

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

# *Celebration Worship*

A community of grace



**Sunday, March 16, 2025**

This second Sunday in Lent includes the Organ Dedication Service.

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

*This worship service features a dedication of the new A.E. Schlueter Organ, which has been custom built by A.E. Schlueter Organ Builders in Atlanta, Georgia.*

*Childcare is available for children ages birth through 3 years in our Nursery.  
Ask a greeter for assistance if you would like childcare during service.*

*+ When you see this symbol we ask all who are able to stand.*

## **Chiming of the Hour**

Ellee Hilley

## **Prelude**

*Toccata on 'Ode to Joy'*  
arr. Paul Fey

Ellee Hilley

## **Extinguishing the Lenten Candle**

John and Julie Joiner

People of God, in the beginning God spoke the world into existence.

### **The Way of Jesus is the way of new creation.**

Through the law, God made a way for humanity to follow God's intention and to live in a rightly-ordered world where shalom reigns.

### **The Way of Jesus is the way of peace with God.**

The scriptures declare that God's word is a lamp unto our feet and a light unto our path.

### **The Way of Jesus is illumined by obedience.**

In Jesus of Nazareth, the eternal word of God became flesh and blood and lived among us. He has modeled for us God's plan for humanity.

### **The Way of Jesus is the way to eternal life.**

Only by entering the darkness of death, can we experience the awesome light of eternal life.

**Jesus, lead the way, and we will follow. Amen.**

## **+ Hymn**

*Alleluia Sing to Jesus*

HYFRYDOL

# Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

*"I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Yet a little while and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you also will live." John 14:18-19*

1. Al - le - lu ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the scep - ter, His the throne.  
2. Al - le - lu ia! Not as or - phans are we left in sor - row now.  
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of heav - en, here on earth our food, our stay.

Al le - lu ia! His the tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.  
Al le - lu ia! He is near us; faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
Al le - lu ia! Here the sin - ful flee to You from day to day.

Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a might - y flood:  
Tho' the cloud from sight re - ceived Him when the for - ty days were o'er,  
In ter - ces - sor, Friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er, hear our plea

"Je - sus out of ev - 'ry na tion has re - deemed us by His blood."  
shall our hearts for - get His prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
where the songs of all the sin less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

**Welcome and Prayer**

Seth Brown

**The Organ Dedication: Celebrating our Past and Future**

Steven Norris

**Scripture Reading**

*Psalm 150*

Erin Clarke

- <sup>1</sup> Praise the Lord!  
Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heaven!
- <sup>2</sup> Praise him for his mighty works;  
praise his unequalled greatness!
- <sup>3</sup> Praise him with a blast of the ram's horn;  
praise him with the lyre and harp!
- <sup>4</sup> Praise him with the tambourine and dancing;  
praise him with strings and flutes!
- <sup>5</sup> Praise him with a clash of cymbals;  
praise him with loud clanging cymbals.
- <sup>6</sup> Let everything that breathes sing praises to the Lord!  
Praise the Lord!

**Musical Reflection**

*Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven*  
arr. Anna Laura Page

Ellee Hilley

**Organ Dedication**

Erin Clarke

Friends in Christ: as God has put it in the minds and hearts of this congregation to rebuild this instrument of music and as an aid to our worship in this place, we now dedicate it to God and to the holy purpose for which it was designed.

To the glory of God, the Master Artist, who sings over creation the song of redeeming grace,  
**We dedicate this organ.**

To *welcome* worshipers in the sweet embrace of fellowship and to invite all people to the throne of God's amazing grace,  
**We dedicate this organ to You, O Lord.**

To kindle the flame of devotion, that the people of God who assemble here may authentically *worship* in Spirit and Truth,  
**We dedicate this organ to You, O Lord.**

To bear up the melody of psalm, hymn, and spiritual song in such ways that inspire us to *grow* continually as apprentices to Christ,  
**We dedicate this organ to You, O Lord.**

To comfort the sorrowful, cheer the afflicted, and propel us into the world to passionately *serve* all those in need,  
**We dedicate this organ to You, O Lord.**

To generously *share* the gifts of truth, goodness, and beauty that we enjoy in this community,  
**We dedicate this organ to You, O Lord.**

Glory to God in the church! Glory to God in Jesus! Glory down through all generations!  
Glory forever and ever!

**Amen.**

**Choral Reflection**

*When In Our Music God is Glorified*  
(Hymn 309)

Sanctuary Choir

Congregation, please sing when directed:  
*Let every instrument be tuned for praise!*  
*Let all rejoice who have a voice to raise:*  
*And may God give us faith to sing always,*  
*Alleluia!*

**Prayer**

Ron Murray

Loving and Gracious God, we praise you for your goodness in making the beauty of this world and for calling us to be your people!

**We thank you for all the gifts you give your Church, especially for the gifts of music and song.**

We ask you to bless this organ. May it inspire your people to sing with clarity and vitality by the sounds that are created.

**May it serve to accompany those who sing great hymns of praise and thanksgiving.**

May its tone lead us in unity through the gift of sung prayer.

**May this organ's thundering sound lift us up when our spirits are worn and tired.**

May its hushed and gentle sounds help those who are listening for your voice calling them by name.

**May this organ inspire your people to give you glory at all times, and to go forth in the name of Jesus, your Son.**

Give inspiration and dedication to all who play on the keys of this organ.

**May they serve you well through the ministry of music as their fingers and feet dance with skill and artistry.**

We make this prayer through your Son, Jesus, who came so that we might live in unity and harmony, through the breath of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

**+ Scripture Reading**

Matthew 5:17-18; 2 Timothy 3:14-17

Quimby Melton

<sup>17</sup> "Don't misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God's law will disappear until its purpose is achieved.

\* \* \*

<sup>14</sup> But you must remain faithful to the things you have been taught. You know they are true, for you know you can trust those who taught you. <sup>15</sup> You have been taught the holy Scriptures from childhood, and they have given you the wisdom to receive the salvation that comes by trusting in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It corrects us when we are wrong and teaches us to do what is right. <sup>17</sup> God uses it to prepare and equip his people to do every good work.

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

<b>+ Hymn 366</b>	<i>O God Beyond All Praising</i>	THAXTED
<b>Offertory Prayer</b>		Sandra Burkhalter
<b>Musical Offertory</b>	<i>Voluntary on 'Be Thou My Vision'</i> arr. Jason Payne	Ellee Hilley
<b>+Presentation of the Offering: The Doxology</b>		OLD 100th
	<i>Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;</i> <i>Praise Him, all creatures here below;</i> <i>Praise Him, above ye heavenly host;</i> <i>Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.</i>	
<b>Time for Children</b>		Lori Welborn
<b>Sermon</b>	<i>How Do We Get There?</i> <i>Word</i>	Steven Norris
<b>+Hymn 71</b>	<i>Be Thou My Vision</i>	SLANE
<b>Opportunities for Continued Service</b>		Steven Norris
<b>Benediction</b>		Steven Norris
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>O Happy Day</i>	Ellee Hilley

### **Ministers**

Steven Norris, Senior Pastor  
Seth Brown, Minister of Students and Community Engagement  
Erin Clarke, Minister of Music  
Ellee Hilley, Minister of Worship Arts  
Ron Murray, Minister of Pastoral Care  
Lori Welborn, Minister to Children and Families

*Pedals and Pipes*  
**Organ Dedication Concert**

*Four Organists showcase their own style!  
Classical, Broadway, Hymns, and Rock music!*

**Sunday, March 16th, 2025**

**6:00 pm**

**First Baptist Church Sanctuary**

**Featuring Four Local Organists**  
Wayne Cook, Cathy Willis Garmon  
Tim Evans, and Ellee Hilley

Reception following concert in Cheatham Room.



# News and Events

## Organ Concert

Tonight we will celebrate our new organ with both sacred and secular music performed by four accomplished organists beginning at 6:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. Doors will open at 5:30 p.m. for seating. A reception will be held in the Cheatham Room following the concert.

## Visio Divina Wednesdays

The season of Lent is a one for meditation, introspection, and repentance, following the example Jesus provided during his forty days in the desert. On Wednesdays through April 16, Bramblett Chapel will be open from noon to 1:00 p.m. for guided reflection and meditation.

## Good Friday Tenebrae Service

You are invited to a Good Friday Tenebrae Service on Friday, April 18, at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. This service will feature *The Passion of the Christ* organ underscore.

## Easter

Easter services will be held at 9:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary and at 11:15 a.m. in Morgan Hall, located in the Family Life Center. Families are invited to bring fresh flowers and greenery from their home gardens to place on the Easter Cross before service.

## March is for Missions

During the month of March, we highlight the ministries taking the gospel throughout North America and into the world at large, specifically through the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions Offering and the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering. Learn more about the stories of the missionaries and the incredible work they are doing by visiting our website: [fbcgriffin.org/missions-focus-for-lent-and-easter/](http://fbcgriffin.org/missions-focus-for-lent-and-easter/). Our missions goal for this season is \$6,000.

## Wednesday Night Activities

Are you looking for a community where you will feel loved and can grow in your faith? Wednesday nights at First Baptist afford you the perfect opportunity to find that group. We invite you to join us for a meal at 5:00 p.m. and then to get engaged in a small group at 6:00 p.m. During this hour, we build friendships, learn about God's Word, serve others, and strengthen our ties to one another. Children are invited to attend our KidMin Music and Missions program beginning at 6:00 p.m., and students in grades 6th through 12th are invited to worship and participate in small groups beginning at 6:30 p.m. For more information, call the church office or visit us online at [fbcgriffin.org/wednesday-nights](http://fbcgriffin.org/wednesday-nights).

## Giving

At First Baptist, we believe in a grace that gives generously. We believe, not in a God of scarcity, but a God of abundance — a God that can do “exceedingly and abundantly more than we could ask or imagine.” At God's table, there is room enough for all and we have no need to be stingy with the hope, love, and forgiveness that we have experienced in Christ. Our desire is to use the gifts that God has given us to bless the community around us.



## Floral Arrangements

The flowers in the Sanctuary and Morgan Hall are given to the glory of God and in honor of Ellee Hilley and the other organists who have glorified God through music in our worship services by Alice and Andrew Blake. If you would like to place flowers in the Sanctuary or Morgan Hall in honor or memory of a loved one, please contact Brenda Goolsby or call the church office.



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