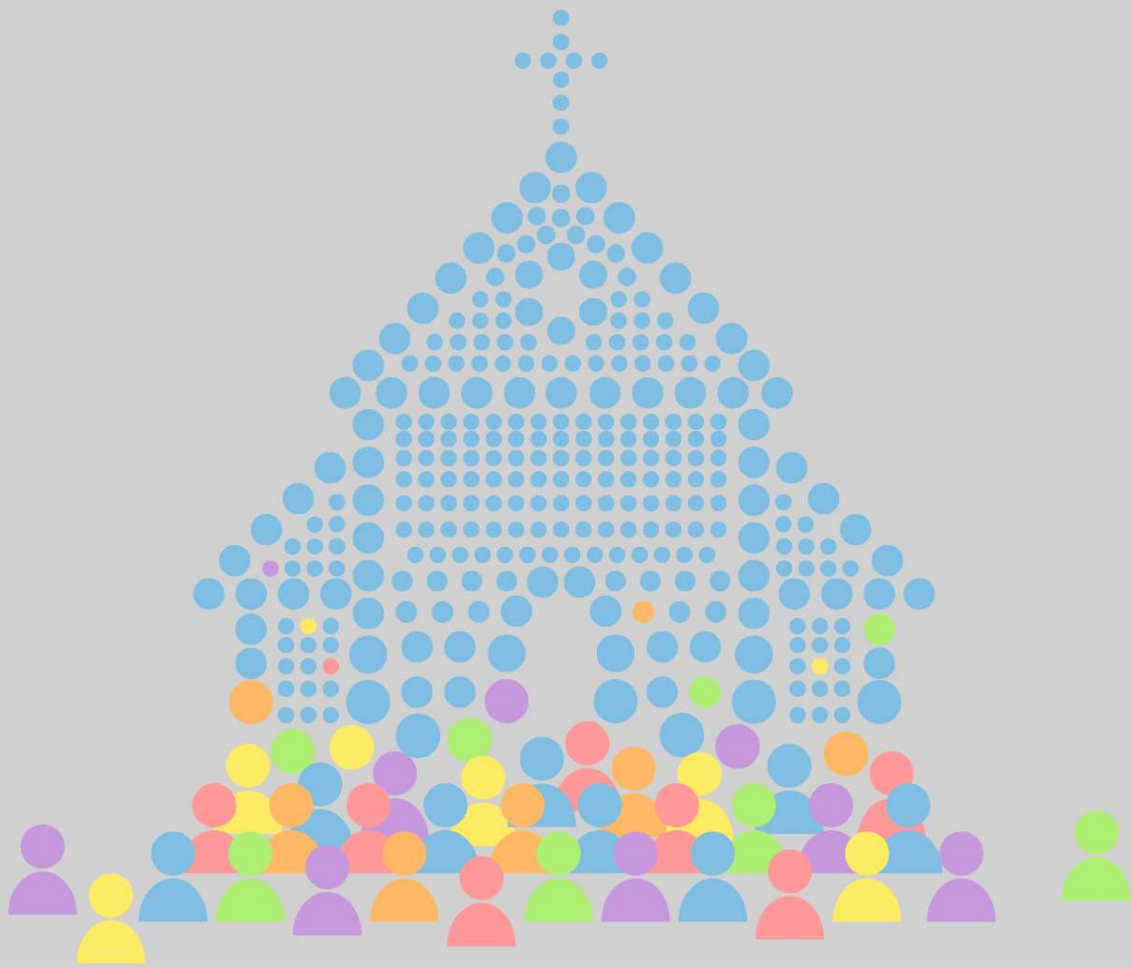


CHURCH IS NOT A PLACE

CHURCH IS A PEOPLE



Sunday, October 19

ORDER OF WORSHIP

19th Sunday after Pentecost

October 19, 2025

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"Take a moment and slowly breathe in and out. It seems simple enough, but breathing is essential to life just as following God's instruction is a vital part of a believer's journey. The Bible is not merely a book to read, but its words can be absorbed in our memories and hearts to prepare us for every stage and emotion we may experience in life. God's instruction offers wisdom as essential as breathing. There is no comparison or competition, and this should bring us joy."*

Jenee' Shearin

GREETING

Xan Morgan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Allie Yan

One: We have gathered in God's holy presence, the One who etches grace on our hearts.

All: This is the place where God will transform us into disciples.

One: We glorify our God, who yearns for justice, not just for a favored few, but for the least of our world.

All: This is the place where God will write compassion on our souls.

One: We give thanks to God for unceasing grace; we remember God's persistence in saving us.

All: This is the place where God will breathe the Word into our lives.

PRELUDE

Toccata Ottava in F Major (Excerpt)
from *Il Primo Libro*

Girolamo Frescobaldi
(1583-1643, Italian)

OPENING PRAYER

Allie Yan

RESPONSIVE PSALM READING

Psalm 119:97-106

Rick Mixon

One: Oh, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.

All: Your commandment makes me wiser than my enemies, for it is always with me.

One: I have more understanding than all my teachers, for your decrees are my meditation.

All: I understand more than the aged, for I keep your precepts.

One: I hold back my feet from every evil way, in order to keep your word.

All: I do not turn away from your ordinances, for you have taught me.

One: How sweet are your words to my taste, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

All: **Through your precepts I get understanding; therefore, I hate every false way.**

One: Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.

All: **I have sworn an oath and confirmed it, to observe your righteous ordinances.**

***HYMN 598**

O Word of God Incarnate

MUNICH

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

***GOSPEL READING**

Luke 18:9-14

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!

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Emmanuel Morgan and Amanda Shutko,
Stewardship Team

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

We Are the Church

PORT JERVIS

Refrain: All

I am the church. You are the church. We are the church together.

All who follow Jesus, all around the world! We are the church together.

Verse 1 and 2: Children's Choir

The church is not a building, the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place, the church is a people. *Refrain*

We're many kinds of people, with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too, from all times and places. *Refrain*

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

(Children are invited to come forward. Following Time as Children, the children will engage with the art and then head to Children's Ministry.)

STEWARDSHIP ART: I AM THE CHURCH

The Servant Song (Beach Spring) by Eric Carlson

Your presence in this community enriches our experience of the Holy. May you find belonging and a role to play here at First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor. Please come forward to place your sticker (in bulletin) on our collective image as you think about your role in the church family. We'll watch the image take shape, over the next few weeks, as we *present ourselves as building stones for a sanctuary vibrant with life.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rick Mixon

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

ANTHEM

A New Commandment

- Thomas Tallis

A new commandment give I unto you saith the Lord.
That ye love together as I have loved you, that e'en so you love one another.
By this shall ev'ry man know that ye are my disciples,
if ye have love to one another.

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 Responsive Time for Reflection Bruce Prewer

One: All thanks belongs to you, Holy Friend.

All: Glory be to you for the deep mystery of our being, and for all that sustains us hour by hour.

One: Glory be to you for our measure of health and strength and the things that make each morning a delight.

All: Glory be to you for the people who are around us and for us; for their friendship and support in good times and bad.

One: Glory be to you for the special gifts we enjoy as Christians; for church, Scriptures, sacraments and fellowship.

All: Glory be to you for the One who has made faith possible; for Jesus your true Son and our Brother and Savior.

One: Glory be to you for his suffering love, and for his blood shed for the healing of the world.

All: Glory be to you for the Holy Spirit, who takes the Word of Christ and makes it sweeter than honey in our mouths. 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 399

Take My Life and Let It Be

MESSIAH

SERMON

A Small "I Am"

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 *A Simple Song* Leonard Bernstein & Stephen Schwartz
Bonnie Kidd, *soprano* & Shin-Ae Chun, *piano*

Sing God a simple song: Lauda, Laudē.
Make it up as you go along: Lauda, Laudē
Sing like you like to sing. God loves all simple things,
For God is the simplest of all, For God is the simplest of all.
I will sing the Lord a new song to praise Him, to bless Him, to bless the Lord.
I will sing His praises while I live. All of my days.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord,
Blessed is the man who praises Him. Lauda, Lauda, Laudē
And walks in His ways.
I will lift up my eyes To the hills from whence comes my help
I will lift up my voice to the Lord, Singing Lauda, Laudē.
For the Lord is my shade, is the shade upon my right hand,
And the sun shall not smite me by day, nor moon by night.
Blessed is the man who loves the Lord, Lauda, Lauda, Laudē
And walks in His ways. Lauda, Lauda, Laudē.
Lauda, Lauda di da di day. All of my days.

***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 593**

Here I Am, Lord

HERE I AM, LORD

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Count Your Blessings

Dan Miller
(b.1954, American)

We 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, 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

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*

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!

We Are the Church Stewardship Season. As we begin our stewardship season, we invite you to join us in giving thanks for all the resources - spiritual, theological, physical, and financial - that support our work together. Your generosity is a meaningful expression of your faith in God and commitment to God's work. You can complete your 2026 pledge card online (fbca2.org/connect) or pick up a pledge card from the pew or at the ministry station in the hallway. Questions? Connect with a member of our Stewardship Team – Toni Burton, Martin Magers, Xan Morgan, Amanda Shutko, and Robbie Stapleton.

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. Today, Pastor Rick continues a discussion on *Sabbath as Resistance: Saying No to the Culture of Now*, by Walter Brueggemann.

Starting November 2, Christians Ruminating on Climate Change: Knowing, Engaging, Coping. For the first three weekends of November, the second hour in the Memorial Room will be devoted to conversations on climate change. Rolf Bouma, who teaches environmental ethics and ecology/religion classes at the University of Michigan, will lead the sessions. The first session will be *Beyond the Bare Facts of Climate Change*, highlighting the range of changes and effects that can be expected as time goes on. The second session will be *Do We Have To Talk About This?*, exploring the challenges of conversations with friends, relatives, and others about climate change. The third session is entitled *Years To Go: Coping with a Changing Climate* and will look at how to live well (for us and others) as the world's climate changes.

Sunday, November 2 is All Saints Sunday. Everyone is invited to participate in creating in the sanctuary a space for remembering. If you have a photograph or a small object to remember someone who has died, please bring it to the church on Sunday October 26 or November 2 for inclusion in the space of remembrance. Please be sure to label your photo or object.

Wednesday Bible Study. The group meets on Wednesdays from 1:00 - 2:00 pm in the memorial lounge with Pastor Rick. On October 22, we will be discussing the texts for November 2. These are Daniel 7:1-3, 15-18; Psalm 149; Ephesians 1:11-12; and Luke 6:20-31.

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).

The FBC Ladies Book Club next meets on Tuesday, November 11, at 6:30p at the Drake's house. They will discuss *Babette's Feast* by Isak Dinesen.

The Pastor Search Committee met on Monday, October 11. We finalized questions and a screening rubric for first round virtual interviews. We have dates set up and will be conducting these interviews during October and November.

We are excited about the candidates who are moving forward! As we move through these interviews we will also be working on questions and a screening rubric for second round interviews. Please be in prayer for this process, for our team and these candidates as we move closer to new pastoral leadership for FBCA2! Thank you for your trust in us and your trust in God's leading.

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

October 16-November 9	We Are the Church Stewardship Season
October 22	Bible Study @1:00p
	The Gathering @6:00p
	Evening Scripture Study @7:00p
October 23	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
November 7	Ad Libitum Concert @12:00p
November 11	FBC Ladies' Book Club @6:30p
December 9	Hikone Sorting/Delivery @9:00a