



Our celebration of Trinity Sunday marked the beginning of the season in the church year known as Ordinary Time. In this case the word “ordinary” comes from the word “ordinal” meaning ordered and is used because these Sundays are numbered following Pentecost. The season represents a time of growth and the application of our faith to our everyday lives. This important season takes us through the summer and into the fall. We hope you will join us each week for the journey.

A graduate of Southern Illinois University and Golden Gate Baptist Theological Seminary, **Betsy Kammerdiener** began her career as a missionary in Central and South America, teaching theology and church history. After completing Clinical Pastoral Education, she began working at CommonSpirit Memorial in 2002, first as a chaplain then moving to executive leadership in 2019. Betsy is an ordained minister with the Alliance of Baptists and has pastored Church on the Lake since 2008. She is married to David and has two adult children, Katy and Kris. We are grateful for Betsy’s ministry and welcome her message today.

This morning we are collecting your donations for our **First Baptist CARES** (Community Assistance for Residential Essential Services) fund at the end of worship. These funds go to help those in need pay for utility bills. They are also used to supply 40 food boxes from the Chattanooga Area Food Bank to those needing food. Online donations are welcome as well.

The floral arrangement is given by Regina and Andy Schwall in celebration of their 25th wedding anniversary on July 28.

The rose on the communion table is given in celebration of the birth of a son, Hunter Shepherd Reed, on July 16, to Katie and Will Reed, by Hunter’s grandparents, April and Keith Maynard.

If you would like to know more about becoming a member of First Baptist or about making a profession of faith, please see Jeff Parker 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.

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Our church is evaluating how we communicate with our congregation and community. Your feedback will help us improve our website, strengthen communications, and ensure that members and visitors can easily find information. **Please take a moment to complete the survey** which is easily accessed on our website (fbcchattanooga.org). You may also pick up a printed copy at the Welcome Center in the Lobby and in the Narthex. We need and appreciate each person’s input!

There will be a **churchwide covered-dish lunch** after Worship on Sunday, August 2, as we welcome Thomas Quisenberry back from his sabbatical. Join us in the Fellowship Hall for a wonderful time together. The church will provide chicken tenders. We need you to bring lots of side dishes, plenty of salads, and don’t forget the desserts! Folks will be at the Office Entrance and Fellowship Hall Entrance to collect your food from 8:45-10:55AM.

Chapel Series: Tilson Boshears, tenor, and Praise Meehan, piano, will offer a recital titled “From Love to Laughter” on Sunday, August 2, at 2:00PM in McEwen Chapel. The program includes pieces experienced during their freshman year at Furman University.



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, July 26

- 8:45AM Summer Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary

Monday, July 27

- 9:00AM Preschool BAM Camp – Chapel Entrance
- 9:00AM Music & Arts Camp – Chapel Entrance

Tuesday, July 28

- 9:00AM Preschool BAM Camp – Chapel Entrance
- 9:00AM Music & Arts Camp – Chapel Entrance
- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – Conference Room

Wednesday, July 29

- 9:00AM Preschool BAM Camp – Chapel Entrance
- 9:00AM Music & Arts Camp – Chapel Entrance
- 5:00PM Music & Arts Camp Celebration – Sanctuary

Thursday, July 30

- 2:00PM Shower Ministry – Rec Center Area

Sunday, August 2

- 8:45AM Summer Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15PM Churchwide Covered-Dish Lunch – Fellowship Hall
- 2:00PM Chapel Series: Tilson Boshears & Praise Meehan – Chapel

Tuesday, August 4

- 10:00AM Prayer Shawl Ministry Group – Conference Room

Wednesday, August 5

- 11:00AM FBC Serves at the CHATT Foundation

Sunday, August 9

- 8:45AM Summer Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
- 9:30AM Sunday School/Bible Study
- 10:30AM Fellowship Time – Lobby
- 10:50AM Songs of Community – Sanctuary
- 11:00AM Worship – Sanctuary
- 12:15PM Missions Committee Meeting



Our congregation partners with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship and CBF of Tennessee. cbf.net



Worship Leaders

- Dr. Thomas Quisenberry -----Senior Pastor
- Rev. Jeff Parker-----Minister of Music and Worship
- Rev. Kelly Kunf -----Interim Minister of Youth and Children
- Dr. Darryl Miller-----Organist
- Ms. Jenny Parker-----Pianist
- Ms. Caroline Shoop-----Summer Intern, Youth
- Mr. Tilson Boshears-----Summer Intern, Children
- Ms. Lucy Herrod-----Summer Intern, Children

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FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
Chattanooga, Tennessee
July 26, 2026

GATHERING
SONGS OF COMMUNITY Lucy Herrod & Frances Marandi

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

GREETING Jeff Parker
Welcome this day to the house of our God.
We are greeted in peace and in love.
Welcome this day to the worship of our Creator.
We worship in hope and with grace.
Welcome this day to our community of faith,
where we are sisters and brothers in Christ.
Friends, let us worship God.

PRELUDE R. Haan
Together We Serve
(Hymn 767)

APPROACH
PRAYER OF ADORATION Jeff Parker

*HYMN 265 DUKE STREET
Jesus Shall Reign Where’er the Sun
(All children are invited to come forward during the last stanza.)

CHILDREN’S TIME Tilson Bosbears

EPISTLE READING Caroline Shoop
Romans 8:26-30 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 815 FESTAL SONG
Give to the Winds Thy Fears

EPISTLE READING Caroline Shoop
Romans 8:31-39 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM J. Crutchfield
Neither Death nor Life
Summer Choir; Mark Vogel, solo
When we lose our hold, we are held;
when we lose our hold, we are held, held in the everlasting arms.
My sheep hear my voice and they know me,
they know me, and they follow me,
they follow me and I give them eternal life.
And they shall not die forever.
For I am sure that neither death nor life will ever,
nor things now, nor things to come will ever, nor might powers,
nor height nor depth will ever separate us from the love of God.
No one will snatch them from my hand. (I am sure.)
My sheep hear my voice, and I know them. (I am sure.)
No one will snatch them from my hand. (I am sure.)
I will give them eternal life. (I am sure.)
When we lose our hold, we are held, held in the everlasting arms.
This is the voice of eternal life. I am sure. I am sure.

PROCLAMATION
GOSPEL READING Betsy Kammerdiener
Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52 (NRSV)
The Word of God for the people of God. Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE Betsy Kammerdiener
The Kingdom of God Is Like...an Elephant?

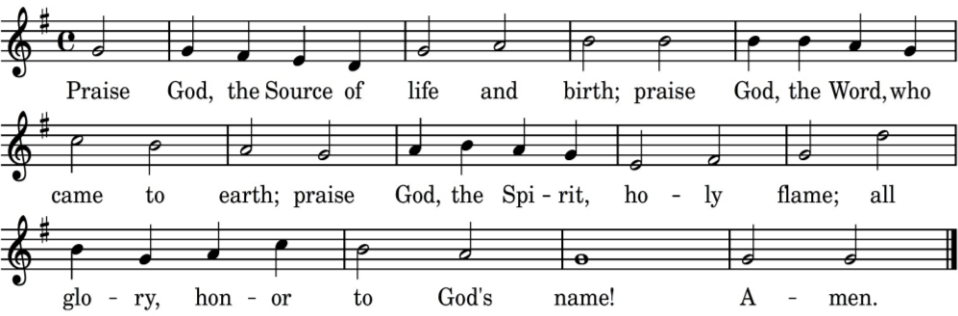
RESPONSE
*HYMN 767 SAN ANSELMO
Together We Serve

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY Kelly Kunf

PREPARATION FOR GIVING Sylvia Colvin
For all who are wandering in the shadows of loneliness,
may our gifts bring light.
For all who have had promises broken,
may our gifts bring healing.
For all who have been left behind by the powerful,
may our gifts offer the gift of community.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS E. Coman
Canticle of the Turning
(Hymn 100)

*DEDICATION OF GIFTS OLD 100TH



*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING Sylvia Colvin

*WORK OF THE CHURCH Jeff Parker

*WORDS OF BLESSING

*BENEDICTION Betsy Kammerdiener

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



POSTLUDE G. Handel
Fugue in D Major

Following the postlude, please exit at your convenience.
An offering for First Baptist CARES will be received as you leave the service today.
*Please stand, if able. OL#728820-A