



**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
NURTURE. LOVE. SERVE. ALL.



Pablo Sanaguano (Ecuadorian, 1964–), *Feast of Creation*, 1994

November 21, 2021
Christ the King Sunday

Welcome to worship this morning with the First Baptist Church of Christ. We are thrilled to be back worshipping in our sanctuary after a year outside of our building. As we gather this morning know that we are committed to everyone's safety and comfort as we create sacred space and time together.

Things to Know

- Masks are required at all times during worship, when moving through the building, and when with children. Each Sunday school class is making its own decisions regarding masks in class.
- Available pews have cushions in them. Unavailable pews have the cushions removed.
- Please keep social distance by avoiding gathering in groups before and after the service.
- Be mindful of others. Err on the side of caution out of respect for those who are abiding by stricter practices.
- Participate in the service as much or as little as you like. Stand when others stand, or remain seated. Sing when others sing, or enjoy the way this old sanctuary fills with sound. Invitations to stand as you are able are marked with an asterisk (*). Invitations to respond in word or song are noted in bold.
- If you have any questions or concerns, please find an usher.

For Those With Children

Thank you for bringing a child to worship! Take a deep breath and know they are welcome here. Parents with infants are more than welcome to remain in the sanctuary, or ushers can direct you down the back stairs to a comfortable room with sound from the sanctuary so all can still hear the service. A nursery is provided for children younger than 3. Preschoolers (age 3-kindergarten) are invited to leave after "Let the Children Come" for our W.O.W. (Working on Worship) experience.

For Those with Special Needs

Thank you for joining us for worship! We love our historic buildings, but know they can be a challenge for those with mobility needs. Know that we are committed to doing all we can to make this space welcoming to everyone. Reserved seating for those in wheel chairs and those sitting with them is found near the elevator, and is marked with signs on the walls and on the back of the pews. Please don't hesitate to ask an usher for assistance. Large print bulletins are available at both entrances. If you have special hearing needs, please ask one of the ushers to bring you a hearing assistance device from the sound booth in the back, or feel free to go back there and get one. An accessible restroom is located up one floor across from the office. If you, or someone with you, requires special assistance for any reason, please find a minister or an usher.

THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

The Sounding of the Hour

Anne Armstrong

Andrew Fuller, acolyte

Prelude

"Rejoice, the Lord Is King"
Anne Armstrong, organ

arr. Charles Callahan

The Call to Worship

Phoebe Capps

You have put on beautiful clothes, Holy One—this amazing universe!

You have made the nothingness solid with an intricate web of laws.

And brought life into being by your love,

to evolve its own forms and find its own heart.

Louder than the pounding waves, larger than the sea is your voice whispering, still and small, in our hearts.

From everlasting to everlasting you Are.

(Improvisation of Psalm 93)

*The Hymn of Praise 215

Rejoice, the Lord Is King

DARWALL

**Rejoice, the Lord is King:
Your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing,
And triumph evermore:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Jesus, the Savior, reigns,
The God of truth and love;
When He had purged our stains,
He took His seat above:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**His kingdom cannot fail,
He rules both earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to our Jesus given:
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

**Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord and judge shall come
And take His servants up
To their eternal home.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!**

*The Invocation

JD Granade

*The Gloria Patri 705

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. amen.**

The Words of Welcome

Kelsey Stillwell

"Let the Children Come"

JD Granade

Children in 3K-K are invited to W.O.W., a preschool worship experience! We will meet with the W.O.W. Shepherds at the end of "Let the Children Come." Parents, please come pick up your children immediately after worship. The W.O.W. shepherd this week is Phoebe Capps.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The Hymn of Offertory 371

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom His world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
To keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,
The Son, and Him who reigns with them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

*The Offertory Prayer

Tricia Whitby
Deacon of the Week

The Offertory Anthem

"For the Beauty of the Earth"
The Chancel Choir

John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth
For the glory of the skies
For the love which from our birth

Over and around us lies.
(Refrain)

Lord of all, to Thee we raise
This our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of each hour
Of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r
Sun and Moon and stars of light.
(Refrain)

For the joy of human love
Brother, sister, parent, child
Friends on earth and friends above
For all gentle thoughts and mild
(Refrain)

For each perfect gift of Thine
To our race so freely given
Graces human and divine
Flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n
(Refrain)

*The Offertory Response

"Doxology"

OLD 100TH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

THE OFFERING OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Psalms 93

Cindy Fuller

The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty;
the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;
your throne is established from of old;
you are from everlasting.
The floods have lifted up, O LORD,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring.
More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the LORD!
Your decrees are very sure;
holiness befits your house,
O LORD, forevermore.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

Thanks be to God

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Kelsey Stillwell

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespassed against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever, Amen.

The Second Lesson

John 18:33-37

Kelsey Stillwell

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

For the Good News of God,

Thanks be to God

The Sermon

"Out of This World"

Kelsey Stillwell

THE BREAD & CUP OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Solo

"Give Thanks"
Cameron Rolling, bass

Henry Smith

THE OFFERING OF THE COMMITMENT

*The Hymn of Commitment 378 We Gather Here in Grateful Praise

TRURO

**We gather here in grateful praise,
In prayer and song our voices raise,
For all our blessings, large and small,
We thank You God, who gives us all.**

**For loved ones, family, treasured friends,
Eternal life that never ends.
For daily bread, sins washed away,
We thank You God, afresh each day.**

**We thank You for the sacred word,
And for the call Your church has heard
To live as You would lead each day,
We thank You God, Your will obey.**

**Praise God, the source of everything,
Praise God, the Son, our Lord and King,
Praise God, the Holy Spirit near,
We thank You God, for You are here.**

*The Spoken Benediction

Kelsey Stillwell

*The Congregational Response 512 "We Go in Peace"

Keith Christopher

We go in peace, we go in love,
We go with grace and mercy from the Lord above
To tell the world this very thing:
That Jesus Christ is Lord and King!

Postlude

"Now Thank We All Our God"
Anne Armstrong, organ

Sigfrid Karg-Elert



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Sunday, November 21

9:45 am Sunday school
 11:00 am Worship with Communion
 4:00 pm Advent Workshop
 5:30 pm Community Youth Group

Monday, November 22

9:00 am Crisis Closet

Wednesday, November 24

Church closed for Thanksgiving.
 No Wednesday evening activities.

Thursday, November 25

Church closed for Thanksgiving.
 Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, November 28

9:45 am Sunday school
 11:00 am Worship
 Recognition of Joe Johnson

Deacons of the Week

November 18 Tricia Whitby
 November 25 Shereé Keith

THE RECORD SPEAKS

Date:	9/30/2021
Budget to Date	\$485,611
Contributions	\$403,580
Expenses	\$416,974
Missions	\$40,383
	-\$53,777

November Birthdays

November 21	MaKayla Johnson
November 24	Dee Bratcher
November 26	Carol Taylor
November 26	Kelly Whiddon
November 28	Lydia Eason

Condolences

We grieve with Beverly Penley and her family in the death of her sister-in-law **Susie Pape**.

We grieve with William Underwood III and his family in the death of his father **William Underwood, Jr.**

Save the Date

Saturday, December 11

Parents' Night Out

Sunday, December 12

Lessons and Carols
 Youth Christmas Party

Wednesday, December 15

Children's Christmas Program

Tuesday, December 21

Service for the Longest Night



**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST**
NURTURE • LOVE • SERVE • ALL

ADVENT 2021

11/21

4:00PM

ADVENT WORKSHOP
FOR CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

LESSONS AND CAROLS
DURING MORNING WORSHIP

12/12

11:00AM

12/15

6:30PM

CHILDREN'S CHOIR
PROGRAM

SERVICE FOR THE
LONGEST NIGHT

12/21

6:00PM

12/24

5:30PM

CHRISTMAS EVE
CANDLELIGHT SERVICE

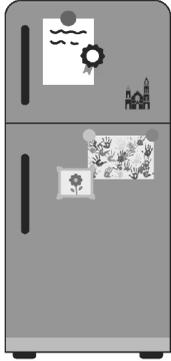
SUNDAY WORSHIP
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL

12/26

11:00AM

ALL EVENTS ARE IN PERSON
SERVICES WILL ALSO BE LIVE STREAMED

The Fridge Door



A place to display the small moments that make up the larger story of the church.

Nobody wants to be sick, injured or hurt. We prefer to be in good physical and mental health. But if you have to be sick, home is the place to be sick. At home, people love and care for you. It's nice to have a home at First Baptist Church of Christ. Here folks pray for you, call you and write you to express their love for you. Sometimes they even send flowers to you. FBCX is truly a place to be home.

Monday Flower Crew

We need some help dividing the flowers placed in the sanctuary on Sunday into smaller bouquets. You would arrange flowers into vases on Monday mornings once per month, to be taken by others to those FBCX members who are sick or experiencing loss. It is a rewarding, vital FBCX ministry, and we need your help fulfilling it. If you would like to contribute 1–2 hours per month as part of the Floral Arts Servant Team, please contact Fay Boie at 478-745-9768 or the FBCX office.

Wednesday Nights Through the End of the Year

Join us for Wednesday night Church at 6:30pm!

Nov 24: No Wednesday night activities

Dec 1: Year-End Church Conference
6:00pm Scott leads Bible Study to follow

Dec 8: Scott leads Bible Study

Dec 15: Children's Choir Program

Dec 22: No Wednesday night activities

Update from Pandemic Task Force

As we prepare for the Advent and Christmas holidays and beyond, our Pandemic Task Force will meet in the coming days to assess our current policies and chart a course for the season ahead. We are grateful for the congregation's cooperation throughout this long season!

MISSIONS

Book Drive

We are collecting books to gift to our neighbors and we need your help. Everyone who comes to the December Crisis Closet will receive a new book for their children. This went well last year and we are hopeful that this Christmas will be just as meaningful.

We won't be able to let them do the choosing, but we will provide them with an age appropriate book. We want our selection of books to be inclusive and representative of the folks who come to the crisis closet. We want them to be uplifting and the kinds of books that make you want to read. There are several ways you can help:

1. Buy some NEW books and drop them off at the church. Shop for the age categories of: babies, preschool, early elementary, late elementary, middle and high school. Help us out by marking your books with its age group. (Babies, preschool, and elementary are needed most.)
2. Shop on our Amazon Wish List. You can buy them and have them delivered to the church. Search FBCX Christmas Book Wishlist on Amazon. *Please keep delayed delivery times in mind, and order ASAP.
3. Donate money. We will shop for you.

We are asking that you purchase new books for children. However, last year we had a few adults interested in books for themselves. We

welcome used book donations for adult readers to have on hand for visitors who would like to have one.

Drop off your books at worship on Sunday or contact Kelsey to arrange a time to have them picked up. Check your email and follow posts for updates on which age groups we need more books.

Books are needed by Sunday, December 19th.

Special Missions Offering Report

Together we raised \$4,000 for Global Missions!

Thank you all for your generous giving and for being a part of the mission of God around the world! Your donations will go to the CBF Global Missions Offering that supports the long-term presence of CBF field personnel and support the ministry of our Encourager Church partners, Jonathan and Tina Bailey, in Bali, Indonesia.

JOE JOHNSON RETIRING

After serving on our church staff for the past eight years, Joe Johnson will retire at the end of this month. Joe first joined our staff in 2013 as our Facilities Manager, and through the years has taken on bookkeeping and human resources responsibilities to assume the role as Church Administrator. Joe eased into retirement last year, giving up responsibilities with the building and moving to part-time to handle our books. He announced earlier this year that he would step down fully at the end of November.

Joe has been such a gift to our church over his time on staff and for many years before as he chaired our Properties Committee. He continues to volunteer with the A/V servant team and his intimate knowledge of the buildings has been, and will continue to be, invaluable. Perhaps more than anyone over these last eight years, Joe has had the thankless job of making sure all the parts of the church we too often take for granted run smoothly. He's done so with care, intentionality, and grace.

We give thanks to God for Joe and Mary Jane Johnson. For her part, Mary Jane has served as our wedding coordinator for the last several years, and will give up those duties to ensure they both can enjoy this retirement together.

We will recognize Joe at the end of worship on November 28. Please offer Joe your thanks for these years of service among us.

CHILDREN

Upcoming Worship Arts:

December 1: Creating Sacred Space with DeWayne Moore

December 8 and 15: Movement and Drama with Chris Kirby and Monica Stevens

Center Peace: an Advent Workshop

Today!

4:00-5:00pm

As we prepare for this season of waiting, children and their families are invited to join us either in person to enjoy winter treats while you create an Advent centerpiece and receive your family devotional. If you can't make it, you'll also find digital instructions and access to the devotional in the children's ministry newsletter or by emailing JD.

The Advent Workshop is designed for your family to prepare to observe this season at home together. This complements Advent worship with our church as we partner together in spiritual development.

Save the Date:

Parents' Night Out: December 11

YOUTH

Community Youth Group

Today, we're hosting at FBCX!

5:30-7:30pm

Dinner, missions, and games

Giant Advent Calendar for Youth Room

Kelsey is creating a giant Advent Calendar for the youth room and needs your help!

Stacked shoe boxes will be numbered and as we countdown to Christmas, the youth will open them each time we gather. We are collecting wrapped shoe boxes and if you'd like to fill it yourself you can!

-Drop off of 1 or 2 wrapped shoe boxes for us to use. Wrap the lid and box separately.

-Filling boxes: I only have a few suggestions: the rest is up to you! You can pack the box with something for the entire group to share (Christmas decoration for the youth room, funny game to play, etc) or individual items for each youth (candy, fidget toys, encouraging card, etc.). Plan for 20 youth. We will use these boxes as conversation starters, so include a favorite Advent verse, poem, artwork, devotion, etc with us. This can be very short and simple.

Kelsey will fill empty boxes, so you do not have to turn in a filled shoe box. Dropping off wrapped shoe boxes is a huge help. Let Kelsey know if you can bring a box!

Drop off boxes by Sunday, November 28th.

Backpack Ministry

Tuesday, December 7th, 5:00-6:00

Forest Hills United Methodist Church

Looking for 3 or 4 youth or a family to pack bags.

Save the Date: Youth Christmas Party

Sunday, December 12th

NOW. HERE. THIS.

Since 2015, the central part of our Thanksgiving celebration here at the church has been to gather with our friends and neighbors from the First Baptist Church on New St. for a potluck.

Perhaps more than any other activity or event we have shared, this annual meal has embodied what we have hoped to build since renewing our relationship six years ago: communion, trust, honest conversation, friendship, and a shared sense of identity and purpose.

We have been intentional in focusing more on sharing meals together than sharing worship. Those services have been meaningful too, but I'm not sure they would have been as rich without the experience of sharing a table together and eating each other's food.

One of the magical things about tables is that, when we share them, we can't help but see each other "face to face," as Paul puts it in 1 Corinthians. There's a vulnerability inherent to tables and shared meals. This is especially true of potlucks, where everyone contributes, offering their specialty to the whole.

One of my mentors from seminary, Matt Myer Boulton, a writer and theologian, says the steps to honest dialogue across differences are to "eat together, play together, and hold each other's babies."

And when we think about it, what could be more worshipful? And isn't this what we do with family and friends around this time of year?

Sadly, like so many things, this standing Thanksgiving date was put on hold last year. Sadder still, we will put it on hold this year as well. In speaking with Pastor Goolsby recently, we both agreed that, as our congregations ease back into our rhythms, it would be too much to try gather together just yet. We will look forward to coming together in the year ahead, we hope in many different ways.

So we will celebrate Thanksgiving and the grace of gratitude in worship this morning. We'll celebrate the Lord's Supper and call to mind that meal that is so central to our faith and understanding of what love is and what discipleship demands.

We'll sing Thanksgiving hymns that give poetic voice to our tenderness. And even as we are not out of the woods just yet, we'll nonetheless invite each other to give thanks to God for how far we have come in this long, long season.

SHD

Poinsettia Order

Please tear out and return this form with a \$10 check payable to First Baptist Church of Christ. You may also submit an order online using the link found in the High-lites email or at fbcxmacon.org/poinsettias. THEN pay using our online giving portal and selecting seasonal flowers. Deadline to order is Monday, December 6.

In memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

In appreciation of: _____

Given by: _____

Number of Poinsettias: _____ Amount: _____

Signs of the Season

The paraments of the pulpit and the Communion table and the ministers' stoles are visible reminders of the current season of the church year. Christ the King Sunday celebrates the all-embracing authority of Christ the King and Lord of the cosmos. Officially called the Feast of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King, it is celebrated on the final Sunday of Ordinary Time, the Sunday before Advent. The liturgical color for this Sunday is white.

Flowers

The sanctuary flowers are given by Carol Martin to the glory of God in memory of her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Stephen (Claudia) Martin, Sr.; her sister and brother-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. Warren (Jeanne) Reynolds; her brothers, Mr. Stephen Martin, Jr. and Mr. Robert L. Martin.



511 High Place Macon, GA 31201 • (478) 742-6485 • email: office@fbcxmacon.org
• www.fbcxmacon.org • Wifi: fbcx-Guest Password is: welcome511

Staff and Leadership

Ms. Anne Armstrong
ORGANIST

Ms. Phoebe Capps
MINISTRY INTERN

Rev. Scott Dickison
PASTOR

Mr. Chuck Dumas
CHAIR OF DEACONS

Mrs. Harriet Eason
VICE CHAIR OF DEACONS

Rev. JD Granade
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR CHILDREN
AND CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Mr. Joe Johnson
FINANCE & HR ADMINISTRATOR

Ms. Tierra Johnson
CUSTODIAN

Mr. Bradley Lott
FACILITIES MANAGER

Ms. Suzy McCullough
CHAIR OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Mrs. Connie Pursiful
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Dr. Stanley L. Roberts
MINISTER OF MUSIC

Rev. Kelsey Stillwell
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH
AND MISSIONS