



James B. Janknegt (American, 1953–), *Make All Things New*, 2005.
Oil on canvas, 48 × 96 in.

Sunday, October 30, 2022
The Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to worship with the First Baptist Church of Christ.

Whatever road has brought you here and wherever you should go once we depart, know that you are welcome in this space fully and completely, and that the image of God we all bear together this hour is more complete because you are here as a part of it.

Things to Know

Masks are now optional on the church campus. We understand there are those within the congregation who will need or want to continue to wear masks, and we will continue to keep masks around the church for those who may want to use them.

Restrooms can be found through the double doors on the side near the elevator, one flight of stairs up or one flight down.

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.

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. 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

Maddie Meyer, acolyte

The Prelude

“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”

arr. David Lowe

Anne Armstrong, organ

The Call to Worship

Rebecca Pursiful

God who is beyond us, maker of heaven and earth

open our eyes to see the wonder of creation!

God who was made known in the life of Jesus the Christ

Open our hearts to know the deep love of Christ!

God who lives in each one of us as Spirit

Holy fire to kindle our true purpose

Open our beings to each other to confirm that we all belong,

And together we can give birth to your new earth.

(Source: St Martins Presbyterian Church, Christchurch NZ)

*The Hymn of Praise 58

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

ST. DENIO

Joy Dumas, worship leader

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

In light inaccessible hid from our eyes,

Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

Almighty, victorious, Thy great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,

Nor wanting, nor wasting, Thou rulest in might;

Thy justice, like mountains, high soaring above

Thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

To all, life Thou givest, to both great and small;

In all life Thou livest, the true life of all;

We blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,

And wither and perish but naught changeth Thee.

Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,

Thine angels adore Thee, all veiling their sight;

All praise we would render; O help us to see

‘Tis only the splendor of light hideth Thee!

*The Invocation

Kelsey Stillwell

*The Gloria Patri 705

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 Welcome

Kelsey Stillwell

“Let the Children Come”

Allie Ford

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. leader this week is Allie Ford and the shepherds this week are Yumiko Jones and Rebecca Pursiful.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The Hymn of Offertory 17

This Is My Father’s World

TERRA PATRIS

**This is my Father’s world, and to my listening ears,
All nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world, I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; His hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father’s world, the birds their carols raise;
The morning light, the lily white declare their Maker’s praise.
This is my Father’s world, He shines in all that’s fair;
In rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.**

**This is my Father’s world, O let me ne’er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father’s world, Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King! Let heavens ring! God reigns! Let earth be glad!**

*The Offertory Prayer

Monica Stevens Kirby
Deacon of the Week

The Offertory Anthem

“I’m Gonna Sing”
FBCX Youth Choir
Kirstine Buchanan, conductor

arr. Russell Robinson

**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

A Future That's Bigger Than the Past

Jonathan Simpson

The First Lesson

Isaiah 65:17-25

Romelle Jones

For I am about to create new heavens and a new earth; the former things shall not be remembered or come to mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in what I am creating; for I am about to create Jerusalem as a joy, and its people as a delight. I will rejoice in Jerusalem, and delight in my people; no more shall the sound of weeping be heard in it, or the cry of distress. No more shall there be in it an infant that lives but a few days, or an old person who does not live out a lifetime; for one who dies at a hundred years will be considered a youth, and one who falls short of a hundred will be considered accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain, or bear children for calamity; for they shall be offspring blessed by the LORD—and their descendants as well. Before they call I will answer, while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall feed together, the lion shall eat straw like the ox; but the serpent—its food shall be dust! They shall not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, says the LORD.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

Thanks be to God.

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Scott Dickison

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 Anthem

“How Can I Keep from Singing”
The Chancel Choir
Kelley Dixson, flute
Kirstine Buchanan, conductor

Robert Lowry
arr. Bradley Ellingboe

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentations,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn that hails a new creation.

No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth. How can I keep from singing?

Through all the tumult and the strife I hear the music ringing,
It sounds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?

What though the tempest 'round me roar, I hear the truth. It liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close, Songs in the night it giveth.

Text: Robert Lowry (1826-1899)

The Second Lesson

Matthew 5:1-12

Scott Dickison

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:

“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy. “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. “Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

For the Good News of God,

Thanks be to God.

The Sermon

Signs of the Kingdom
Sixth in the series: A Future That's Bigger Than the Past

Scott Dickison

THE OFFERING OF COMMITMENT

*The Hymn of Commitment 675 Make Room Within My Heart

RESIGNATION

**Make room within my heart, O God, that You may form in me
The image You have shown in Christ, my very life to be.
Inspire my thought, O lofty One, to reach the highest plane,
That I may know the mind of Christ, and Him as greatest gain.
Direct my will, O King of kings, subject it to Your own,
That every impulse, action, word, may make Your kingdom known.
Effect my prayer, great Trinity, eternal Three in One;
Combine each part of me to praise the Father, Spirit, Son.**

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

*The Congregational
Response 514

Christians, Let Us Go and Serve Him

HOLY MANNA

**Christians, let us go and serve Him,
Serve the one who gives us life.
Let us serve in love and power,
In the name of Jesus Christ
Serve in love and serve in wisdom,
Reaching all we know and see.
Christians, let us go and serve Him,
Now and through eternity.**

Text: Jana Wolf (2000)

Postlude

“Festive Voluntary”
Anne Armstrong, organ

Robert Lau

Quarterly church conference is resumed to vote on proposed 2023 church budget.



FBCX Fall Festival 2022!
October 30 4:00 to 6:00 pm
FBCX parking lot

Join us this afternoon!

If you're participating with your car for Trunk or Treat, arrive between 3:00 and 3:30 pm to get your parking spot and get set up.

Trunk or treating starts at 4:00.

There will be inflatables, a cake walk and Hank's Food Truck.



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Sunday, October 30

9:45 am	Sunday school
11:00 am	Worship
4:00 pm	Fall Festival

Wednesday, November 2

9:30 am	Language Ministry
4:00 pm	Open time in youth room and children's center
5:30 pm	Youth Choir
5:30 pm	Family Dinner
6:00 pm	Young Musicians and Music Makers
6:15 pm	Youth "Unplugged"
6:30 pm	Language Ministry Choir Practice
6:45 pm	Adult Bible study Kids on Mission

Sunday, November 6

Daylight Savings Time Ends

9:45 am	Sunday school
11:00 am	Worship

Deacon of the Week

October 27	Monica Stevens
November 3	Harriet Eason

Birthdays

October 30	Oscar Hugley Pippa Kirby Nicholas Nava
November 1	Paige Tench
November 2	Ethan Thompson
November 3	Peter Treiber
November 4	John Thomas Long Jeff Wiles

November 5	Sharon Bailey Parker Johns Raleigh Mann Amy Leigh McCord Sheila Young
November 6	Sheila Conn Darrell J. Pursiful

Condolences:

We grieve with Beth and Scott Walker in the death of Scott's mother, **Dot Walker**.

We grieve with the family of **Doodle Grubb** in his death on October 24.

Save the Date:

November 6:	Commitment Sunday
November 27:	First Sunday of Advent
December 4:	Children's Choir Performance

The Record Speaks

Date:	09/30/22
Budget to Date	\$492,395
Receipts	\$424,623
Expenses	\$514,999
Missions	\$34,541
	(\$90,376)*

*Parentheses indicate a negative balance

Wednesday Night Supper

Scan this QR code to make a reservation for Wednesday night supper by this afternoon. You can pay by using the church's giving app or by check or cash on Wednesday night. This week's meal is Zaxby's.



Flower Planting

Saturday, November 5 9:30 till Noon

Help us beautify the church for All Saints Day.

Women's Book Club

November 13 6:00 pm

123 St. Martinique Place

We will meet at the home of Cathy Logue to discuss *American Dirt* by Jeanine Cummins. Bring snacks to share at 6 pm and we will begin our discussion by 7 pm.

All Saints and Commitment Sunday Guest Preacher, Charles E. Poole November 6

We are thrilled to welcome Chuck Poole back to First Baptist as our guest preacher.

Chuck served as pastor at FBCX from 1986 until 1994. Recently, he served as pastor of Northminster Baptist Church in Jackson, Mississippi until his retirement at the end of August. We will gather in the fellowship hall for breakfast with Chuck and Marcia over the Sunday school hour.

Chuck Poole's latest book, *The Path to Depth* (Good Faith Media, October 2022; goodfaith-media.org), will be available for sale in the fellowship hall from 9:15 to 10:45 a.m. at a cost of \$15 each (cash/check/credit card).

How to Make a Pledge for Commitment Sunday

This year we have three ways to submit your pledge for the 2023 budget:

- Drop your commitment card into the little church on November 6 or 13.
- Mail your commitment card to the church office.

- Use this QR code to make your pledge on line.



Gauging Interest for a Retreat to the Monastery of Christ in the Desert, in New Mexico: Summer 2023

Tentative dates: July 22-29

Scott is gauging interest in a retreat to the Monastery of Christ in the Desert outside of Abiquiu, NM in late summer of next year. This is the Benedictine monastery he visited on his sabbatical in 2019. Given the size of the guest house there, space will be limited.

Details will depend on the group, but a rough plan is to leave Saturday and fly from Atlanta to Santa Fe. We would take a rental car/van up to the monastery, in the far north-central of the state near Abiquiu, arriving later in the afternoon.

We would stay at the monastery Sunday to Wednesday, and plan to leave Thursday morning. Given the remote location, once we arrive at the Monastery we will not plan to leave unless there is an emergency. We will take our meals in the cafeteria with the monks (all meals are included).

On Thursday we will drive to Santa Fe and stay in a hotel there for two nights and fly home Saturday.

Approximate cost will be \$700-800, not including airfare. Includes all lodging.

Time at the monastery will be in silent retreat. You can read more about the monastery and the shape of a visit at their website: <https://christdesert.org>

Please reach out to Scott if you have questions, are interested, or would like to reserve your spot!

YOUTH

Fall Festival

Youth are invited to stick around after the Fall Festival until 7:30pm to help clean up and to play spooky games!

Community Youth Group

Hosted at FBCX

Sunday, November 6 12:30-2:30pm

Lunch and a conversation about Religious Liberty. This past summer, Kelsey participated in the Baptist Joint Committee fellows program. Fellows are supported by the BJC staff, equipped with resources to facilitate conversations, and encouraged to share with their congregations. The BJC values students and young leaders in the work for Religious freedom for all. As a part of a BJC Fellows project, Kelsey will be leading a conversation with our Community Youth Group about Religious Liberty. Volunteers needed to chaperone and help with lunch.

Talk Walks

Why: An important part of youth ministry is cultivating relationships with our students.

I miss having the time to catch up with our students in the ways that a group setting and fast-paced weekly programming don't allow. "Talk Walks" are an attempt to make time each week to talk with students without adding multiple events to their full schedules.

What: Meet at a park to talk and walk with Kelsey. No agenda; just catching up! Or youth can let me know ahead of time if there's a specific faith topic they want to discuss. This is for only 2-3 students each week.

Where: Amerson River Park is the default. But we can meet at a different park depending on the location of the students signed up.

When: 4:00-5:00pm

Tuesday, November 1 and November 8

Monday, November 14

Sign up: Email or text Kelsey to sign up your student for a date they are available.

CHILDREN

November 11-13: Camping Trip.

CBFGA "Story" Children's Retreat

(3rd - 6th Graders) Rock Eagle, Eatonton,

Date: January 27-29, 2023

Deposit: \$75/Person Total Cost: \$150

Please register your child/children by November 13th!

<https://forms.gle/Apm8GomZ24MiJZ3N8>

Deposits will be collected by November 20th

Questions? Kathryn Scoggins will be the point person for this event.

Signs of the Season

The paraments of the pulpit and the communion table are visible reminders of the current season of the church year. Ordinary Time begins after Pentecost and ends with Advent. During this season, we celebrate the “ordinary events” of our Christian lives. The liturgical color for this season is green, symbolizing life, freshness, and hope.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in honor of Pippa Kirby’s tenth birthday by Mark and Deborah Stevens. “God blessed our family ten years ago today with the gift of you.”



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

Anne Armstrong
ORGANIST

Kirstine Buchanan
JOHNSON MUSIC FELLOW

Rev. Scott Dickison
PASTOR

David Cooke
CHAIR OF CHURCH COUNCIL

Harriet Eason
CHAIR OF DEACONS

Allie Ford
MINISTRY INTERN

Tierra Johnson
CUSTODIAN

Bradley Lott
FACILITIES MANAGER

Connie Pursiful
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Rebecca Pursiful
MINISTRY INTERN

Dr. Stanley L. Roberts
MINISTER OF MUSIC

Eric Spears
VICE CHAIR OF DEACONS

Rev. Kelsey Stillwell
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR YOUTH
AND MISSIONS