



"Daniel in the Lions' Den"
Henry Ossawa Tanner (Pittsburg, PA, 1859–1937), 1907–1918



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 22, 2024
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 22, 2024

I want to be angry at systems and I want to disrupt those systems in direct action like Jesus, but I never, ever want to weaponize my anger toward others...Our anger should never be used to inflict pain on people. Where is the logic in that? I'm so angry about violence toward one person that I'll turn and seek violence toward another. No, we must be resolvedly, meticulously, wholeheartedly nonviolent – even when we don't know what, as Mr. Rogers says, to do with the mad that we feel.

— Osheta Moore

Gathering Music

“When I Can Read My Title Clear”

Scottish Melody/Mark Hayes. © 2003 Alfred Music Pub. Co. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

“Voix Celeste”

Charles Sergisson. © 1954 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Rev. John Williams

Psalm 1

Leader: Happy are those who take delight in the law of the Lord.

People: They are like trees planted by streams of water. In all that they do they prosper.

Leader: For the Lord watches over the way of the righteous.

People: May God number us with the righteous as we worship the Lord.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 5)

“Come, Great God of All the Ages”

ABBOT'S LEIGH

* 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 306, vs. 3)

“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”

MADRID

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams

John 6.10–15

Leader: This is the word of God for the people of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

Rev. Cristina Adams

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer (CONGR 383)

"Near to the Heart of God"
McAFEE

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Unison Discipline of Confession

All wise and understanding God, hear our prayer as we confess our sin. Have mercy upon us, for we are deceitful and foolish. Ambition controls our relations with others; cheating and lying help us gain more control. We are surrounded by values that bring disorder. We are victims of selfishness that distorts your truth. Save us from boasting and serving unworthy ends; save us for Christ in whom alone abides peace.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of the cross." (Col. 1.19–20) In the peace that Christ won abides our assurance of pardon.

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

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"He Hideth My Soul "
William J. Kirkpatrick/Mark Hayes. © 2003 Alfred Music Pub. Co. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those attending Children's Church may leave now.)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
Daniel 6.1–13, 16a

Ministry of Music

"He Never Failed Me Yet"
Robert Ray. © 1982 Jenson Publications, Inc. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
"Transforming the World: The Den of Lions"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 477)

"We Are Called to Be God's People"
AUSTRIAN HYMN

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

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

“Maestoso”

Elizabeth T. Van Woert. © 1954 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams

Liturgist: Rev. John Williams • Organist: Evelyn Falen • Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Chancel Choir Soloists: Meredith Bagwell-Gray, Stephanie Robinson, Theo Keesee

Livestream Video Crew: Jim Lord, Susan Pauls • Sound: Marylee Southard

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Hannes Combest

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: First Christian Church

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Brian D. Johnson,
serving the American Baptist Churches of Michigan

International Ministries Global Servants: Joel & Trish Hoefle-Magal, serving in Thailand

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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:

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Senior Pastor

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Administrative Support Manager

Bookkeeper

Building Manager

Digital Media Manager

Director of Worship Music

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able