



THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
AUGUST 13, 2023  
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP  
FBC SANCTUARY  
11:00 A.M.

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*I didn't need to understand the hypostatic unity of the Trinity; I just needed to turn my life over to whoever came up with redwood trees.*

- Anne Lamott

Gathering Music

"How Deep the Father's Love For Us"

Stuart Townend/Marilynn Ham. © 1995 Thankyou Music/EMI CMG Publishing  
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Prelude

"Air (Orchestra Suite in D Major)"

Bach/Caspar Koch. © 1941 G. Schirmer, Inc. Found in the public domain

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

\* Call to Worship

John Pauls

Leader: Are you ready? God is about to do a new thing!

**People: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.**

Leader: Can you hear it coming?

**People: May justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

\* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 27)

"Morning Has Broken"

BUNESSAN

\* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord!**

*If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.*

\* Responding in Peace (CONGR 20)

"Creation Sings (the Father's Song)"

CREATION SINGS

**Hallelujah! Let all creation stand and sing.**

**"Hallelujah!" Fill the earth with songs of worship; tell the wonders of creation's King.**

\* Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams

Matthew 5.3-10

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

*\* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer

“BWV 1034, Sonata in E Minor, i. Adagio ma non tanto”  
by J. S. Bach. Public domain

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

**Merciful God, your creatures cry-creation groans-but we turn away; we surround ourselves with noise. We are quick to excuse ourselves from responsibility: we are young; we are old; we are tired; we are busy. It is hard to imagine that we might make a difference. Life-giving God, wash us clean. Restore our imaginations and our hearts. Let your courage and compassion flow through our veins until we love with abandon and our hands reach out in blessing, for the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God.**

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Siblings in Christ, hear the word of the Lord. In the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus, God says unequivocally, irrevocably: you are my own; you are forgiven; and I need you to be about my business in the world.*

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Volunteer Appreciation

Rev. Cristina Adams and Spiritual Formation Team

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

“Open My Eyes” (Deux Arabesques)  
Debussy, Clara H. Scott / David Schwoebel. © 1998 MorningStar Music Publishers.  
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\* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

*(Those wishing to attend Children's Church may leave now.)*

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant  
Psalm 85

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant  
Season of Creation: Faithfulness Springing Up

\* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 23)

“All Things Bright and Beautiful”  
ROYAL OAK

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

“Allemanda” (Concerto Grosso No. 10)

Arcangelo Corelli / Kevin Norris. © 1980 Lorenz Publishing Co./ The Lorenz Corp.

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TODAY IN WORSHIP

*Liturgist: John Pauls    Organist Evelyn Falen*

*Special music: Margaret Lambie*

*Livestream Video Crew: Brenda Schenkel, Matthew Johnston*

*Sound: Shane Schenkel*

*Welcome Table: Laura McCorkill*

*YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Susan Pauls*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Local Church: United Church of Christ*

*American Baptist Churches, USA; Region Exe. Min. Rev. Dr. James Kelsey, serving churches in New York State*

*International Ministries Missionaries: Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga, serving the Dominican Republic, Haiti*

*Cover photo: Used with permission istock.com/Mumemories/1130636356*

Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.

The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Senior Pastor

Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Administrative Support Manager

Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Bookkeeper

Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Building Manager

Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Digital Media Coordinator

Mark Robinson – mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Director of Worship Music

Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist

Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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