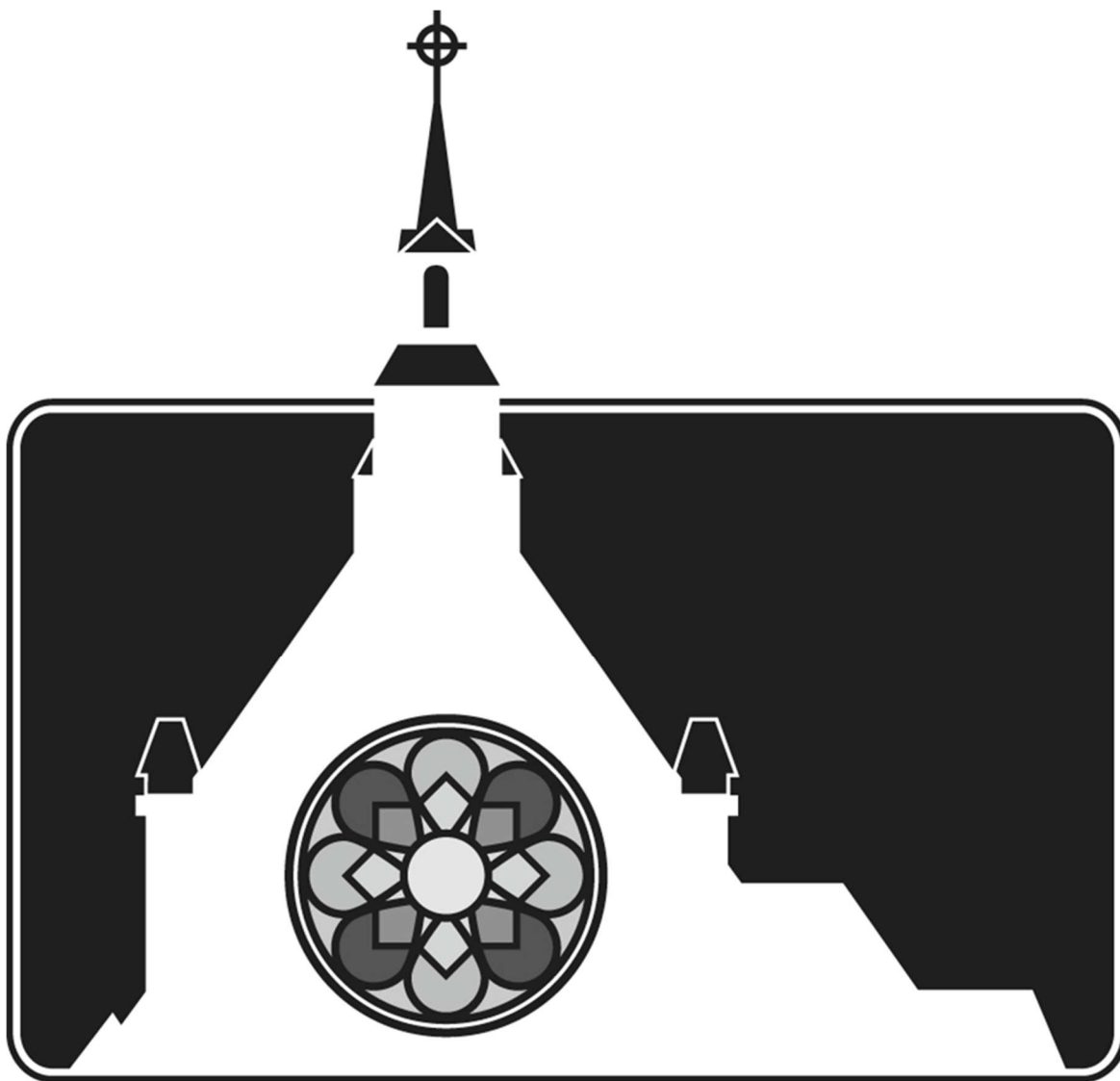




FIRST BAPTIST

CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

9th Sunday after Pentecost
July 26, 2026

ORDER OF WORSHIP

GREETING

Xan Morgan

PRELUDE

Pastorale on Psalm 23

Percy Whitlock
(1903-1946, English)

*OPENING PRAYER

Bonnie Kidd

*HYMN #405 (see insert)

Seek Ye First

SEEK YE

(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

*RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 119:129-135

Bonnie Kidd

One: Your decrees are wonderful; therefore I obey them with all my heart.

Many: When your word goes forth it gives light; it gives understanding to the simple.

One: I open my mouth and pant; I long for your commandments.

Many: Turn to me in mercy, as you always do to those who love your Name.

One: Steady my footsteps in your word; let no iniquity have dominion over me.

Many: Rescue me from those who oppress me, and I will keep your commandments.

One: Let your countenance shine upon your servant and teach me your statutes.

*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung once)

(Children through 5th grade come forward to sing Gloria and then for Time As Children)

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

TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

[Following Time as Children, kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Summer Children's Ministry in the Play Space.]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Xan Morgan

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

*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:31-34, 44-46

Bonnie Kidd

One: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

Rick Stravers

SILENT REFLECTION

INVITATION TO GIVING

Xan Morgan

OFFERING OF GIFTS *Wenn wir in höchsten Nöten sein, BWV 641* J.S. Bach
(1685-1750, German)

When we are in deepest need, and do not know which way to turn,
And find neither help nor counsel, whether we try early or late;
Then this alone is our comfort that we together
Can call on You, O true God, for rescue from fear and need.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

Xan Morgan

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

***HYMN #480** (see insert) O Love that Wilt Not Let Me Go

ST. MARGARET

BENEDICTION

Rick Stravers

POSTLUDE *Warum betrübst du dich, mein Herz (Excerpt)* Samuel Scheidt
(1587-1654, German)

Why are you afflicted, my heart,
Why are you full of care and enduring sorrow
Only for temporal possessions?
Place your trust in your Lord God,
Who has created everything.

*Please stand in body or spirit

*The flowers on the chancel are given to the glory of God
welcoming new beginnings for our church family.*

~ Lynn Suits ~

We pray for **Noreen Wolcott, Donna Tipton, Grange Burnside, Pidgey Karolyi, Kathy Mortensen, Judy Burton, Jon VanderVliet, Mary Margaret Hatt, Erica Diels, Marilyn McKenzie, Keith Pickelmann, Marlene Francis, Roberta Hause, Mervyn Juchartz, Esther Floyd, Marilyn Marsh, Helga Mortensen, Cindy Okarski, Greg DuBois, Keith Maurer, and Beth Granberry.**

Pastor Laura is away July 18-28 on a family trip to Chautauqua, NY. Pastor Laura is serving as the Baptist House Chaplain at Chautauqua Institution. If you have any pastoral needs while she is away, please contact the church office.

We welcome Rev. Rick Stravers to the pulpit today. Rick lives in Kalamazoo with his wife Laurel. He is an Episcopal priest and Zen practitioner. He regularly celebrates Eucharist with the people of Trinity Church in Marshall and facilitates a weekly Zen meditation group at St Martin of Tours Episcopal Church in Kalamazoo. Rick is proud to be Xan Morgan's dad and Emmanuel, Asher, and Piper's grandpa! He enjoys practicing TaiChi and QiGong, reading poetry, and studying the spiritual path.

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 outside for lemonade after the service. 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 through 3 years) upstairs. Children who have completed 5th grade and younger, leave for Summer Children's Ministry following Time as Children in the Play Space upstairs and should be picked up after worship. If you are visiting and would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

The Youth Group for students in grades 6-12. Youth group on Sundays will resume in the fall. Keep an eye out for youth activities this summer. For more information, please contact Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

We need your help! Thank you to everyone who has signed up for Sunday Morning Ministry task. It takes a lot of us to make Sunday mornings go smoothly and we still have quite a few openings this summer. Please find our up-to-date signups online at fbca2.org/connect. We invite you to go check out what opportunities remain and sign up for a few in these summer months. You'll find detailed information about each ministry in the description on SignUp Genius.

Community Action Network (CAN) Back-to-School Drive. Each year our congregation helps equip the students in the seven locations served by Community Action Network (CAN) for the new school year. This year 300 backpacks are needing to be filled! Please give generously to this special ministry. The Amazon wishlist can be found at fbca2.org/connect or if you'd prefer to give a financial donation, please send a check made out to Sue Ellen Glover c/o First Baptist Church, 517 E Washington, 48104. All donations are needed by August 5 in order to be sorted and distributed to the seven communities.

FBAC2 at Ann Arbor Pride! As a Welcoming and Affirming church, we have a commitment to offering a counter-witness to the messages of condemnation, exclusion, rejection, and even hatred the LGBTQ+ community has historically received from churches and from Christians. We'll be hosting a table at Ann Arbor Pride this Saturday, August 1 (noon-9p) to help offer a public witness to love and welcome for all, especially for those who have not felt welcomed elsewhere. Sign up to help host (fbca2.org/connect)! All are invited to stop by our FBAC2 tent!

Join Pastor Laura and Xan for dinner and the Flamy Grant concert! On Saturday, August 8th, artist Flamy Grant will be in town singing at Zion Lutheran Church. We hope you'll join us for the concert (ticket link at fbca2.org/flamygrant) and if you're able, dinner beforehand too! We'll gather at HOMES Campus at 5:00p and then head over to the concert around 6:30p. Please note that there are two HOMES locations; we'll be at the 112 Jackson Road location. See you there!

Habitat for Humanity & FBC. As in past years, our congregation has committed financial support to the Good News House projects. We are asking you to contribute as you have in the past to aid this effort to provide affordable housing in our community. We have committed to raising \$2500 in 2026. Checks can be written to FBC, with H4H in the memo line. Reach out to Scott Diels (hscottdiels@gmail.com) if you have any questions about Habitat or about volunteering for our second work day on Friday, August 21.

AMOS trip. For many years, our church has been blessed to partner with AMOS Health & Hope in Nicaragua, walking alongside rural communities as they work toward improved health and well-being. We are actively recruiting for two upcoming opportunities to serve with AMOS in Nicaragua—from October 9–18, 2026, in partnership with the First Baptist Church of McMinnville (five spots available for adults of all ages)—and May 21–30, 2027, designed especially for young adults at FBAC2 (up to 15 spots available). As we have done in the past, the church will help offset a portion of the trip costs for individuals, and we will organize fundraising opportunities to help raise project costs. To express interest and/or receive more information, please contact Marissa Alaniz at marissacalaniz@gmail.com.

Summer Hours. For the month of August, the main office and building will be open Monday through Thursday from 8:30a-12:30p and Friday from 9:00a-1:00p.

Land Acknowledgement. We acknowledge that we are gathered on the ancestral homeland of the Anishinaabe 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

July 26	Worship @10:00a
August 1	Ann Arbor Pride
August 8	Flamy Grant Concert
August 10	Board of Christian Education Meeting
August 20	Board of Outreach Meeting
August 21	H4H Workday
August 26	Board and Staff Retreat

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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Rev. Laura Harris-Adam, *Senior Pastor*
Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*
Christina Alaniz, *Associate for Communications*
Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*
Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*
Kat Becker, *Administrator*
Lindsay Duke, *Childcare Supervisor*
Lee Foley, *Buildings & Grounds*