A Service of Worship Baptism of the Lord

January 14, 2024

11:00 a.m.

As we enter sacred space for worship, quiet your heart and mind, centering your thoughts on God's presence among us.

Gathering for Worship

Prelude

In Thee is Gladness arr. Graham Baxter Jennings, organ; John Fulcher, piano

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Call to Worship

Dr. Grammer

Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world

and indwells our lives.

People: We need not look up to find God,

we need only to look around: within ourselves, beyond ourselves,

into the eyes of another.

Leader: We need not listen for a distant thunder

to find God,

People: We need only listen to the music of life,

the words of children,

the questions of the curious, the rhythm of a heartbeat.

Leader: We worship the God who inhabits our world

and indwells our lives.

People: Let us worship with our whole selves,

knowing we are created, beloved,

and made holy.

Invocation & Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.

Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever.

Amen.

*Hymn 77 Praise to

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

*Please stand as you are able

Hearing the Scriptures

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18 Marsha Frith The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Gospel Lesson Mark 1:4-11

The Gospel of our Lord. Praise be to you, O Christ.

Children's Worship

Pastor Libby

After children's worship, children age 5 and under are invited to join our nursery workers for age-appropriate children's church.

Committing Our Lives

*Hymn 458

Search Me, O God

ELLERS

Prayer of Commitment

Dr. Grammer

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology

OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Engaging the Scriptures

Anthem

When Angels' Song Is Silent

Carter/Bell

Sermon

Epiphany about God: God is Close Dr. Grammer

Remembering Our Baptism

Service of Water

Minister:

Dear friends, on this day of re-creation, we recall Christ's baptism, and we claim

and remember our own.

Congregation: We gather at this font of living water

to celebrate the gift of God's

redeeming grace.

Minister:

For just as the body is one and has many members and all the members of the body,

though many, are one body,

so it is with Christ.

Congregation: For by one Spirit we were all baptized into

one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free, male or female— and were all made to

drink of one Spirit.

Minister: Now you are the body of Christ and

individually members of it.

Affirmation of Faith

Minister:

Do you reaffirm and renew your commitment to Jesus Christ and his Kingdom? If so, say, "I do."

Congregation: I do.

Minister: D

Do you believe in God?

Congregation: I believe in God, the Creator of heaven

and earth.

Minister: Do you trust in the Spirit of God as Guide?

Congregation: I trust that God's Spirit blows where it

will, inspiring many.

Minister: Will you continue in the disciples' teaching

and community, in the breaking of bread,

and in prayer?

Congregation: I will, with God's help.

Minister:

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, respecting the dignity of every

human being?

Congregation: I will, with God's help.

Minister:

May it be so.

Congregation: In this and all we do, keep us faithful to our Savior Jesus Christ, forever and ever.

Amen.

Blessing of Water

Prayer of Blessing

Dr. Grammer

Minister:

Bless by your Holy Spirit, gracious God, this water, that by it we may be reminded of our baptism into Jesus Christ, and that by the power of your Holy Spirit we may be kept faithful until you receive us at last in your eternal home.

Congregation: Glory to you, eternal God, the one who was and is, and shall always be, Amen.

Minister:

Remember your baptism and be thankful.

Please come forward at this time, as you are able, sanitize your hands, and dip your finger into the water and touch your forehead or hand, remembering the waters of baptism. The water will also be available as you exit the Sanctuary if you are unable to come forward at this time.

Say a prayer of thanksgiving as you return to your seat.

Once the congregation has returned to their seats, we will close the service with a hymn and a benediction. We hope you feel the closeness of a God whose Spirit washes over you and know that you too are God's beloved child.

Responding to God

*Song of Response

Hymn 543 Christ Beside Me BUNESSAN (VS. 1,2,4)

*Benediction Dr. Grammer

*Response Near to the Heart of God McAfee

Postlude Finale in G Froberger

Today is Baptism of the Lord Sunday in the Christian

year. Epiphany (January 6) celebrates the manifestation of God in Jesus Christ. The Season of Epiphany continues this emphasis, calling attention to the words and deeds of Jesus' earthly ministry. Today specially marks the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist. The liturgical color is white, symbolizing the purity and holiness of Christ.

This year, during the season of Epiphany, we will seek to know God better through a sermon series called "Epiphanies about God," reading from the Psalms each week. We'll ask questions and seek answers with the psalmists about who God is, how God works, and how we might encounter God in our own lives.

Worship is Live Streamed on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday morning at the worship hour and a video recording is posted on the church website/YouTube page within 24-48 hours. To listen by phone during the worship hour: **Zoom Call-in Number**: 1-833-548-0276; Meeting ID: 276 632 6336 #, #

Children's Worship Bags for all ages are in the Narthex (foyer at the back of the Sanctuary). These bags are intended to help children process what they are hearing and seeing as they worship with their families. Please return the bags after worship so they can be used in our next service.

Giving in Worship at First Baptist – We welcome your gifts to support the mission and ministry of First Baptist Church. You can give in worship by dropping your offering (check/cash) in our offering plate in the Narthex, or you can give online anytime at *fbcmartinsville.com/give*.

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

We are #yourcitychurch in Martinsville...

A diverse community of believers coming from many Christian traditions to worship, learn, and grow together as followers of Jesus.

Serving God in our church, our community, **and the world** by investing our energy and resources to living like Jesus called us to live — in service to God and neighbor.

Growing and changing our ministries to include more variety in our vision so as to meet the needs of our community. Come GROW with us!

If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here.

Come and see what God is doing among us as we worship and serve in Christ's name.

Want to know more? Contact our Pastor: <u>libby@fbcmartinsville.com</u> or 276-632-6336.

Open Invitation

Our congregation wishes to partner with you and your family on a shared journey of faith. Whatever your background, we would love to explore with you how to join with us as we minister to this community together.

Please contact our pastor if you are interested in wanting to know more about following Jesus, how to join this church as an active participant, or if you'd like to recommit yourself to this church and its ministry.

Our doors are always open.



23 Starling Avenue Martinsville, VA 24112 (276) 632-6336

Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer Senior Pastor Rev. David Cameron Associate Pastor for Music & Worship

Caroline Taminger
Associate Pastor
for Families

Baxter Jennings Organist

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facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/

"Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope"



Baptism of the Lord

*Hymn 77 Praise to the

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation! All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near; join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth! shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth! hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee, surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee, Ponder anew what the Almighty can do, if with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him! All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him! Let the Amen sound from his people again: gladly forever adore him.

*Hymn 458

Search Me. O God

ELLERS

Search me, O God, and know my heart today; try me, O Savior, know my thoughts, I pray. See if there be some wicked way in me; cleanse me from every sin and set me free.

I praise thee, Lord, for cleansing me from sin; fulfill thy Word, and make me pure within. Fill me with fire where once I burned with shame; grant my desire to magnify thy name.

Lord, take my life and make it wholly thine; fill my poor heart with thy great love divine. Take all my will, my passion, self, and pride; I now surrender; Lord, in me abide.

O holy Spirit, revival comes from thee; send a revival—start the work in me. Thy Word declares thou wilt supply our need; for blessings now, O Lord, I humbly plead.

*Song of Response

Hymn 543

Christ Beside Me (VS. 1,2,4) **BUNESSAN**

Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me never to part.

Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all around me shield in the strife; Christ in my sleeping, Christ in my sitting, Christ in my rising—light of my life.

Christ beside me, Christ before me, Christ behind me, King of my heart; Christ within me, Christ below me, Christ above me never to part.

Prayer Reminder

Church Family: Alice Bowman, John Buck, John Burgess, Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, Martha Drane, Nita Gauldin, Ann Grogan, Armand Harrell, George Lester, Betsy Miers, Betty Minter, Betty Prillaman, Shirley Roark, Benny Shires, Shirley Stone, Yvonne Turner, Gayle Williams

January Birthdays: 1 Herb Collins, 10 Ran Isley, 16 Bobby Moore, 18 Karen Doss, 22 Martha Drane, 23 Yvonne Turner, 29 Joretta Draper, Kenny Smith, 30 Richard Dorr

Deacons of the Month: Bobby Moore and Ruth Anne CollinsDeacons of the month assist your pastor and other deacons with visitation as needed.

Worship Care Schedule

Sunday, January 14th – Linda Gale Sunday, January 21st – Caroline Taminger

Gratitude for Giving

CHRISTMAS TREE FUND: A donation has been made in memory of Jack Lester and Helen Johnston by their family.

Grace Network Jan-Mar. 2024 Food Assignment: Sugar (4lb.) Please drop the food off in the Missions Room at the church.

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, January 14

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Rm 105-107/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Journey Small Group-Rm 110/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School-Church Nursery
11:00 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary/Online

Monday, January 15

Office & ELC Closed for Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Tuesday, January 16

10:00 a.m. Children's Chapel-Sanctuary

5:00 p.m. Business & Finance Committee-Rm.105

Wednesday, January 17

11:00 a.m. Trustee Meeting-Conference Room

Thursday, January 18

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-Deuteronomy-Rm 105/Zoom

12:15 p.m. ELC Committee-Rm. 105
5:30 p.m. Kid's Church-Rm 101
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thursday Night Kid's Church, Room 101

Kid's church will begin again on Thursday, January 18th from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. This is a weekly Faith Development Class for ages 4-10 with Pastor Caroline.

Offering Envelopes for 2024 - pick up in the Bell Tower.

2024 Pledge Campaign Update

Thank you for submitting your 2024 pledge! So far for 2024 we have received 27 pledges totaling \$158,936. Pledge cards are still avaible in the church office.

2024 Wish List from the FBC Flower Committee-Can you donate? New Christmas Trees

The Flower Committee would like to raise money to buy muchneeded new Christmas Trees for the Narthex and Sanctuary. The current trees are in bad shape – the lights no longer work and the branches are broken. We are looking to buy three 9' pre-lit trees. Each tree will cost \$799 for a total of \$2,397. To date: 1 Tree donated.

New Green Paraments

We would like to upgrade our green paraments to a more modern green color and design. The cost for paraments (Lord's Table and pulpit) is around \$1,500.

Worship Banners with stands for the Sanctuary

These banners depicting the different liturgical seasons would be 3'x9' and would hang on a stand in the Sanctuary to focus our worship for each season. The stands are \$300 each (need two) and the banners range from \$200-280 each (2 per season, reusable).

If you would like to donate to the Flower Fund for any of these projects, you may do so in memory/honor of a loved one.

The Warming Center of Martinsville & Henry Co.

The Center is now located at the Salvation Army, 603 Memorial Blvd. S, Martinsville, VA. To learn more about how you can volunteer, see your e-newsletter or the church bulletin board for a list of donations needed.

Patrick Henry Elementary Food Pantry

The Missions Committee invites the church to serve children in our community through food donation. Patrick Henry Elementary school is providing food bags for students who need extra food over the weekends. A list of items can be found on the bulletin board outside the church office. Please place any of the needed items in the box marked "PHE" in Room 103, the Missions Room.

Donations Delivery

Can you help FBC deliver donations to partner organizations? If interested, please contact the church office.

FBC Missions Year In Review 2023

See what FBC has participated in and donated to for 2023. Visit: https: fbcmartinsville.com/a-year-of-giving-fbc-missions-review-2023/to see a brochure outlining our projects and donations! A printed version is avaible in the Narthex.