

First Baptist Church of Greensboro
The Worship of God

June 12, 2022

Summer Sabbath

June 12 — September 4

*God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it,
because on it God rested from all the work of creation.*

—Genesis 2.3

*Remember the Sabbath day, and keep it holy. Six days shall you labor
and do your work, but the seventh is a sabbath day to the Lord, your God.*

—Exodus 20.8

*“Come unto me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;
for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.
For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”*

—Matthew 11.28-30

A season of “Summer Sabbath” is evident as regular church life yields to an intentional time of rest and re-creation. The theme of Sabbath will be woven throughout the order of service encouraging all of us to “find rest for our souls.”

This period coincides with the sabbatical leave of Senior Pastor Alan Sherouse, and prayers for genuine rest and renewal are continually offered by the whole congregation for Alan, Jenny and the children. We will hear from a variety of preachers including our own associate pastors, ministers who call First Baptist their “home church,” and other guests.

Talented vocalists and instrumentalists from our own congregation will provide music leadership while our choirs take a break from regular rehearsals.

Yahweh is a Sabbath-keeping God, which fact ensures that restfulness and not restlessness is at the center of life. Yahweh is a Sabbath-giving God and a Sabbath-commanding God. Israel, for that reason, is always again to re-choose between “life and death” (Deut.30:15-20), between Yahweh and “the gods of your ancestors” (Josh. 24:14-15), between Yahweh and Baal (1 Kings 18:21), between the way of Torah and the way of sinners (Psalm 1). Sabbath becomes a decisive, concrete, visible way of opting for, and aligning with the God of rest.

—Walter Brueggemann, *Sabbath as Resistance*.

Steeple Bells 10:30 am

Christ Candle

Opening the Bible Clifton Stall

Opening Sentences Rev. Buck Cochran

†Responsive Call to Worship Terri Vancil

O God of greatness and goodness,
not only did you set us apart from the rest of creation,
but you made us in your own image.

**O Lord, give us grateful hearts
and let us rejoice in the presence of our Creator.**

O God of might and mercy;
not only did you follow your people into the far country,
but you took up the cross to set them free.

**O Lord, give us grateful hearts
and let us rejoice in the presence of our Redeemer.**

O God of consolation and comfort,
not only did you bring us together in one place,
but you called us to be your witnesses.

**O Lord, give us grateful hearts
and let us rejoice in the presence of our Sustainer.**

Gracious God, you have revealed yourself to us
in more ways than we can recall or recount.

**O Lord, give us grateful hearts
and let us rejoice in the love that will not let us go.**

†Hymn of Praise 2

“Holy, Holy, Holy” NICAEA

Words of Friendship Rev. Courtney Willis

A Time for Children Vicki Champion

†Responsive Psalm 8

Terri Vancil, cantor

Refrain:

O Lord, our Lord, through - out the earth

how glo - rious is your name.

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Music: TRAMPS AND HAWKERS 8.6.8.6.D with refrain) arr. John L. Bell
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*O Lord, our Lord, throughout the earth how glorious is your name,
and glorious too where unseen heavens your majesty proclaim.
On infant lips, in children's song strong defense you raise
to counter enemy and threat, and foil the rebel's ways. **Refrain***

*When I look up and see the skies which your own fingers made,
and wonder at the moon and stars, each perfectly displayed;
then must I ask, "Why do you care? Why love humanity?
And why keep every mortal name fixed in your memory?" **Refrain***

*Yet such as us you made and meant just less than gods to be;
with honor, and with glory, Lord, you crowned humanity.
And then dominion you bestowed for all made by your hand,
all sheep and cattle, birds and fish that move through sea or land. **Refrain***

Prayers of God's People Rev. Courtney Willis

†Scriptural Affirmation of Faith Rev. Willis
Romans 5:1-5

**Therefore, since we are justified by faith,
we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand;
and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that,
but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance,
and endurance produces character, and character produces hope,
and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our
hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.**

†Gospel Hymn 517

"My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" SOLID ROCK

Scripture Reading Amelia Britt

Ephesians 4:17-32

Sermon Rev. Cochran

†Hymn of Response 507

"I Then Shall Live" FINLANDIA

Stewardship Prayer Darlene Biffle, deacon

Musical Offering Rev. Vancil

"To God Be the Glory" Michael Burkhardt

†Doxology

***Sing praise to the Father, sing praise to the Son,
sing praise to the Spirit, great God Three-in-One;
the God of salvation, of glory, and grace,
who wrought our redemption—my soul sing God's praise!***

***Bless the Lord, bless the Lord, bless the Lord, O my soul,
for the grace that redeems, for the love that makes whole;
we come and adore you, your praises proclaim,
and worship before you—the Lord is your name!***

†Benediction Rev. Cochran

Regular **June Church Conference** will take place here in the sanctuary immediately following today's worship service. The brief meeting will include important motions originating with the Building and Grounds committee.