

First Baptist Church of Greensboro
The Worship of God

June 26, 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 (I 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 Berkley Willis

Opening the Bible Lincoln Harrell

Opening Sentences Rev. Courtney Willis

Voluntary Matt Messick *piano*, Doug Vancil *organ*
“Hymn to Joy” Nielson/Young

†Unison Prayer of Invocation Terri Vancil

**God of unending abundance,
in you alone we find all we need in this life
and even more in the life to come.
Open our eyes to see your glory and our ears to hear your Word
until our hearts burn with the joy of your presence
and our lives proclaim the power of your love.
We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

†Hymn of Praise 20

“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” ODE TO JOY

Words of Friendship Rev. Chris Cherry

Recognition of 50-Year Members Rev. Willis

A Time for Children Laura Wall

Prayers of God’s People Amelia Britt, Summer Pastoral Intern

Responsive Psalm 16

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;
I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

**But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.**

I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.

**O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who uphold my lot.**

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.

**I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night,**

I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

**My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.**

For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.

**You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness and joy,
and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.**

†Hymn "When in the Night I Meditate"

When in the night I med - i - tate on
For - ev - er in my thought the Lord be -
My in - most be - ing thrills with joy and
I know that I shall not be left for -
The path of life You show to me; of

mer - cies mul - ti - plied, my grate - ful heart in -
fore my face shall stand; se - cure, un - moved, I
glad - ness fills my breast; be - cause on God my
got - ten in the grave, that from cor - rup - tion
joy and bound - less store is ev - er found at

(continued)

spires my tongue to bless the Lord, my guide.
shall re - main, with God at my right hand.
trust is stayed, my flesh in hope shall rest.
You, O Lord, Your ho - ly one will save.
Your right hand, and pleas - ures ev - er - more.

Words: *Psalter*, 1912;
Music: *MAITLAND*, George N. Allen, 1850

Sermon Rev. Willis
"Comfort and Joy"

†Hymn of Response 519 "It Is Well with My Soul" *VILLE DU HAVRE*

Stewardship Prayer Meganne Gould, deacon

Musical Offering Rev. Vancil, organ
"Tidings of Comfort and Joy" *John Rutter*

Now to the Lord sing prais - es, all you with - in this place,

and with true love and cha - ri - ty each o - ther now em - brace;

Christ Je - sus, our Sav - ior doth bring re - deem - ing grace:

O — tid - ings of com - fort and joy, com - fort and

joy; O — tid - ings of com - fort and joy!

†Benediction Rev. Willis

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee 20

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. 1 Jn. 4:16

1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Broth - er— all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day!
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.

WORDS: Henry Van Dyke, 1907
 MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824

ODE TO JOY
 8.7.8.7.D.

It Is Well with My Soul 519

"The Lord gave and the Lord has taken away; may the name of the Lord be praised." Job 1:21

1. When peace like a riv - er at - tend - eth my way, when sor - rows like
 2. Though Sa - tan should buf - fet, though tri - als should come, let this blest as -
 3. My sin— O, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought, my sin—not in
 4. And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled

sea bil - lows roll, what - ev - er my lot, thou hast taught me to
 sur - ance con - trol: that Christ has re - gard - ed my help - less es -
 part but the whole, is nailed to the cross and I bear it no
 back as a scroll, the trump shall re - sound and the Lord shall de -

Refrain
 say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."
 tate, and has shed his own blood for my soul. It is well
 more: Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! It is
 scend: "E - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.
 well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.

WORDS: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873
 MUSIC: Philip P. Bliss, 1876

VILLE DU HAVRE
 11.8.11.9.Ref.