

OCTOBER 12 2025

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
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Call to Worship:

Praise the Lord!

Sing to the Lord a new song, *And* His praise in the assembly of saints.

Let Israel rejoice in their Maker

Let the children of Zion be joyful in their King.

For the Lord takes pleasure in His people; He will beautify the humble with salvation.

Let the saints be joyful in glory; Praise the Lord!

Hymn of Praise: #10 O Worship the King

Prayer for God's Blessing

Confession of Sin:

Merciful God, you pardon all who truly repent and turn to you.

We humbly confess our sins and ask for your mercy. We have not loved you with a pure heart, nor have we loved our neighbor as ourselves.

We have not done justice, loved kindness, or walked humbly with you, our God.

Have mercy on us, O God, in your loving-kindness. In your great compassion, cleanse us from our sin.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within us.

Do not cast us away from your presence, or take your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation and sustain us with your bountiful Spirit. Amen.

Hymn of Meditation: When I See the Blood

Christ our Redeemer died on the cross,
Died for the sinner, paid all his due;
Sprinkle your soul with the blood of the Lamb,
And I'll pass over you

Chiefest of sinners, Jesus will save;
All He has promised, surely He'll do;
Wash in the fountain where sinners can bath,
And I'll pass over you.

Chorus:
When I see the blood of my holy One
My wrath shall be quenched, my judgment be thru
When I see the blood of my only Son
Yes I will pass over you.

Judgment is coming, and all will be there,
Each one receiving justly his due;
Hide in the saving, sin-cleansing blood,
And I'll pass over you.

Chorus

O great compassion! O boundless love!
Now found with power, Jesus is true!
Find peace and shelter under the blood,
And I'll pass over you.

Chorus

Assurance of Pardon:

Be encouraged by the promises of God:

God, who is rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ

By grace you have been saved!

And He has raised *us* up together, and made *us* sit together in the heavenly *places* in Christ Jesus

that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His grace in *His* kindness toward us in Christ Jesus.

Thanks be to God for His grace and mercy toward us.

Hymn: How Deep the Father's Love for Us

Hymn: Before the Throne of God Above

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea:
A great High Priest whose name is Love,
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on his hands,
My name is written on his heart.
I know that while in Heav'n he stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart,
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see him there,
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died,
My sinful soul is counted free,
For God the just is satisfied
To look on him and pardon me,
To look on him and pardon me.

Behold him there, the risen Lamb,
My perfect, spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace.
One with himself I cannot die;
My soul is purchased by his blood.
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ, my Savior and my God,
With Christ, my Savior and my God.

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture: John 3: 1-21

Sermon: Gazing in Faith

¹There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. ² This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, “Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him.”

³ Jesus answered and said to him, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.”

⁴ Nicodemus said to Him, “How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother’s womb and be born?”

⁵ Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. ⁷ Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’ ⁸ The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

⁹ Nicodemus answered and said to Him, “How can these things be?”

¹⁰ Jesus answered and said to him, “Are you the teacher of Israel, and do not know these things? ¹¹ Most assuredly, I say to you, We speak what We know and testify what We have seen, and you do not receive Our witness. ¹² If I have told you earthly things and you do not believe, how will you believe if I tell you heavenly things? ¹³ No one has ascended to heaven but He who came down from heaven, that is, the Son of Man who is in heaven. ¹⁴ And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵ that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁶ For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. ¹⁷ For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

¹⁸ “He who believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God. ¹⁹ And this is the condemnation, that the light has come into the world, and men loved darkness rather than light, because their deeds were evil.

²⁰ For everyone practicing evil hates the light and does not come to the light, lest his deeds should be exposed. ²¹ But he who does the truth comes to the light, that his deeds may be clearly seen, that they have been done in God.”

Isaiah 44:3

³ For I will pour water on him who is thirsty,
And floods on the dry ground;
I will pour My Spirit on your descendants,
And My blessing on your offspring;

Ezekiel 36:25-27

²⁵ Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. ²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

Titus 3:5

⁵ not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,

1 Corinthians 2:9

⁹ But as it is written:

“Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him.”

2 Corinthians 5:17

¹⁷ Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.

Numbers 21:4-9

⁴ Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread." ⁶ So the Lord sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.

⁷ Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the Lord and against you; pray to the Lord that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.

⁸ Then the Lord said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived

John 12:32

32 And I, if I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to Myself."

1 Peter 3:18

18 For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit,

Hymn: Come As You Are

Benediction

Upcoming Events & Announcements

Pray for a REVIVAL.

Keep bringing in candy. We need LOTS of candy.

Please join us this Monday at 10 am at the Christian Center for the Women's Bible study. We are studying "Who Is the Holy Spirit?"

Men's Bible Study at 9 am Monday at the church. We are studying "Who is the Holy Spirit?".

Shoeboxes for the Christmas Child Program are available. Please make sure you also pick up the mailing label and gift suggestions sheet in the foyer.

The groundbreaking for the new nonprofit hub, Healthy Shelby County Campus is scheduled for Oct. 29th at 2 pm. See the Bulletin Board for more information.