www.fbca2.org/ad-libitum-concert-series).

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 appreciated the chance to share in person at the town hall meeting last Sunday. It is truly an honor to serve God and the congregation in this capacity. We met on Monday, October 6, and discussed screening results of another applicant and came to a consensus on questions to ask during the first round of virtual interviews. During this week we will work on a rubric to help evaluate the candidates' answers to the interview questions. We will also reach out to these candidates to schedule interviews which we hope to complete in the next 3-4 weeks. We continue to accept new applicants as they come to us. Please continue your prayers for our committee and for these candidates who are advancing in our process.

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



Calendar

October 15	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @6:00p
October 16	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
November 7	Ad Libitum Concert @12:00p

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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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*