



First Baptist
Church
of Asheville

beautiful belonging

SERVICE OF WORSHIP
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
August 9, 2026
Sanctuary, 11:00 a.m.



The Lord appears to Elijah at the entrance to the cave in which he took refuge,
Marc Chagall

We warmly welcome all members and guests who are joining us for worship today. In the Christian calendar, we are currently observing the Season After Pentecost, also known as Ordinary Time. The season of Ordinary Time refers to the Sundays of the year that fall outside the periods of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The word “ordinary” refers to the ordinal numbers assigned to each Sunday as we count the weeks between the Church’s seasons. Ordinary Time can be understood as the living out of the Christian faith and the meaning of Christ’s resurrection in our day-to-day lives. The liturgical color for the season is green, representing the life and growth of the church and its ministry.

Worship care for preschool children and infants is offered in the children’s building during the worship hour. Large print hymn sheets and T-coil access are available at the entrances to the Sanctuary. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you may have.

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

Bailee Brandon

PRELUDE

“Pastorale on *Blessed Assurance*”
Rebecca McClain, Organ

by Robert Lau

GREETING

Kendra Plating

INVOCATION

CHORAL INTROIT “Lift Thine Eyes” from *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn
Kelly Belcher, Laura Bratton, & Anne Raybon

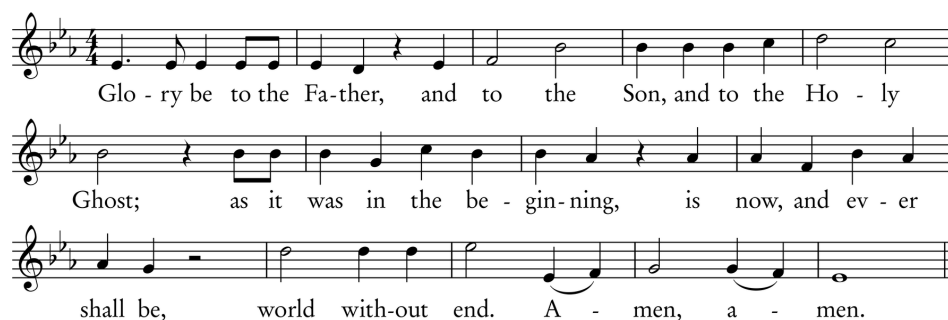
*HYMN 478 “God Is Calling Through the Whisper” W ZLOBIE LEZY

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*) Justin Addington

Faithful God,
we confess that we often search for you in the loud and dramatic,
while overlooking your quiet voice calling us to deeper trust.
We become distracted by fear, discouraged by the work before us,
and convinced that we are alone.
Instead of listening for your Spirit,
we rush ahead with our own plans or retreat into silence and despair.
Forgive us when we fail to live as people of your peace.
Restore what is broken within us.
Teach us to listen with attentive hearts,
to walk in your ways, and to trust that you are working
even when we cannot see the whole picture.
Let your steadfast love and faithfulness meet in us,
so that righteousness may flourish through our lives.
Renew us by your grace and lead us in the path of your peace. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI “Glory Be to the Father ” GREATOR EX



*SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 85:8-13

Paula Garrett

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“Whispering Hope”

by Septimus Winner

Rob Sine & Adam Bachman, Duet

SECOND LESSON

1 Kings 19:9-18

Bob Porter

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Out of the Cave”

Mae Craig

RESPONDING

HYMN 619

“Blessed Assurance”

ASSURANCE

(Please remain seated to sing.)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Will Arledge

CHORAL RESPONSE “Cast Thy Burden” from *Elijah* by Felix Mendelssohn

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Brenda Gorsuch, Sanctuary Centennial

OFFERTORY

“It Is Enough” from *Elijah*

by Felix Mendelssohn

Craig Price, Baritone

(The text is taken from today's reading from 1 Kings.)

*DOXOLOGY “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow” OLD 100TH

The musical notation is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here be - low; praise God, a - bove ye heaven - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - - men.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jamie Gorsuch

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

Casey Callahan

*HYMN 413

“Dear Lord and Father of Mankind”

REST

SENDING FORTH

CALL TO COMMUNITY

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

“The Lord Bless You”

by John Rutter

*POSTLUDE

“Carillon”

by Gordon Young

**Those who are able, please stand.*

Today we welcome Ms. Mae Craig as our guest proclaimer while our Senior Pastor, Mack Dennis, is away on sabbatical. Mae is a student at Wake Forest Divinity School and has been serving as our Summer Youth Intern. This is Mae’s last Sunday with us before returning to school. We thank her for her leadership and wish her all the best in the year ahead.

The artwork featured on the cover of today’s order of worship is *The Lord appears to Elijah at the entrance to the cave in which he took refuge*, by Marc Chagall. Lithography on paper, 1956. Chagall was a Russian-French artist of Belarusian Jewish origin who created works in virtually every artistic format, including painting, book illustrations, stained glass, stage sets, ceramics, tapestries, and prints.

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PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Justin Addington

Pastor of Music and Worship

Mr. Will Arledge

Pastor of Youth and Young Adults

Dr. Casey Callahan

Coordinating Pastor

Ms. Mae Craig

Summer Youth Intern

Dr. Mack Dennis

Senior Pastor

Dr. Paula Garrett

Pastoral Resident

Dr. Kendra Plating

Interim Pastor of Congregational Care

Rev. Amy Stertz

Pastor of Christian Formation and Children



THIS WEEK

Bible Study
Today at 9:45 a.m.

Summer Choir
Today at 10:20 a.m.

Pick Up Basketball
Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Yarn Birds
Wednesday at 2:00 p.m.

Pick Up Pickleball
Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

**Free Market & Lunch
at the Crossroads**
Thursday
at 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME

August 9, 2026

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 the “Connect with Us” card from your pew, and place it in the plate during the Offertory. We would love to connect with you.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

In 2023, our church received a \$1.25 million grant to develop Karis Parenting, a ministry helping parents nurture faith in preschoolers in everyday life. This October, seven Karis board books launch nationally in bookstores nationwide and on Amazon, bringing the Via Karis born at First Baptist to families across the country.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Leesa Brandon

PASTOR ON CALL

Kendra Plating

AUGUST SCHEDULE

August 16	A Time of Prayer (9:15 a.m.)
August 16	Church Picnic (1:00 p.m.)
August 22	Rising 7 th Grade Retreat
August 23	Promotion Sunday
August 26	Wednesday Night Activities Resume



TO
GIVE
ONLINE

FBCA.NET
828.252.4781
5 OAK STREET
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801



FirstShine Summer Camp

Summer Choir

Sundays in August * 10:20 a.m. * Crocker Auditorium

Our Summer Choir meets Sundays in July and August at 10:20 a.m. in Crocker Auditorium to prepare a simple anthem for that day's worship service. No robes are required! It's a great opportunity to try choir, whether you're new or returning, and to meet and sing with our new Pastor of Music and Worship.

Church Picnic

Sunday, August 16 * 1:00 p.m. * Camp Rockmont

The summer church picnic is a great opportunity for our church family to come together for fellowship, food, and fun! We will provide hamburgers and hotdogs.

Please bring a side dish or dessert to share. Waterfront activities: Beach Swimming, Canoes, Paddleboards, Gullywasher (slide), Zip Line, and the "blob". We hope you can join us!

Promotion Sunday Breakfast

Sunday, August 23

Children * 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. * The Commons

Children and parents are invited to join us for a light breakfast to learn about the upcoming church year and opportunities for your family this fall.

Youth & Young Adult * 9:45 – 10:30 a.m. * Dining Room

Youth, youth parents, youth volunteers, and young adults join us for a light breakfast as we welcome Will and learn more about upcoming opportunities to participate and volunteer in Youth Ministry. This will be a great time for parents and youth and young adults to connect, ask questions, and hear what's ahead for the year.