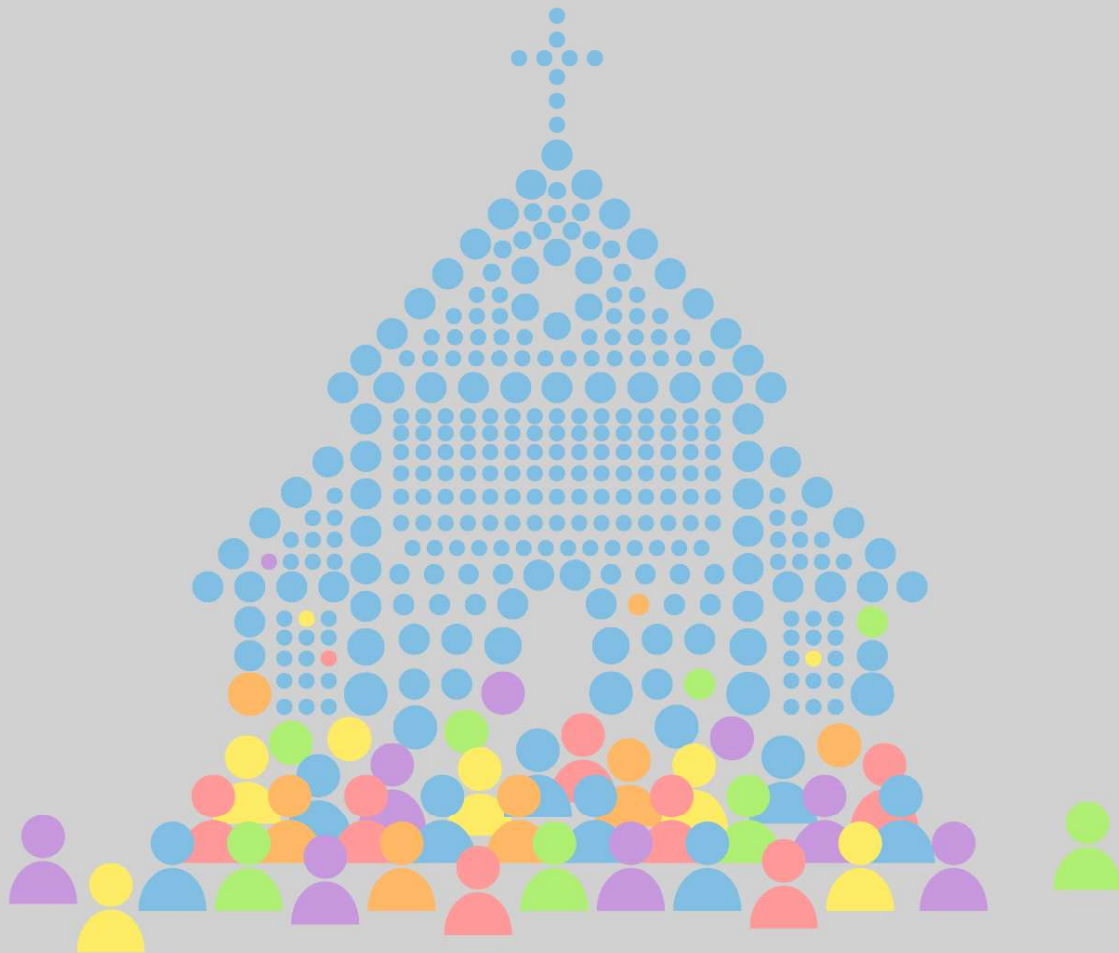
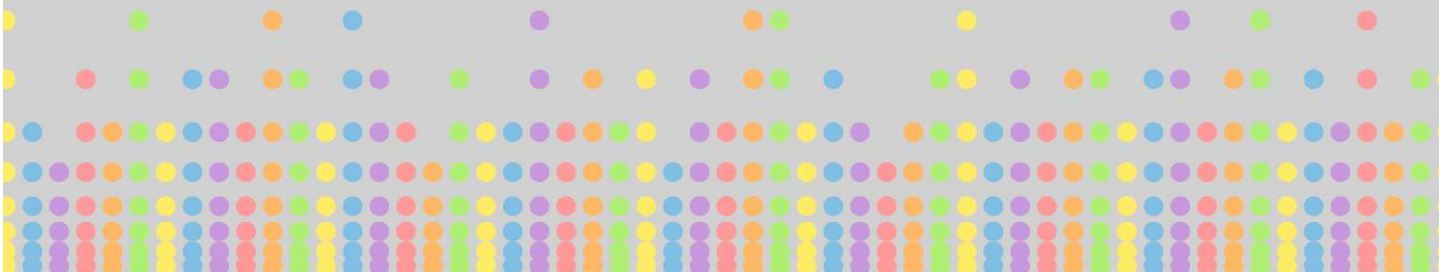


WE DO JUSTICE AND LEARN TOGETHER



Sunday, October 26



ORDER OF WORSHIP

20th Sunday after Pentecost

October 26, 2025

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"You. In the book of Genesis the first word God speaks to a human being is you (Genesis 2:15), and in the book of Revelation, the last word a human being speaks in effect to God is 'Come, Lord Jesus!' which is to say 'Come, you!' (Revelation 22:20).*

It is possible that the whole miracle of Creation is to bridge the immeasurable distance between Creator and Creature with that one small word, and every time human beings use it to bridge the immeasurable distances between one another, something of that miracle happens again."

- Frederick Buechner

GREETING

Xan Morgan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Cesar Alaniz

One: Happy are they whom you draw to your courts to dwell there!

Many: **They will be satisfied by the holiness of your temple.**

One: You make fast the mountains by your power;

Many: **You still the roaring of the seas.**

One: You visit the earth and water it abundantly;

Many: **You drench the furrows and smooth out the ridges;**

One: You crown the year with your goodness,

All: **The meadows cover themselves with flocks,
and the valleys cloak themselves with grain;
let them shout for joy and sing.**

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Dan Miller
(b.1954, American)

OPENING PRAYER

Cesar Alaniz

***HYMN 152**

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

FOREST GREEN

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

***SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalm 84:1-7

DJ Reed

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

Ian & Jamie Mills and
Robbie Stapleton, 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! Yes, we're the church together.

Verse 3: Youth & Young Adults

Sometimes the church is marching, sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding, always it's learning. *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: YOU ARE THE CHURCH

You are the church - nurturing AND being nurtured. How have you been nurtured here? Who has nurtured you? Please come forward to place your sticker (in bulletin) on our collective image as you think about someone in our community that has shown you care. 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.*

Lord, I Want to Be a Christian by Marianne Kim

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DJ Reed

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

ANTHEM

O Give Thanks to the Lord

- Robert Lau

O give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name.

Make known his deeds among the people.

Sing, sing praises to him; tell of his wonderful works.

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

Seek the Lord and his strength; seek his presence.

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart; wean it from earth,
through all its pulses move.

Stoop to my weakness, mighty as Thou art;
and make me love Thee as I ought to love.

O give thanks to the Lord, call upon his name.

Make known his deeds among his people.

Sing, sing praises to him; tell of his wonderful works.

Let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

SHARING OUR MISSION ACTION

Shannon Canniff from Avalon Housing
and DJ Reed, Mission Action Chair

*HYMN 568 Christ for the World We Sing *ITALIAN HYMN*

SERMON Nowhere Else I Would Rather Be DJ Reed

SILENT REFLECTION

INVITATION TO GIVING DJ Reed

OFFERING OF GIFTS *Prayer of St. Francis* Allen Pote
Lucy & Isaac Thompson,
mezzo and baritone soloists

Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.
Where there is injury, thy pardon, Lord. Where there is doubt, let there be faith.
Oh, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there's despair,
let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, let there be light. Where there is sadness, let there be joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console.
To be understood as to understand. To be loved as to love.
Oh, Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. Where there is hatred,
let me sow love.
For it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.
Lord, make me an instrument of thy peace. 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 DJ Reed

*PASSING OF THE PEACE DJ Reed

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

*HYMN 550 (vv. 1-4) *Christ, from Whom All Blessings Flow* *CANTERBURY*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

He Leadeth Me Arr. by Rebecca Bonam
Alexandra DaSilva and Shin-Ae Chun, piano duo

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in appreciation of our church family.*

~ The Alaniz family ~

We pray for Bob Kidd, Bob Reynolds, Jon VanderVliet, Becky Lepley, Rick Zimmerman, Adriane Moulton Headley, Erica Diels, Chuck Suits, Kim Williamson, Keith Pickelmann, 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

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).

Mission Sundays. Please join us after worship to hear more from Shannon Canniff about **Avalon Housing**. Avalon Housing builds healthy, safe, and inclusive supportive housing communities as a long-term solution to homelessness. They emphasize values like dignity, community, self-determination, and overall wellbeing. Please join us during worship and afterwards on our next Mission

Sunday to learn more about Avalon Housing and the powerful work they are doing in our community!

Listening Stations this morning and next Sunday. For those wishing to express their thoughts and feelings on events in the church this week, there will be listening stations in the Fellowship Hall near the stage during Fellowship time.

Adult Formation Classes. 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 next meets this Wednesday, October 29, at 1pm in the campus center living room. 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 Mary Davis 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 20. We began our first round of virtual interviews and will continue them for the next few weeks. We are also working on a process for the next level of in-person interviews including developing questions to ask candidates. We continue to be encouraged by the great caliber of candidates who are engaging with us. We also have hope that God is leading us to the right person at the right time. We join you in prayer as this congregation moves through this challenging time of change. May we trust in the promise of Jeremiah 29:11 "For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

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 29	Bible Study @1:00p
	The Gathering @6:00p
	Evening Scripture Study @7:00p
October 30	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

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

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*

Rev. Rolf Bouma, *Associate for Worship Planning*

Revs. Beth and Bill Foster, *Associates for Pastoral Care*

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*