



"Jesus Comforts the Women of Jerusalem" by Laura James

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina
gathers for
The Worship of God
The Fourth Sunday in Lent, March 10, 2024

Light cannot see inside things. That is what the dark is for: Minding the interior, nurturing the draw of growth through places where death in its own way turns into life. In the glare of neon times, let our eyes not be worn by surfaces that shine with hunger made attractive. That our thoughts may be true light, finding their way into words which have the weight of shadow to hold the layers of truth. That we never place our trust in minds claimed by empty light, where one-sided certainties are driven by false desire. When we look into the heart, may our eyes have the kindness and reverence of candlelight. That the searching of our minds be equal to the oblique crevices and corners where the mystery continues to dwell, glimmering in fugitive light. When we are confined inside the dark house of suffering that moonlight might find a window. When we become false and lost that the severe noon-light Would cast our shadow clear. When we love, that dawn-light would lighten our feet upon the waters. As we grow old, that twilight would illuminate treasure in the fields of memory. And when we come to search for God, let us first be robed in night, put on the mind of morning to feel the rush of light spread slowly inside the color and stillness of a found word.

-"For Light" by John O'Donohue

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Sanctuary Handbells

"O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" Arranged by Susan Geschke

Lighting the Christ Candle Ava Danford

Opening the Bible Sophy Gould

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

†Call to Worship Rev. Chris Cherry

by James Armstrong

To see the life that teems around us,

To give thanks for the gift we have received;

To notice the beauty and promise of spring,

To breathe deeply of the season;

To accept the gift of love,

and to love in return:

This is to worship God.

Let us join our voices together to worship the One who created us all.

†Hymn 72

"To God Be the Glory" TO GOD BE THE GLORY

†Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Life of the Community Rev. Courtney Willis

Time for Children Rev. Sherouse

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

Call to Prayer Rev. Buck Cochran

Worshipers are asked to move toward the cross
in the center of the sanctuary as we sing together our Call to Prayer.

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross" HAMBURG

Stanza 3

*See, from his head, his hands, his feet,
sorrow and love flow mingled down.*

*Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
or thorns compose so rich a crown?*

†Prayers of God's People

Stanza 4

*Were the whole realm of nature mine,
that were a present far too small;
love so amazing, so divine,
demands my soul, my life, my all.*

Gospel Lesson Rev. Seth Hix

John 3:14-21

Sermon Rev. Amy Starr Russell

The Way of the Cross: A Way of Shadows

†Hymn of Response 531

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" ST. MARGARET

If you would like to become a member of this congregation,
you are invited to speak to a pastor at this time.

Stewardship Prayer Trisha Hooper *deacon*

Offertory Meditation Sanctuary Handbells

"Three American Folk Hymns" Arranged by Michael Helman

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Baker Lawrimore

This Sunday, we acknowledge Baptist Women in Ministry's Month of Advocacy, focused on affirming, valuing and elevating women in ministry. A longtime partner of First Baptist Greensboro, BWIM's mission is "to support women who pursue ministry and leadership with sustaining resources and community, and to advocate for the full affirmation of women in ministry and leadership in Baptist life." At a time when many Baptist churches continue to preclude women from pastoral and leadership roles, BWIM's work only grows in importance. Learn more about BWIM and opportunities to support their work at www.bwim.info.

The Way of the Cross

LENT
2024

"If any wish to come after me, let them deny themselves
and take up their cross and follow me."

Sundays

Bible Study (9:30 AM) & Worship (10:30 am)

Wednesdays

Midweek meal (5:30 PM) and activities for children and youth (6pm), Lenten Vespers for adults (6:15 pm), featuring speakers from throughout our community

Fifth Sunday in Lent, March 17

Children & Youth Sunday, including Egg Hunt and Spring Celebration post-worship

Palm Sunday, March 24

Processional of Palms and post-service fellowship

Maundy Thursday, March 28

Service at the Table with Communion and Remembrance (Meal starting at 6:00)

Good Friday, March 29

Guided Meditation in the Sanctuary "Stations of the Cross," 11:00 AM -1:00 PM

Easter Sunday, March 31



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO
CONNECTIONS

March 10, 2024

FBCKIDS & YOUTH SPRING CELEBRATION | Sunday March 17 after Worship

Spring is almost here and we want to celebrate! FBC children, youth, and their families are invited to celebrate spring after worship on Sunday, March 17. Following worship, we will enjoy a meal together in the fellowship hall followed by some games and, of course, our yearly egg hunt on the front lawn. And because spring break falls during Holy Week, we are providing each family with Holy Week-To-Go kits. Wherever you are this Holy Week we want this to be a meaningful time for your family. You do not want to miss this Spring Celebration! No sign-up required. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to either Amy Starr Russell (amy@fbcgso.org) or Chris Cherry (chris@fbcgso.org).

NCTCF VOLUNTEERS | Thursday, March 21

The North Carolina Triad Choral Festival is a day-long intensive for middle and high school students. The culmination of their day is an incredible concert performance. All are welcome at 6:30 pm for the concert. NCTCF runs on volunteers! If you're available on Thursday, March 21 we need help with check-in, lunch set-up/serving, dinner set-up/serving and post concert clean up. If you would like to help but don't have time, we're also in need of donations of food for a lunch, dinner, and the post-concert reception. Email Baker Lawrimore (baker@fbcgso.org) if you are able to volunteer!

TRIVIA NIGHT 2024 | April 7 at 4 pm

Join us for another edition of Trivia Night! A night of fun, random facts, food, and fundraising. Every dollar collected will go towards the cost of our Youth Summer Mission Trip to Savannah, GA and to our week at Passport Camps. Sign up as a team with your team name, or sign up as an individual and we'll find you a team! Youth will be selling concessions and drinks, as well as offering childcare for our younger friends. \$10 per person or you can sign up A whole team at once for \$70. Max of 8 people per team. Sign-up today by scanning the QR code or go to: fbcgso.org/trivia-night-2024



RAMP BUILD WITH COMMUNITY HOUSING SOLUTIONS | Saturday, March 23

We are working with our Mission Partner, Community Housing Solutions for a ramp build project! If you are interested in this build, please contact Buck Cochran (buck@fbcgso.org). Our FBCYouth will help finish up this project by staining the ramp on Monday, March 25. If you have a youth who would like to participate, please contact Chris Cherry (chris@fbcgso.org).

LENTEN MIDWEEK | Wednesdays in Lent starting at 5:30 pm

Join us Wednesday evenings throughout Lent for Lenten Midweek. Our Midweek meal begins at 5:30pm. Activities for children and youth begin at 6 pm. Lenten Vespers for adults, featuring speakers from throughout our community starts at 6:15 pm in the Chapel. Reserve Midweek Meal each week by end of day Monday or making a standing reservation by emailing keighley@fbcgso.org. This week we are having a taco bar! Scan the QR code or go to fbcgso.org/lenten-midweek-2024.



JOINING SUNDAYS | Welcoming New Members March 17 & 31

Are you interested in becoming a member of First Baptist Greensboro? While any Sunday is a great day to join, if you'd like to join the church as part of a larger group, you're invited to participate in one of two upcoming Joining Sundays, March 17 and Easter Sunday, March 31. Rows will be designated for new members, or you can meet Alan at the front of the sanctuary at the designated time. We would love to welcome you formally into the life and ministry of our growing congregation. For questions or more information, contact Alan (pastor@fbcgso.org).

MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE | Thursday, March 28 at 6 pm

We will gather in the Fellowship Hall at 6:00 pm for a Table Service that includes a meal from Mythos, celebration of communion, and a service of shadows leading us toward Good Friday. There will be childcare provided for 4 years and under. Sign-up by Monday, March 25 for the meal by scanning the QR code or go to: fbcgso.org/maundy-thursday-2024



STATIONS OF THE CROSS | A Lenten Art Gallery

This Lent, our Sanctuary walls display the "Stations of the Cross" — a sacred art gallery from artist Laura James. Throughout the season of Lent, you are encouraged to notice the art along the walls of the Sanctuary and find time to reflect on each station. The Sanctuary is open each day during office hours for reflection, using the prompts provided. On Good Friday, from 11:00-1:00 we will offer a time for contemplation and prayer with accompanying music. More at fbcgso.org/stations-of-the-cross

PASTORAL STAFF

CHRIS CHERRY, YOUTH & FAMILIES

ALAN SHEROUSE, SENIOR PASTOR

BUCK COCHRAN, MISSIONS & COMMUNITY

AMY STARR RUSSELL, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

SETH HIX, MUSIC (INTERIM)

COURTNEY WILLIS, FORMATION & CARE

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LOOKING AHEAD

March

10 | INSPIRO: Triad Youth Choir | 2:30 pm
Youth Group | 4 pm
Handbell Rehearsal | 5 pm

13 | Lenten Midweek | 5:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 7:15 pm

14-15 | CBFNC Annual Gathering

7 | FBCKids & Youth Spring Celebration
Following Worship

21 | NCTCF Concert | 6:30 pm

23 | Ramp Build with Community
Housing Solutions

24 | Palm Sunday

28 | Maundy Thursday Service | 6 pm

29 | Good Friday Guided Meditation
in the Sanctuary "Stations of the Cross,"
11:00 AM -1:00 PM

31 | Easter Sunday

April

1 | Office Closed

3 | Midweek | 5:30 pm
Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal | 7:15 pm

5 | Merge (4th & 5th Graders)

7 | Trivia Night | 4 pm

Easter Cross Flowers Memorial and Honorariums



Submissions through Wednesday, March 20



Make a donation towards the purchase of flowers for the Easter cross in honor or in memory of a loved one. Simply fill out the form below, tear it off and give it to Keighley. \$10 per name, cash or check preferred.

In Memory Of _____ by _____

In Memory Of _____ by _____

In Honor Of _____ by _____

In Honor Of _____ by _____

You may also send submissions directly to Keighley Johnson (keighley@fbcgso.org) by Wednesday, March 20 in order for names to be listed in Easter bulletin.