



Jerzy Nowosielski, *The Baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan*

Welcome to First Baptist Church of Asheville. Today is the Baptism of the Lord when we commemorate the beginning of Jesus' public ministry with his being baptized by John in the Jordan. The heavens open, the Holy Spirit descends as a dove, and we hear the voice of God: "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased." At this festival of the Christian year, we not only remember Jesus' baptism, but we celebrate our own: the baptism we share with Christ.

Worship care for preschool children and infants is offered during this hour in the children's building. Large print hymns and T-coil access are available at the back of the Sanctuary. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you may have.

## GATHERING

### CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Christ unser Herr zum Jordan kam* Dieterich Buxtehude

GREETING Emily Floyd

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

All who thirst, come to the water  
and drink deeply of these living streams.

**Come, all who are weary;  
come, all who yearn for forgiveness.**

Our gracious God beckons and blesses us.  
**Let us give praise for new life in Christ.**

\*HYMN 453 *Praise and Thanksgiving Be to God* CHRISTE SANCTORUM

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Psalm 29 Amy Stertz

Ascribe to the Lord, you gods, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.

**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due the divine name;  
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.**

The voice of the Lord is upon the waters; the God of glory thunders;  
The Lord is upon the mighty waters.

**The voice of the Lord is a powerful voice;  
the voice of the Lord is a voice of splendor.**

The voice of the Lord breaks the cedar trees;  
The Lord breaks the cedars of Lebanon  
and makes Lebanon skip like a calf,  
and Mount Hermon like a young wild ox.

**The voice of the Lord splits the flames of fire;  
the voice of the Lord shakes the wilderness;  
the Lord shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.**

The voice of the Lord makes the oak trees writhe  
and strips the forests bare.

And in the temple of the Lord all are crying, "Glory!"

**The Lord sits enthroned above the flood;  
the Lord sits enthroned as sovereign for evermore.**

The Lord shall give strength to his people;  
the Lord shall give this people the blessing of peace.

### \*SHARING PEACE

## PROCLAIMING

\*HYMN 233 *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* BRIDEGROOM

\*GOSPEL LESSON Luke 3:15-22 Lynnell Goacher

The word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

## RESPONDING

PASTORAL PRAYER

Will Arledge

THE APOSTLES' CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

**He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.**

**He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,**

**the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

*Cuba Partnership*

Christie Dresback

OFFERTORY

*How Firm a Foundation*

Tom Trenney

How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
is laid for your faith in God's excellent Word!

What more can be said than to you God hath said,  
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

"Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
for I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

"When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
the rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
for I will be near thee, thy troubles to bless,  
and sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

"When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
my grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
the flame shall not hurt thee; I only design  
thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.

"The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose,  
I will not, I will not desert to its foes;  
that soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,  
I'll never, no, never, no, never forsake."

– John Rippon, 1787

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Mary Cunningham

COMMISSIONING OF CUBA MISSION TEAM

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN 561

*Shall We Gather at the River*

HANSON PLACE

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL BENEDICTION *Danish Amen*

\*POSTLUDE *Fantasia super Komm, Heiliger Geist, BWV 651*

J.S. Bach

\*Those who are able please stand.

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Worship leaders include Lay Reader Lynnell Goacher, Deacon of the Week Mary Cunningham, and the Adult Choir.

This morning's art is Jerzy Nowosielski's *The Baptism of Jesus Christ in the Jordan*, 1964. Oil on canvas, 100 × 80 cm. Jerzy Nowosielski (1923 – 2011) was a Polish painter, graphic artist, scenographer, illustrator, and Eastern Orthodox theologian. He is regarded among the greatest contemporary Polish icon painters.

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Rev. Laura Addis

Associate Pastor of Youth

Mr. Tate Addis

Associate Director of Music and Organist

Mr. Will Arledge

Pastoral Resident

Rev. Leah Brown

Pastor of Congregational Care

Dr. Casey Callahan

Coordinating Pastor

Dr. Mack Dennis

Senior Pastor

Mrs. Emily Floyd

Pastor of Music and Worship

Rev. Amy Stertz

Pastor of Christian Formation and Children



## THIS WEEK

### Bible Study

Today at 10:00 a.m.

### Adult Choir

Today at 10:45 a.m.

### Asheville Youth Choirs Resume

Today

4:00 p.m.

Youth Chorale

5:00 p.m.

Concert Choir

### Youth Koinonia Resumes

Today at 5:00 p.m.

### Wednesday Night Schedule

(See schedule below)

### Free Market & Lunch at the Crossroads

Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

# WELCOME

January 12, 2025

If you are a guest with us today, greetings! We joyfully proclaim the sacred worth of all people and welcome you with glad hearts. Please complete a guest card from your pew and place it in the plate during the Offertory. We would love to connect with you.

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

What's happening with the Asheville Youth Choirs? The youth will take an exciting trip to Myrtle Beach to sing in the Festival by the Sea, a CBF worship-based choir festival. Emily Floyd is the guest conductor for the festival. The youth will also join with the Asheville Symphony Chorus to sing Mozart's Coronation Mass. We are still enrolling singers grades 2-12 for our spring season.

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

Mary Cunningham

## PASTOR ON CALL

Amy Stertz

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

Meal: 5:00 p.m.

Junior Choir: 5:40 p.m.

Adult Chapel Study with the  
*Center for Faith & Life*: 6:00 p.m.

AgapeKids: 6:00 p.m.

Handbells: 6:00 p.m.

Cherub Choir: 6:10 p.m.

Adult Choir: 7:00 p.m.

### Menu

Ham

Mac & Cheese

Fried Okra

Biscuits

Banana Pudding

*(\$5/adult, \$3/child,  
\$20/family max)*



TO  
GIVE  
ONLINE

FBCA.NET  
828.252.4781  
5 OAK STREET  
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801



*The Many Moods Christmas Concert 2024*

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**Wednesday in the Chapel with the *Center for Faith and Life*: Epiphany Artist Series**

Wednesday, January 15 \* 6:00 p.m. \* Chapel

Join us for our second evening of the *Center for Faith and Life*'s Epiphany Artist series with Scott Hughes. In this interview we will explore Scott's medical memoir, *Finding Venice*, a powerful exploration of grief, resilience, and faith in the aftermath of a transformative medical event. Scott's wife Linda and daughter Megan will join us for this moving conversation. Purchase a collection of *Finding Venice* at Malaprop's Bookstore or in the Chapel, and get ready for a book signing.

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**FBCA Mission Opportunity; Puerto Rico**

March 23-29

Would you be able to provide disaster response work for a week in Puerto Rico next Spring? No experience is necessary, just a willingness to serve our sisters and brothers who are still recovering from extensive hurricane damage. This mission trip will take place March 23-29, with team leader Kristen Kirby coordinating all logistics. The team will be housed at First Baptist Church of Rio Piedras, just outside of San Juan. Participants are responsible for their own airfare. If you are interested in being added to the list of potential mission team members, or would like more mission trip information, contact Kristen Kirby at [kbkirbs@gmail.com](mailto:kbkirbs@gmail.com).