



**FIRST BAPTIST
CHURCH OF CHRIST**

NURTURE. LOVE. SERVE. ALL.



Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Woman with the Flow of Blood (detail)

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Celebration of Lord's Supper

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

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

Patrick Johns, acolyte

The Prelude

"When, in Our Music, God Is Glorified"

arr. Anna Laura Page

Anne Armstrong, organ

The Call to Worship

Erika Houser

Be Joyful! Play music, sing songs, dance and enjoy.

There is a law in our hearts and a love at the heart of the world.

Together they teach justice and gratitude, kindness and reverence

Let all the peoples of the earth live by these and be at peace.

Will we ever learn? Our nations are not made strong by weapons or wealth. Our rulers will not save us by their wits or their will.

What saves us, and what will save our world, is living by law and by love: justice and gratitude, kindness and reverence.

When we put our trust in these ways, we will be rewarded in joy.

Adapted from an improvisation on Psalm 33 by Christine Robinson

*The Hymn of Praise 559

Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

WARRENTON

**Come Thou Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.**

Refrain:

**I am bound for the kingdom, will you go to glory with me?
Hallelujah, praise the Lord.**

**Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope by Thy good pleasure safely to arrive at home. (Refrain)**

**O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee. (Refrain)**

*The Invocation

Rebecca Pursiful

*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.” Pick up your children there after worship. The W.O.W. leader this week is Erika Houser and the W.O.W. shepherds are Kathryn Scoggins and Josie Stephens.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The Hymn of Offertory 254

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

CANONBURY

**Diverse in culture, nation, race
We come together by Your grace,
God, let us be a meeting ground
Where hope and healing love are found.**

**God, let us be a bridge of care
Connecting people everywhere.
Help us confront all fear and hate and lust
For power that separate.**

**When chasms widen, storms arise,
O Holy Spirit, make us wise.
Let our resolve, like steel be strong
With those who suffer wrong.**

**God, let us be a table spread
With gifts of love and broken bread,
Where all find welcome, grace attends,
And enemies arise as friends.**

*The Offertory Prayer

Shanon Hart
Deacon of the Week

The Offertory

“O Divine Redeemer”
Kirstine and David Buchanan

Charles Gounod

*The Offertory Response

“Doxology”
**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.**

OLD 100TH

THE OFFERING OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Hosea 5:15-6:6

Rachel Huston

I will return again to my place until they acknowledge their guilt and seek my face. In their distress they will beg my favor:

“Come, let us return to the LORD; for it is he who has torn, and he will heal us; he has struck down, and he will bind us up. After two days he will revive us; on the third day he will raise us up, that we may live before him. Let us know, let us press on to know the LORD; his appearing is as sure as the dawn; he will come to us like the showers, like the spring rains that water the earth.”

What shall I do with you, O Ephraim? What shall I do with you, O Judah? Your love is like a morning cloud, like the dew that goes away early. Therefore I have hewn them by the prophets, I have killed them by the words of my mouth, and my judgment goes forth as the light. For I desire steadfast love and not sacrifice, the knowledge of God rather than burnt offerings.

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 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.

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

For the Good News of God,

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"Like Being Right"

Scott Dickison

THE BREAD AND CUP OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Communion Anthem

"One Song"
The Chancel Choir

Pepper Choplin

When God's people are wounded by holy war.
And brother fights brother in the name of the Lord.
I find myself praying that it won't be too long
'Til we all join together in one song.

When God's family is broken each goes his own way.
And I feel so lost, I don't know what to pray.
But still I'll go forward to follow the call
To join people together in one song.

One song, like the one sung in heaven.
One song, united in love.
There will be no division. Everyone will belong
As we stand before Christ singing one song.
So come and build bridges and tear down the wall.
Let our love for each other be a witness to all.
They will see us united, and we'll sing it out strong
As we praise our great Savior in one song.

OFFERING OF COMMITMENT

*The Hymn of Commitment 264 Where Charity and Love Prevail

RESIGNATION

**Where charity and love prevail, there God is ever found;
Brought here together by Christ's love are we thus bound.
With grateful joy and holy fear true charity we learn;
Let us with heart and mind and strength now love Christ in return.
Forgive we now each other's faults as we our faults confess;
And let us love each other well in Christian holiness.
Let strife among us be unknown, let all contention cease;
Be Christ the glory that we seek, be ours His holy peace.**

*The Benediction

Scott Dickison

The Congregational Response 481

Go to the World!
(stanza 4)

SINE NOMINE

**Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,
For I am with you 'til the age shall end,
When all the hosts of glory cry "Amen."
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Postlude

" Trumpet Finale"
Anne Armstrong, organ

John Stanley



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Scan this QR code to access links for all of our event sign ups, on line payments, and social media.



Sunday, June 11

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship with Communion
5:00 pm Youth Parent's Night

Monday, June 12

9:00 am VBS

Tuesday, June 13

9:00 am VBS
1:00 pm Youth lunch

Wednesday, June 14

9:00 am VBS
6:00 pm Summer Bible Study

Thursday, June 15

9:00 am VBS

Friday, June 16

9:00 am VBS

Sunday, June 18

9:45 am Sunday School
11:00 am Worship

Deacon of the Week

June 8 Shannon Hart
June 15 Sharon Bailey

Birthdays

June 12 Vivienne Brainard
Bryan Whitfield
June 13 Joe Lease
June 14 Joe Johnson
June 17 Gloria Bass
June 18 Zachary Hardy
Annabel Ingoldsby

Save the Date:

June 19-24 Youth Passport
July 8-15 High School Mission Trip
July 16-19 PassportKids

Sanctuary Flowers

Open dates to sponsor flowers are:

June 25, July 2, 9
August 13, 20, 27 September 17, 24
October 1, 22, 29 November 12, 26
December 3, 31

To sponsor sanctuary flowers, please contact Mary Leonard at 478-737-4171 or michael.leonard1@cox.net.

Special Sunday School Offering

Through June 25

Re-Enchanting the Earth: Why AI Needs Religion, by Ilia Delio

Join Shaun Kell and Scott Dickison as they lead a study of this book by Ilia Delio in which she considers the theological implications of artificial intelligence and what it might mean for the future of humanity and creation. We will gather at 9:45 am in the fellowship hall. Acquiring the book is encouraged.

This Is My Story, This Is My Song

Join us for a combined Sunday school offering over the month of July (starting July). We will gather in the fellowship hall for breakfast each week, and hear from members of the congregation as they reflect on the music and art that has shaped them as people of faith.

Summer Bible Study

6:00 pm

The Society Garden in Ingleside Village

Join us this summer for a laid-back Bible study at The Society Garden at Ingleside Village. We'll grab a table and have good conversation. Bring food with you, or order there if you'd like. Dates are June 14, 21, July 12, 19, and 26.

CBF General Assembly

You're invited to the 2023 General Assembly in Atlanta from June 28–30. General Assembly is an important event in the life of CBF, and we're excited to explore the concept of Holy Ambition as we come alongside God's transforming work in the world.

Participate in events hosted by organizations FBCX supports through our mission giving and our identity partners.

Check out our recommendations and if you register for any of these events, let Kelsey and Scott know so they can look for you!

CBFGA State Gathering: Dinner at Tin Lizzy's

Wednesday, June 28 at 5:30–7:00 pm
\$35 per person

Together for Hope Banquet

Tuesday, June 27, 5:30–7:00 pm

Join the Together for Hope Banquet: "Together for Better Health" Individual tickets are \$70.

Baptist Women in Ministry: 40th Anniversary Celebration Dinner

Thursday, June 29 at 5:30 pm

BWIM will host a celebration dinner at the Hyatt Regency in downtown Atlanta. They will honor the first 40 years and look forward into BWIM's future as they reveal their new logo, share about new direction in their work, and hear from a panel of leaders in the BWIM community. Individual tickets are \$40.

Dr. Emmanuel McCall Racial Justice Trailblazer Luncheon

Thursday, June 29 at 11:30 am

Join the Dr. Emmanuel McCall Racial Justice Trailblazer Award Luncheon, where you will hear from Dr. Otis Moss III and celebrate the 2023 award recipients. Individual tickets are \$22.

Baptist Joint Committee: Luncheon *Friday, June 30 at 11:30am*

The program will introduce the new BJC Center for Faith, Justice and Reconciliation, and the keynote speaker will be the Rev. Dr. Adam L. Bond. Individual tickets are \$55.

YOUTH NEWS

High School Mission Trip

July 8–15 in New York City

Details have been sent to families of high school and college students. Talk to Kelsey if you have more questions.

Summer Meet Ups:

Gathering together around a common interest

Pickleball with Marina: July 5, 9:00 am

Hiking with Cathy: TBD

Art with Audrey: TBD

Save the Dates

Tuesday, June 13: Youth Lunch after VBS

Wednesdays, July 5

5:00-6:00 HS Mission trip planning

6:00-8:00 All youth: Fellowship, Food, Faith, and Fun (F4)

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Summer Sunday School

We have combined Sunday School classes for the summer months. If you are interested in helping volunteer or lead a Sunday, please contact Erika by emailing: childrensministry@fbcxmacon.org.

NOW. HERE. THIS.

In her book, *Re-enchanting the Earth: Why AI Needs Religion* (which we're studying in a special Sunday school class this month), Ilia Delio has this to say about how complex systems such as organisms or ecosystems flourish:

“...complex dynamical systems theory teaches that survival is a function of resilience, not stability. A system that is very resilient can have very low stability; that is, it may fluctuate greatly but still survive...Contrary to popular ideas, a system with high stability may not endure because any change or disturbance will destroy it.”

She goes on to say that resilience is best achieved through “dynamical connectivity”—the more diverse qualities the system displays, the “richer” its relations. The richer its relations, the more protected it is from disturbance or danger.

She notes all of this to make a case that the essence of creation is “relational wholeness;” that, fundamentally, life is a web of interconnectivity, and the more we are aware of this the more likely we are to thrive.

As we noted last week during worship for Trinity Sunday, in this way human and biological life mirror the life of God—God who we proclaim is both One and With, defined by relationship.

But this insight about complex systems strikes me as helpful to remember about so many parts of our life—so many parts that we are still trying to put back together since the pandemic. Communal life is nothing if not a complex dynamical system, and it is most successful when we appreciate just how thick the web of connectivity is. And not just wider communities, but families, and, of course, congregations. It is intuitive for us to seek stability in these different relationships and systems.

We often joke in our home that when everything is running as it should—no random school holidays or sick days, no unexpected long hours at work or family visiting from out of town, no after school activities or painfully long bedtime routines, no unexpected expenses or long weekends—when we don't have any of that, our rhythm as a family works really well.

The problem is that those weeks never seem to come! Stability feels like a pretty lofty goal for us right now. But resilience—that seems like something we can manage.

I wonder how it would shift our thinking with our families or schools or communities or even within our congregation, if we started measuring our health by a standard of resilience instead of stability? And beyond that, how would we restructure things to achieve resilience as opposed to stability?

Would we spend more time strengthening relationships, which is the thick web that holds us together when the wind changes?

Would we stop stressing when things don't go according to plan—remembering that they rarely do?

Would we celebrate more as we look around and see that life may not look how it used to, but—my goodness—how it persists, and with beauty?

SHD

Signs of the Season

The paraments of the pulpit and the communion table are visible reminders of the current season of the church year. The color white on Trinity Sunday represents the holiness and oneness of God.

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of Margie Hughes on the occasion of her 100th birthday on June 13, 2023 and in honor of her 87 years of devoted membership and service to our church by Fay Boie, Suzy McCullough, Joy Amerson, Mary Sims, and Mary Leonard.



511 High Place Macon, GA 31201 • office: (478) 742-6485 • fax: (478) 742-2112
• www.fbcxmacon.org • Wifi: fbcx-Guest Password is: welcome511

Staff and Leadership

Anne Armstrong
ORGANIST

Kirstine Buchanan
JOHNSON MUSIC FELLOW

David Cooke
CHAIR OF CHURCH
COUNCIL

Rev. Scott Dickison
PASTOR

Erika Houser
INTERIM DIRECTOR OF
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES

Tierra Johnson
CUSTODIAN

Camille Kittrell
BOOKKEEPER

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Rebecca Pursiful
MINISTRY INTERN

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YOUTH AND MISSIONS

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