

WORSHIP NOTES

We welcome guests worshipping with us. Learning experiences for preschool children and infants are offered during the worship hour in the children's building. Large print bulletins with hymns and enhanced hearing aids are available for use in this service. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you might have. We are very glad you are here.

To learn more about the life and ministry of First Baptist Church of Asheville, guests are invited to connect with one of the ministers at the doors of the sanctuary following the service. Guests may also complete the *Connect Now* card in the bulletin and place it in the plate during the offertory. The ministry staff will be in touch in writing or by phone this week. We want to know you and share more about this congregation with you.

The season of Lent is the forty day period (not including Sundays) leading up to Easter. These days mirror Jesus' own forty day wilderness sojourn. Lent is a time for personal reflection, confession, and renewal. The color purple symbolizes the deep introspection of the season.

Leaders in worship include the Adult Choir and Darlene Schleider - deacon of the week.

You may view today's and past sanctuary worship services at www.fbca.net on the *Video* page accessed through the *Worship* tab. Audio files of sermons are available on our website, and sermons on CD may be ordered through the church office.

MINISTRY LEADERS

Mr. Tate Addis	Organist
Rev. David Blackmon	Coordinating Pastor
Rev. Tommy Bratton	Minister of Christian Formation
Rev. Leah Brown	Minister with Senior Adults
Dr. Casey Callahan	Minister with Students
Dr. Mack Dennis	Pastor
Rev. Eddie L. Morgan	Ministry Associate
Rev. Clark Sorrells	Minister of Music
Rev. Karen Sorrells	Associate Minister of Music
Rev. Amy Stertz	Minister with Children and Families



Freedom

Friendship

Faith

Sanctuary Worship
First Baptist Church of Asheville



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ASHEVILLE
March 11, 2018 11:00 a.m.
Fourth Sunday in Lent

Chiming of the Hour

Love for God

*Hymn of Praise 361 *My Jesus, I Love Thee* GORDON

*Invocation Karen Sorrells

With great love and gratitude, we lift our hearts to you in one voice as we pray,

**Great and Almighty God, if ever we loved you,
it is now, for you have created us, sustained us and saved us.
Through your sacrifice we remember who we are as your children,
and we long to be in the security of your parental care.
Help us to rely on your wisdom and guidance
and let us each rest in the love of your Son,
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
now and forever. Amen.**

Forgiveness for Sin

Call to Confession Psalm 22:10-15

Prayers of Confession

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We find ourselves parched by the power of evil in this world,
and our souls are thirsty for your lovingkindness.
Show us the dry emptiness of our selfishness and pride,
and humble us in your sight by the awareness of our sin.
Save us from ourselves and reveal to us the abundant life
of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whom we find our redemption
and in whose name we pray, Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness Daniel Shetley

Peace for Another

*Sharing Peace David Blackmon

*Hymn of Longing 677 *When We Are Tested* SLANE

Word for All

Hebrew Lesson Numbers 21:4-9 Kate Raybon

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Psalms 131* Jeffrey Van

O Lord, my heart is not lifted up, my eyes are not raised too high;
I do not occupy myself with things too great and too marvelous for me.
But I have calmed and quieted my soul like a child quieted at its mother's breast.
O Israel, O hope in the Lord from this time forth and forevermore. Have mercy, Lord.

Sermon *God the Snake Handler* Mack Dennis

Ministry for Creation

Prayers of the People Tommy Bratton

Invitation to Discipleship

*Hymn of Response 76 *If You Will Only Let God Guide You* NEUMARK

Response through Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *Cantilation* Nassim Maaloufe
Richard Demy, euphonium

*Hymn of Dedication 12 *God, Our Father, We Adore Thee* BEECHER
Stanza 4

*Prayer of Dedication Darlene Schleider

Opportunities for Continued Response

Postlude *Trumpet Call* Kenneth Downie
Benediction

*Those who are able will stand.