

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina gathers for
The Worship of God
Sunday, September 25, 2022

The sanctuary flowers are given to the glory of God and in honor of the **Sherouse family** – Bea, Warner, Della, Jack, Jenny and Alan – to recognize Alan’s nine-year anniversary as our Senior Pastor. With love and appreciation by Alan’s **Pastor Search Committee** – Kelly Cornett, Scott Culclasure, Hazel Fisher, Thom Little, Matt Messick, David Rowe, Becky Starnes, Monica Vaughan and Gayle Wiley. The flowers are also given in loving memory of our PSC colleague **Ken Brannon**.

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Christ Candle Declan Stephens

Opening the Bible Raina Gould

Opening Sentences Rev. Alan Sherouse

Voluntary Baker Lawrimore, organ
“A Mighty Fortress” setting by Wilbur Held

†Responsive Psalm 91 Peyton Wheeler, McCormick Music Intern

You who dwell in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty—
you will say to the Lord, “My refuge and my stronghold,
my God in whom I put my trust.”

**For God will rescue you from the snare of the hunter
and from the deadly plague.
God’s wings will cover you, and you will find refuge beneath them;
God’s faithfulness will be your shield and defense.**

You shall not fear any terror in the night,
nor the arrow that flies by day;
nor the plague that stalks in the darkness,
nor the sickness that lays waste at noon.

**I will deliver those who cling to me;
I will behold them, because they know my name.
They will call me, and I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble; I will rescue and honor them.
With long life will I satisfy them.**

†Hymn of Praise 60

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” FAITHFULNESS

Words of Friendship Rev. Amy Starr Russell

A Time for Children Rev. Starr Russell

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Courtney Willis

Gospel Lesson Rev. Willis
Luke 16.19-31

Choral Anthem Sanctuary Choir
“Poor Man Lazarus” Jester Hairston

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

Ordination of Deacons

Newly elected deacons who seek ordination:

Norma Adams, Kara Cox, Clare Johnson, Margaret Petty, Laura Wall, Ruth Ward

Newly elected deacons who have previously been ordained:

Louise Garcia, Cooper Harrell, Thom Little, Joyce Setchfield, Tom Smith

†Litany of Ordination Debbie Huneycutt, Deacon Chair

Congregation, these are the persons whom you have asked to be your servant leaders. Will you hold them and their office in high esteem?

We will.

Do you desire them to lead us with courage, conviction and compassion?

We do.

Deacons, do you humbly accept the congregation's confidence in you?

We do.

And will you pledge to be responsible bearers of this trust?

We do.

Will you be interpreters of our ministry to one another, to this community and to the world?

We will.

Will you be prophets, calling us back to the hard truth we would sometimes rather forget?

We will.

Will you be pastors to us in our sickness and sorrow, and friends to us in times of stress and indecision?

We will.

†Ordination Prayer and Laying on of Hands Rev. Seth Hix, Deacon Chair elect

Congregation, will we give our lives in friendship, community, fellowship and cooperation with these deacons? Will we work together, as we co-labor with God, in the mission to which we are called: the formation of Christian community?

We will.

†Offertory Hymn of Response

"The Church of Christ, in Every Age" GERMANY

1. The church of Christ, in ev - 'ry age Be - set by
 2. A - cross the world, a - cross the street, The vic - tims
 3. Then let the ser - vant church a - rise; A car - ing
 4. For He a - lone, whose blood was shed, Can cure the
 5. We have no mis - sion but to serve In full o -

change, but Spir - it led, Must claim and test its
 of in - jus - tice cry For shel - ter and for
 church that longs to be A part - ner in Christ's
 fe - ver in our blood, And teach us how to
 be - dience to our Lord, To care for all, with -

her - i - tage And keep on ris - ing from the dead.
 bread to eat, And nev - er live un - til they die.
 sac - ri - fice, And clothed in Christ's hu - man - i - ty.
 share our bread And feed the starv - ing mul - ti - tude.
 out re - serve, And spread His lib - er - at - ing Word.

(Baptist Hymnal page 605)

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

60 Great Is Thy Faithfulness

His compassions never fail. They are new every morning. Lam. 3:22-23

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no
2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and
3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear

shad-ow of turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-
stars in their cours-es a-bove join with all na-ture in
pres-ence to cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright

pas-sions they fail not; as thou hast been thou for-ev-er wilt be.
man-i-fold wit-ness to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.
hope for to-mor-row, bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Refrain

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Great is thy faith-ful-ness!

Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have need-ed thy