



Churinga (pure light, glory of God), Frank Wesley

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

Collin Campbell

PRELUDE

“Fantasy on *Mit Freuden Zart*” by Richard Williamson
Rebecca McClain, Organ

GREETING

Paula Garrett

INVOCATION

CHORAL INTROIT

“Blessed Be the Name”

by Ralph Hudson

*HYMN 315

“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

MIT FREUDEN

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In Unison*)

Amy Stertz

Merciful God, our help is in you, yet too often we trust in ourselves.

When the waters rise and the way is uncertain,
we forget your faithfulness and cling to our own strength.

You call us to offer our whole lives to you,
yet we conform to the ways of the world
and resist the renewing of our minds.

You have given each of us gifts to share,
yet we compare ourselves with others
and fail to use what you have given us for the good of all.

Forgive us, O God.

Free us from what binds us, renew us by your grace,
and teach us to live with humility, gratitude, and faith.

May our lives become an offering of love and service,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI

“Glory Be to the Father ”

GREATOREX

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev - er
shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

PROCLAIMING

FIRST LESSON

Psalm 124

Will Arledge

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” arr. Gilbert Martin
(The text may be found on page 186 of the hymnal.)

SECOND LESSON

Romans 12:1-8

Celeste Collins

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“A Liturgy of Life”

Casey Callahan

RESPONDING

MOMENT FOR MEDITATION

LITANY FOR NEW BEGINNINGS

Pastoral Staff

...For all our students, we pray:

May God bless and guide you.

...For all who teach, lead, serve, feed, counsel,
protect, and care for our students, we pray:

May God bless and guide you.

...For all who nurture children and
young people, we pray:

May God bless and guide you.

...For all who lead among us, we pray:

May God bless and guide you.

...For the ministries we begin and
renew together, we pray:

May God bless and guide them.

...For First Baptist Church of Asheville and
the mission God has entrusted to us, we pray:

May God bless and guide us.

...Thanks be to God.

Amen.

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Elle Dennis & Tea Bowen-Zerbe
First Shine Camp

OFFERTORY

“Lord, Here Am I”

arr. John Ness Beck

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



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise
 God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise
 God, a - bove ye heaven - ly host; praise
 Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leesa Brandon

*INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

SENDING FORTH

*HYMN 41

“There’s a Wideness in God’s Mercy”

WELLESLEY

CALL TO COMMUNITY

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

“We Walk by Faith”

by Lloyd Larson

*POSTLUDE

“Trumpet Tune”

by Martha Sobaje

**Those who are able, please stand.*

The artwork featured on the cover of today’s order of worship is *Churinga* (*pure light, glory of God*), by Frank Wesley. Wesley (1923-2002) is an internationally recognized Indian-Australian artist. He was born in Azamgarh, Uttar Pradesh into an Indian Methodist family. Wesley saw “the Sacred in all of life” and saw himself as an artist through whom God was speaking.



THIS WEEK

Bible Study
Today at 9:45 a.m.

Summer Choir
Today at 10:20 a.m.

**Children's
Promotion Breakfast**
Today at 9:30 a.m.

**Youth & Young
Adult Promotion
Breakfast**
Today at 9:45 a.m.

**First Day of
FirstKids Preschool**
Tuesday at 9:00 a.m.

**Wednesday
Night Activities**
See schedule below

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

WELCOME

August 23, 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

The Via Karis tells us to break bread weekly with others. We do that as a church family around the communion table and Wednesday night table. We open our table to the community each Thursday for the Lunch at the Crossroads and at the communion table in the chapel service following lunch.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Leesa Brandon

PASTOR ON CALL

Justin Addington

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

Meal: 5:00 p.m.

Adult Chapel Study: 6:00 p.m.

AgapeKids: 6:00 p.m.

Youth Koinonia: 6:00 p.m.

Adult Choir (Sept. 9): 7:00 p.m.

Menu

Hamburgers & Hot
Dogs, Fries, Baked
Beans, Macaroni
Salad, Watermelon, &
Strawberry Shortcake

*(New \$7/adult, \$3/child &
youth, \$20/family max)*



TO
GIVE
ONLINE

FBCA.NET
828.252.4781
5 OAK STREET
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801



Summer Picnic 2026

Wednesday Evening Activities Resume August 26

Join us Wednesday evenings as we gather around the table, reconnect, and begin a new season of ministry together.

5:00–6:00 p.m. – Fellowship Meal

Meet in the Dining Room at 5:00 p.m. to enjoy a meal together before activities begin. (\$7adult/\$3children & youth/\$20 family max).

6:00–7:00 p.m. – Program Activities

AgapeKids – A time for children (3 years old- 6th grade) to engage in missions, faith development, and worship. Children should be dropped off and picked up in the gym.

Childcare – Infant-2 year olds (CB218)

Youth Koinonia – A space for youth to connect through small groups, engaging activities, and deep discussions about faith and life (4th floor, Youth Room).

Adult Study – Adults will gather in the Chapel to celebrate the ministries of the summer and look ahead to opportunities in the coming church year, including music, missions, faith formation, and the centennial anniversary of our Sanctuary.

7:00 p.m. – Adult Choir rehearsals resume September 9
(Crocker)

PASTORAL STAFF

Dr. Justin Addington

Pastor of Music and Worship

Mr. Will Arledge

Pastor of Youth and Young Adults

Dr. Casey Callahan

Coordinating Pastor

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