

A photograph of a rustic ceramic chalice filled with red wine, standing on a burlap surface. A piece of bread, broken in half, lies in the foreground. The text "World Communion Sunday" is overlaid on the left side of the image.

World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 5

ORDER OF WORSHIP

WORDS OF PREPARATION: *"Christians should put survival of the planet ahead of national security...Here is the mystery of our global responsibility: that we are in communion with Christ – and we are in communion with all people...The fact that the people of Nicaragua, Guatemala, El Salvador, Russia, Afghanistan, and Ethiopia are our brothers and sisters is not obvious. People kill each other by the thousands and do not see themselves as brothers and sisters. If we want to be real peacemakers, national security cannot be our primary concern. Our primary concern should be survival of humanity, the survival of the planet, and the health of all people. Whether we are Russians, Iraqis, Ethiopians, or North Americans, we belong to the same human family that God loves. And we have to start taking some risks – not just individually, but risks of a more global quality, risks to let other people develop their own independence, risks to share our wealth with others and invite refugees to our country, risks to offer sanctuary- because we are people of God."*

Henri J.M. Nouwen

GREETING

Xan Morgan

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Melanesia) Rayna Garcia and Xan Morgan

One: For the earth, and all that is part of it: we praise you, O God! For rocks, signs of your strength and your steadfast love: we praise you, O God!

Two: For shells, signs of your variety and your joy in creating this world, which you have given to our care: we praise you, O God!

All: For coconuts and taro, signs of your providence to us: we praise you, O God!

One: For the birds, signs of the freedom that is ours when we recognize that we are your children: we praise you, O God!

Two: For the fish of the sea and the animals that walk on the land, a reminder to us that the new earth is to be a place where your people live, work and share in peace: we praise you, O God!

All: For insects, their variety, spontaneity and way of growth, signs of the dying and rising to new life that is the central message to us of your son, Jesus: we praise you, O God!

One: For the similarities of one group of people to another, signs of your desire that there is but one-fold, and one shepherd: we praise you, O God!

Two: For the difference between one group of people and another expressed to in these islands through the variety of language, tradition, custom, denomination, signs of the challenge of your word and your message to each person: we praise you, O God!

All: For the people present at this celebration, who by their commitment, readiness to learn and listen, and openness of heart and mind are signs of your readiness to forgive the wrongs we commit against you: we praise you, O God!

PRELUDE *Praeludium in G Major* Nicolaus Bruhns
(1665-1697, German)

OPENING PRAYER (Brazil) Rayna Garcia

*HYMN *We Are Marching* (South Africa) *SIYAHAMBA*
(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

SCRIPTURE READING Lamentations 1:1-6; 3:19-26 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 Grace VanderVliet
(Following Time as Children, kids (through 1st grade) will head to Children's Ministry. On the first Sunday of the month, 2nd-5th graders remain in worship for Stay for the Service Sunday - S3!)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rick Mixon
Prayer of Intercession (*Conference of European Churches, 10th Assembly, 1992, Prague*)
The Lord's Prayer ("debts" - hymnal page 896)

ANTHEM *Seek the Lord* John Carter
Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near;
Let the wicked forsake their way, and the unrighteous their thoughts;
Let them return to the Lord, that he may have mercy on them,
And to our God for he will abundantly pardon.
Seek the Lord while he may be found, call upon him while he is near,
Seek the Lord, seek the Lord, seek the Lord.

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.

Prayer of Reflection (USA)

Words of Assurance *Adapted from 2 Timothy 1*

*HYMN

Great Is Thy Faithfulness (USA)

FAITHFULNESS

SERMON

Holding Hope in Hard Times

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

Offertory

John Ness Beck

With what shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings; shall I come before Him with
yearling calves? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, with ten
thousand rivers of oil? Shall I give Him my first-born for my transgressions, the
fruit of my body for the sin of my soul? He has shown you, O man; He has
shown you what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do
justice and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

*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 (High School Students in Zimbabwe)

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Rick Mixon & Xan Morgan

Invitation to the Table (Jordan Rimmer, USA)

The Bread *Jerusalem, My Happy Home* by George Shearing

The Cup *Lord, I Want to be a Christian* by Gilbert M. Martin

The Prayer of Blessing

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Xan Morgan

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

***HYMN**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (Jamaica)

LINSTEAD

BENEDICTION (Japan)

POSTLUDE

Rondo on a Fanfare

Robert J. Powell
(1932-2025, American)

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in admiration of Edith Hurst's gumption and grace.*

~ Elli Barron ~

We pray for Bob Kidd, Bob Reynolds, Jon VanderVliet, Becky Lepley, Rick Zimmerman, Ashley Harrison, Adriane Moulton Headley, Mary Margaret Hatt, Erica Diels, 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.

Today's Fellowship Offering will go towards the denomination-wide **World Mission Offering**, joining the transformational work God is doing around the world through International Ministries' 120+ global servants and 250+ global partners. If donating by check, please write the check to "First Baptist Church" and put "WMO" in the memo line.

*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.

On the first Sunday of each month it's "S3 - Stay for the Service Sunday" when the 2nd-5th grade class will stay in worship for the whole service. This gives the kids an opportunity to experience and participate in the second half of worship. This is a valuable step in their faith formation as worshipers! They are invited to sit with Xan and their classmates during worship. Following worship, the 2nd-5th graders will attend Fellowship Time with their families until Children's Choir begins at 11:30.

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).

First Baptist Church Transition Update. Join us after Fellowship Time for a Transition Update. In our effort to provide updates and be transparent with our church community, Rick will talk about his work during the past year, we will get an update from the PSC, and we will answer the questions submitted by the congregation over the past month.

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 8, we will be discussing the texts for October 19. These are Jeremiah 31:27-34; Psalm 119:97-104; 2 Timothy 3:14-4:5; and Luke 18:1-8.

Wednesday Evening Scripture Study. No class this Wednesday, October 8. Sessions will resume on October 15. 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 (madrada@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.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series presents "Violin Duet" on Friday, October 10, at noon. Two violinists Maria Bessmeltseva and Phoebe Galzer-Govatos will perform pieces written for two violins by Mozart, Bartok and Prokofiev. Maria and Phoebe have brought exciting and refreshing programs to the series in the past. They will join forces again to take the audience to the violin world. This is a free concert and open to the public. Mark your calendar and invite your friends and neighbors. For more information, visit our church website.

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 5 | Transition Update @11:30a |
| October 8 | Bible Study @1:00p |
| | The Gathering @6:00p |
| October 9 | Choir Rehearsal @7:00p |
| October 10 | Ad Libitum Concert @12:00p |

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*