



Procession of the Martyrs Mosaic,  
Basilica of Sant' Apollinare Nuovo, Ravenna, Italy.  
6th century

Sunday, November 13, 2022  
The Twenty-Third 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

*John Thomas Long, acolyte*

The Prelude

“Fanfare on LASST UNS ERFREUEN”

Phil Lehenbauer

*Anne Armstrong, organ*

The Call to Worship

Rebecca Pursiful

We give thanks to You, who like a loving parent,  
have welcomed us home with words of comfort and warm embrace.

**The God of second chances is our hope.**

**We do our best to trust, to not be afraid,  
relying on God’s grace when we fall short.**

With joy we draw from healing wells,  
reservoirs of compassion from deep within us.

**We give thanks to the One in whom we find strength.**

We cannot help but sing for what has happened in us,  
what we thought could never be, but is.

**The Holy One is great in our midst.**

Improvisation on Isaiah 12

\*The Hymn of Praise 425

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

**How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in His excellent word!  
What more can He say than to you He has said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?**

**“Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I’ll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.**

**“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of woe shall not thee overflow;  
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.**

**“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all-sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.**

**“The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose  
I will not, I will not desert to his foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I’ll never, no, never, no never forsake!”**

\*The Invocation

Allie Ford

\*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

Scott Dickison

“Let the Children Come”

Rebecca Pursiful

*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 shepherd this week is Yumiko Jones.*

### **THE OFFERING OF GIFTS**

\*The Hymn of Offertory 418

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN FESTE BURG

**A mighty fortress is our God, a bulwark never failing;  
Our helper He, amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe;  
His craft and power are great, and, armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.**

**Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,  
Were not the right Man on our side, the Man of God’s own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is He;  
Lord Sabaoth, His name, from age to age the same,  
And He must win the battle.**

**And though this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,  
We will not fear, for God has willed His truth to triumph through us.**

**The Prince of Darkness grim, we tremble not for him;  
His rage we can endure, for lo, his doom is sure;  
One little word shall fell him.**

**That word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth;  
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.**

**Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also;  
The body they may kill: God's truth abideth still,  
His kingdom is forever.**

\*The Offertory Prayer

Julie Long  
Deacon of the Week

The Offertory

“Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies”  
*Kirstine Buchanan, soprano*

Allan Robert Petker

\*The Offertory Response 131

“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

Isaiah 12

Kathy McCollum

You will say in that day: I will give thanks to you, O LORD, for though you were angry with me, your anger turned away, and you comforted me. Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD God is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

**Thanks be to God.**

**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 trespass 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

“A Song of Praise”  
*The Chancel Choir*

Gwyneth Walker

The Second Lesson

Luke 21:7-19

Scott Dickison

They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them. “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified; for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and plagues; and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven. “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. This will give you an opportunity to testify. So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance; for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, by relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death. You will be hated by all because of my name. But not a hair of your head will perish. By your endurance you will gain your souls.

For the Good News of God,

**Thanks be to God.**

The Sermon

“As For These Things That You See”

Scott Dickison

## THE OFFERING OF COMMITMENT

\*The Hymn of Commitment 573 It Is Well With My Soul

VILLE DU HARVE

**When peace, like a river, attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll;  
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,  
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”**

Refrain:

**It is well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed His own blood for my soul. [Refrain]  
My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought:  
My sin, not in part, but the whole—  
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more,  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]  
And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight,  
The clouds, be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,  
“Even so”—it is well with my soul. [Refrain]**

\*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

\*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

”God of Grace and God of Glory”  
*Anne Armstrong, organ*

arr. Anna Laura Page





# INTERFAITH THANKSGIVING SERVICE



**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17 • 6:00 PM**  
**MULBERRY ST UMC SANCTUARY**

Join us for a service project afterward  
in the Fellowship Hall!

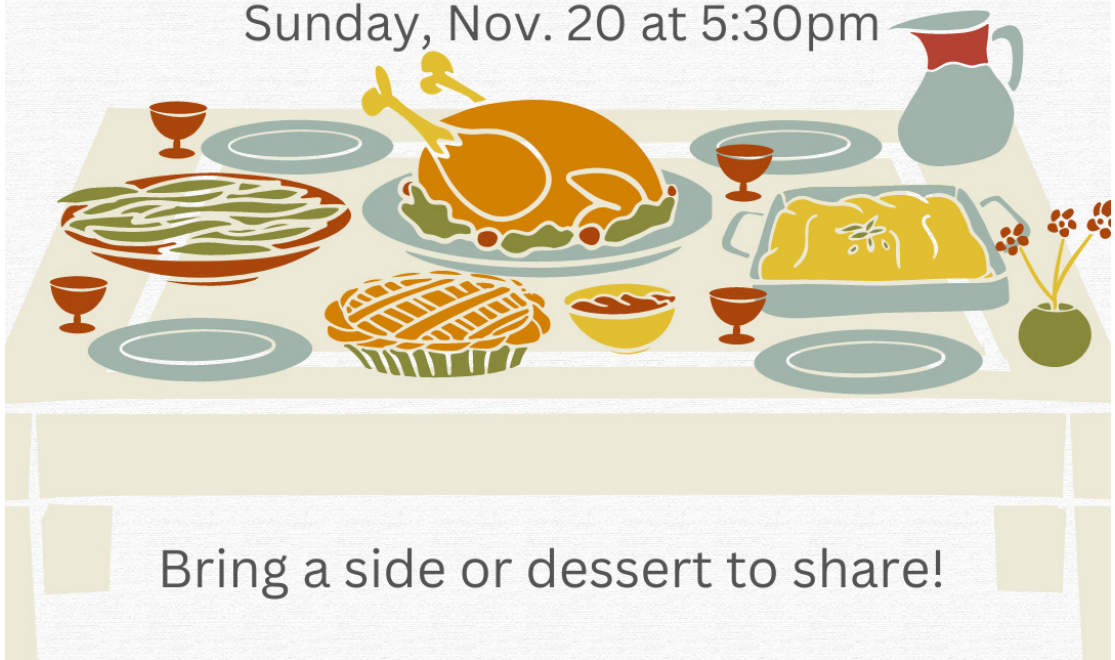
————— ***Childcare will be available*** —————

Sponsored by:  
*Mulberry Street UMC, Temple Beth Israel, First Baptist Church, First Baptist Church  
of Christ, High Street Unitarian Universalist Church, Christ Episcopal Church,  
Steward Chapel AME Church, Centenary UMC, St Joseph Catholic Church*



# THANKSGIVING COVERED DISH WITH FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH, NEW. ST.

Fellowship Hall  
Sunday, Nov. 20 at 5:30pm



Bring a side or dessert to share!

# *Advent 2022*

**Children's Choir Program  
December 4  
6:00 pm**

**Lessons and Carols  
December 11  
11:00 am Sanctuary**

**Christmas Workshop and Caroling  
December 14  
6:00 am**

**Christmas Toy Shop  
Monday, December 19  
9:00 am—11:00 am**

**Service for the Longest Night  
December 21  
6:00 pm**

**Christmas Eve Candle Light Service  
December 24  
5:00 pm**

**Christmas Day Worship  
December 25  
11:00 am  
No Sunday school**



# OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## Sunday, November 13

Youth away at youth retreat  
 Children away at Children's camp-out  
 9:45 am Sunday school  
 11:00 am Worship  
 6:00 pm Women's book club

## Wednesday, November 16

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  
 Adult Bible study  
 6:45 pm Kids on Mission

## Thursday, November 17

6:00 pm Interfaith Thanksgiving service

## Sunday, November 20

9:45 am Sunday school  
 11:00 am Worship with Communion  
 5:30 pm Thanksgiving with FBC

## Deacon of the Week

November 10 Jody and Julie Long  
 November 17 Mary Leonard

## Birthdays

November 13 Lin Carter  
 Linda Dawson  
 JD McCord  
 November 14 Mary Leonard  
 Marjorie Mosely  
 November 15 Mary Jane Johnson  
 Chris Kriby  
 Kathryn Scoggins  
 November 16 Kent Bruner  
 Karl Gustafson  
 David Johansen  
 Kitty Knight  
 November 18 Jody Long  
 David McMahan  
 Lesli Underwood  
 November 19 Amy Alderman  
 Kristen Bailey  
 Ross Hardy  
 November 20 Cindy Fuller

## Condolences:

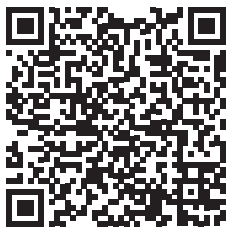
We grieve with the family of **Doodle Grubb** in his death on October 24.

## The Record Speaks

Date:	11/05/22
Budget to Date:	\$547,105
Receipts (Offering):	\$472,220
Receipts (Endowments):	\$59,180
Expenses:	\$522,007
Missions:	\$34,542
YTD Loss	\$(25,149)

## 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 pizza.



## 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 6:00 pm and we will begin our discussion by 7:00 pm.

## 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.

## Celebrate DePaul USA Daybreak's 10th Anniversary

You are invited! November 15th, 9am-11am  
174 Walnut St., Macon, Ga

Our community came together to create Daybreak in 2012 and has continued to provide services for those experiencing homelessness for 10 years. Join us at Daybreak for refreshments and speakers honoring a decade of service to the Macon community. Call 478-216-9119 to RSVP.

## Historic In-town Macon Holiday Tour of Homes Saturday and Sunday December 10 & 11 1:00 —6:00 pm

Our beautiful, historic church will be featured in this year's tour of homes! We are in need of volunteers to be present in the sanctuary to help host each day. Please contact Emily Kell to sign up.

## Christmas Toy Shop Monday, December 19th 9:00 am— 11:00 am The Toy Shop tradition is back!

We will host a toy shop for members of the community who attend our Crisis Closet. The hope is that parents can maintain dignity by purchasing toys for their children and can take pride in providing for their families. Donations are collected and sold in the Toy Shop at a deeply discounted price.

**How you can Help.** Help us stock the toy shop! We need toy donations for babies through teenagers. Drop off the toys in the church office with the receipt attached

or order from Amazon and have them delivered to the church.

**Volunteers are needed** on the day of the sale to help with set up, snacks, gift wrapping, and more. Volunteers can also help with sorting and pricing the week before.

### **Dates**

Sunday, December 11: Final day to drop off toys

Monday, December 12: Circle of Hope, sorting and pricing

Monday, December 19: Toy Sale

## **YOUTH**

### **Talk Walks**

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.

Monday, November 14.

4:00-5:00pm

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

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

## **CHILDREN**

### **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.

### **Making Disciples Class for 3rd-5th graders**

Third–fifth graders are invited to join this year's Making Disciples class! Children will be partnered with an adult mentor who will walk with them through this class led by Julie Long, Scott Dickison and Kelsey Stillwell. Each class session will include teaching times, activities, and one-on-one discussions with mentors. This is a great opportunity for your child to grow deeper in his or her faith and explore questions about God, Jesus, the Bible, church, and more.

Parents, kids, and mentors are invited to a breakfast kickoff to our class on January 8 at 9:00 a.m. Our class sessions will be held on the following Sundays from 12:15-1:45 in the Fellowship Hall (lunch included): January 22, February 5, February 26 and March 12. So that mentors can be recruited and matched, please sign up for this class no later than December 1 by contacting Julie Long at [juliewlong@gmail.com](mailto:juliewlong@gmail.com) or 478-737-1700.



## NOW. HERE. THIS.

Over the past two Wednesdays in Bible Study we have looked at a survey of Scriptures to see what the Bible has to say about death, dying, and grief. This was on the occasion of All Saints Day, which we celebrated this past Sunday. But we also know that grief does not keep the same calendar that we do, and so these conversations are always timely.

We can think of death as an arc with three distinct parts.

First there is dying: the process, often either longer or shorter than we would like, in which we come to terms with our end or that of a loved one. For centuries the church has had a notion of what it means to “die well,” making note of specific, time-honored needs—many of which, it turns out, are expressed by Jesus from the cross.

Then there is death itself, in one sense a transition, but in another sense an event all to itself. Scripture speaks of it as the one final enemy. And yet we know that death can also come as a friend.

And then of course there is what comes next. For the deceased, Scripture gives us a multitude of images and stories to draw from, each of them pointing to the mystery that we return in wholeness to the God who created us.

The part of “what comes next” we don’t talk as much about is the life of those who are left behind.

Of course, we are given hope in the promise of resurrection in the end, and that we will see those whom we love again across the Jordan. We’re told that light shines in the darkness, and that while weeping may last for the night, joy is waiting in the morning.

And yet we also know that there are many mornings in grief when joy feels absent.

Even more, there are simply so many mornings. Sometimes talk of reuniting in the end can come as cold comfort, a hope so distant it is hard to see.

What does Scripture have to say for us as we find our way through the days grieving terrible loss?

There are not many stories of biblical characters who offer a model. It’s what makes the books of Job and Ruth so vital. In Ruth, the story arc actually follows Naomi, who begins in bitter loss and ends with an unexpected new life, found in a return to family and place.

Job is known for his suffering, which might lead us to think the story simply ends with his death, when in fact Job finds his way through the darkness to a place of acceptance, if not resolution. Not the man he was before the calamity, but a new person shaped both by it and a growing faith that there is yet more to come.

Yet, perhaps the most powerful word comes from the prophet Jeremiah speaking to the exiles in Babylon. His invitation is not to give in to the fantasy of a quick return or



despair that life is over, but instead to keep living where they are. To plant gardens and eat of them, build houses and live in them, have weddings and grow families and even pray for the place where they now call home.

In short, to commit themselves to the practice of living. It turns out Scripture has much to say about how to do this.

And the first step (and second, and third), is to live in community with others. It is there where our joy is made complete, but also where the weight of our grief is made lighter.

SHD

## Poinsettia Orders

Place your order now for Sanctuary Poinsettias. Poinsettias will be placed for Sunday, December 4. Please fill out this form and return to the office. Make checks payable to First Baptist Church of Christ for \$10.00 or you can submit your order on-line by following the link in the newsletter. .

In memory of: \_\_\_\_\_

In honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Poinsettias: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 are given to the glory of God and in honor of Sheila Young on the occasion of her birthday on November 5th by Michael Fulwood, DeWayne Moore, Munson, and Dooley.  
“We love you!”

## The American Flag

The American flag is placed in the Sanctuary on the Sundays nearest Presidents’ Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans’ Day as an expression of our gratitude to God for the freedom we enjoy as Americans.



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• [www.fbcxmacon.org](http://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