



*Here in this place, there are no foreigners,
for all are welcome in God's house.
Here in this worship, there is only acceptance,
for love is the language of faith.
Here in our lives, there are no divisions,
for God dwells in each of us.*

Thank you for joining us for worship today. It is our truest desire that you feel at home here. The green displayed in our Sanctuary represents growth, indicating the current season of our church year (often called Ordinary Time) during which we look to God to help us strengthen our faith and our service.

The floral arrangement today is given in honor of their teachers, past and present, by the Waters Class.

During November, we are **collecting \$1 bills as part of our offering** to be used to help fund items needed by our community, such as prescription medications, bus passes, and gas vouchers that are not covered through our Benevolence Fund. Last Sunday we received \$90 giving a current total for the month of \$248.

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of First Baptist or about making a profession of faith, please see Thomas Quisenberry in the Narthex after the service. A time will be arranged when you can speak together about the next steps to take in finding your place in our church family.



The Adult Ministry Holiday Luncheon, hosted by the First Friends Council, is Sunday, December 3, at 12:15PM in the Fellowship Hall. The menu includes pork tenderloin medallions, cinnamon apples, green beans, sweet potato casserole, rolls, and your choice of cake. Christmas games and singing will follow lunch. Tickets for this event are \$7 and are available on all Sundays in November during Fellowship Time and after worship. You may purchase tickets during the week by contacting the church office. Payment may be made online by using the QR code below. As a part of this event, we ask that you bring a pack of diapers (for any age or size) as we help support the new Chattanooga Diaper Hub! Please see Jeff Parker with any questions.

Our School of Fine Arts Fall Recital is this afternoon, November 19, at 2:30PM in the Chapel. In addition to celebrating the progress our students have made, we will be recognizing Dr. Steve Tonkinson as he retires following nearly 20 years of teaching clarinet in our school. Please join us for a reception in the Parlor following the recital.

SAVE THE DATE!

Christmas Brunch, Saturday, December 9, beginning at 9:00AM

- We need servers, table hosts, greeter, drivers, and more. Sign-up sheets are available in the lobby near the office beginning tomorrow, November 20.
- On Wednesday, December 6, at 6:15PM all ages will be included as we prep for the brunch, pack gifts, and decorate the Fellowship Hall for all the fun!



With this QR code, you can donate to our budget, pay for event tickets, give to a mission opportunity, and more. Please contact the church office with any questions.

CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, November 19

- 9:15 am Adult Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30 am Library Open
- 10:50 am Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Worship – Deacon Ordination & Blessing of Deacons
- 12:15 pm Youth Fall Retreat Ends
- 12:15 pm Dogwood Committee – E217
- 2:30 pm School of Fine Arts Fall Recital – Chapel

Tuesday, November 21

- 10:00 am Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – E211
- 5:00 pm Investment Committee – E217
- 5:30 pm Moving Forward CJC Classes – Lower Chapel Area

Wednesday, November 22

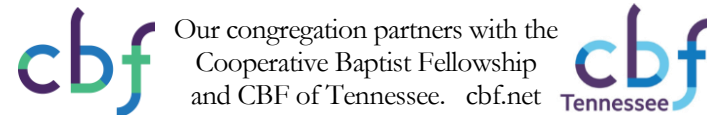
Church Office Closed
No Wednesday Evening Activities

Thursday, November 23

Happy Thanksgiving!
Church Office Closed

Sunday, November 26

- 9:15 am Adult Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite
- 9:30 am Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30 am Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:30 am Library Open
- 10:50 am Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00 am Worship – Christ the King Sunday
- 4:30 pm Youth Choir Rehearsal – FH200
- 5:30 pm Youth Supper – Youth Area
- 6:00 pm Youth Bible Study – Youth Area
- 6:00 pm Adult Choir Rehearsal – Choir Suite



Worship Leaders

- Dr. Thomas Quisenberry-----Senior Pastor
- Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship
- Rev. Michael Sepulveda-----Minister of Children and Youth
- Mr. Ethan McGrath -----Organ
- Ms. Jenny Parker -----Piano

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Chattanooga, Tennessee
November 19, 2023

GATHERING

SONGS OF COMMUNITY *Kenneth Webster*
 CHIMING OF THE TRINITY
 PRELUDE *Reger*
Nun danket alle Gott, Op. 135a, No. 18
 GREETING *Thomas Quisenberry*

APPROACH

CALL TO WORSHIP *Young*
From All That Dwell Below the Skies
 Adult Choir

From all that dwell below the skies let the Creator's praise arise:
 let the Redeemer's Name be sung through ev'ry land, by ev'ry tongue.
 Eternal are thy mercies, Lord; eternal truth attends thy word:
 thy praise shall sound from shore to shore, till suns shall rise and set no more.

PRAYER OF ADORATION *Thomas Quisenberry*

*HYMN *ST. GEORGES' WINDSOR*
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
 (All children are invited to come forward during the final stanza.)

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
 all is safely gathered in as the winter storms begin;
 God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;
 come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
 all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,
 all that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,
 all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er-flowing store.**

**These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;
 and for these our songs we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.
 Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
 come to God's own temple, come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

CHILDREN'S TIME *Michael Sepulveda*

CALL TO PRAYER *Blankenship*
Come unto Me
 Adult Choir

Come unto me, all ye that labor, and I will give you rest.
 Come unto me, all ye that are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.
 Take my yoke upon you, and learn of me;
 for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.
 For my yoke is easy, my burden is light.
 Come unto me, all ye that labor, and I will give you rest.

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY *Michael Sepulveda*

RESPONSE *Medema*

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren pray - ing,
 Lord, send Your Spir - it in this place; Lord, lis - ten to Your chil - dren
 pray - ing, send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

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PROCLAMATION

GOSPEL READING *Thomas Quisenberry*

Matthew 25:14-30 (NRSV)

The word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

MESSAGE *Thomas Quisenberry*

Boldly Still

RESPONSE

*HYMN 613 *BEACH SPRING*

The Servant Song

PREPARATION FOR GIVING *Melissa Mardis*

May God use our time, our talent, our financial resources, our lives
 to encourage the hopeless, build up the broken, and heal the wounded.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS *DIX, arr. Hustad*

For the Beauty of the Earth

*DEDICATION OF GIFTS *OLD 100TH*

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise
 Him, all creatures here be - low; praise Him a - bove, ye heav'n - ly
 host; praise Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *Melissa Mardis*

WORK OF THE CHURCH *Thomas Quisenberry*

Deacon Ordination
Angie Johnson

PRAYER FOR THE NEW DEACONS *Rusty Rouse*

Ann-Marie Blentlinger, Tim Burton, Sylvia Colvin, Roberta Echols,
 Helen Gross, Angie Johnson, Tom McCullough, Ed Nichols, Jane Nichols,
 Hugh Prevost, Susan Rouse, Rodney Strong, Laura Warren

COVENANT OF COMMITMENT *Thomas Quisenberry*

As Deacons called and ordained by the church, will you covenant with
 this church family to serve as enthusiastic encouragers,
 trusted servants, exemplary disciples, and wise counselors to the staff,
 lay leadership, and each member of the congregation?

(All Active Deacons):

I will, through faithful stewardship of my time and resources.

As the church who has called and ordained these, will you covenant to
 receive them as the gifts of Christ to His church? Will you serve and
 pray alongside each of them as First Baptist Church faithfully fulfills its
 calling to minister in downtown Chattanooga and beyond? Will you
 interpret this covenant with the grace and mercy found in Christ?

(People):

We will, through faithful stewardship of our time and resources.

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*BENEDICTION *Thomas Quisenberry*

*RESPONSE *ACCLAMATIONS*

**This is the threefold truth on which our faith depends,
 and with this joyful cry worship begins and ends:**

Christ has died! Christ is ris - en! Christ will come a - gain!

POSTLUDE *Bach*

Nun danket alle Gott, BWV 657

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.

*Please stand, if able. *OL#728820-A*

**TESTIMONY OF THE CANDIDATE
FOR DEACON ORDINATION**

ANGIE JOHNSON

My true faith journey didn't begin until later in my life. I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior around nine years old. My parents divorced when I was eleven or twelve and my sister and I moved with our mother. In adjusting to our new lives, we didn't stay in church. We would visit my grandparents in Kentucky, and they were active in church, and we would attend with them. As a teenager, I thought a little church was better than no church at all.

After my not-so-proud later teenage years and early twenties, I met Tom, my love of a lifetime, in March 1993, and we married in October that same year. We talked about trying to find a church but with his musician schedule, we didn't. In November 1995, Kali was born. Tom's traveling had settled down over the years. In Summer 2020, Tom filled in as sound engineer at a Signal Mountain church. We started attending and decided to join, a decision we would regret. Once they realized we didn't have a mountain zip code, it was as if we weren't good enough for them. It left us "angry at church." Tom started traveling more again and Kali and I traveled with her twirling, so since we couldn't go to church as a family, we didn't go.

Then God's plan started working in us. Tom started teaching at the School of Fine Arts and asked Kali and I if we would like to visit church one Sunday. Well, that is all it took. We started attending Connections, and one Sunday while singing, *Our God Is an Awesome God*, I felt a peace I had never felt before. I knew we were where we were supposed to be. The youth group accepted Kali as one of their own. Tom started playing guitar during worship once we went to one service, and Judy Sullivan introduced me to Charlie Griffith and the Friendship Sunday School class (little did I know at that time how much this class would mean to me and do for me). I found my "family" here: Alishea, David and Abigail, Janice and Samuel, Freida and Levi, and Joe Elkins.

I don't believe my faith had been truly tested until 2019. In February, Kali would spend a week in ICU with a blood clot at the base of her brain. By July 2019, she was 100% clot free! Then in September, our sweet granddaughter Karington would spend a week fighting for her life. We lost her on the 10th of September. The year 2020 tested us all, but it allowed me to spend every day for nine months with Tom that I would soon cherish. In July 2021, Tom was diagnosed with cancer. We lost him in that August. As many times as in the past, this church wrapped me with love, comfort, and support. That is just one of the many things I love about our church: WE DO LIFE TOGETHER!

I've been told my spiritual gift is a giving heart and I hope to use that gift in many special ways!

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