

The Worship of God

Please silence all cell phones during worship. Thank you.

Pre-Service Music **Barbara Jacobs**

Welcome **Blane Jacobs**

Welcome to all who are gathered for worship today at FBC Fitzgerald. We seek to be an inclusive fellowship offering a place to grow, to serve, and to experience the unconditional love of God. If you are a guest, please fill out a visitor's card found on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Please introduce yourself to the pastor on your way out and let us know if you have any questions about our church.

To Our Guests

Thank you for joining us in worship today! We invite you to scan this QR Code so that we may get in touch with you, or to sign up for our newsletter.



The Life of the Church

Please read the announcements found in the worship bulletin and participate wherever you are able.

Call to Worship **Sanctuary Choir**

We've Seen a Rose

Matthews

The rose on the Communion table is a sign that there has been a change in our congregation. Today the white rose is placed in memory of the death of our sister, Dorothy Peterson and our brother, Paul Griffin.

Hymn for Worship 283 **SYMPHONY**

We Are God's People

Prayers of the People **Greg Pope**

A Moment with Our Children

Congregational Fellowship and Welcoming of Children

The Family of God

ACKLEY

I'm so glad I'm a part of the family of God—I've been washed in the fountain, cleansed by His blood! Joint heirs with Jesus as we travel this sod, For I'm part of the family, the family of God.

The Children's Lesson **Carly Harper**

(After a Moment with the Children, preschool through kindergarten age children will exit to the preschool building for Extended Session.)

Song of Blessing for our Children **Congregation**

God Be with You Here

Kyle D. Matthews

God be with you here! God be with you there! (repeat)
God's love will always hold you tight, even when you're out of sight!

Special Music **John and Rhonda Donahue**

Wait A Little Longer

Scripture Reading **Greg Pope**

A new command I give you:
Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another (John 13.34)

Since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another (1 John 4.11)

We love because God first loved us (1 John 4.19)

Love your brothers and sisters in God's family (1 Peter 2.17b)

People who don't love other disciples, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen (1 John 4.20b)

We know that we have passed from death to life, because we love other disciples (1 John 3.14)

We are anxious that you keep right on loving others as long as life lasts, so that you will get your full reward (Hebrews 6.11)

Your love for one another will prove to the world that you are my disciples (John 13.35)

Clubhouse Guatemala **Mike Parker**

Offertory Hymn 281 **Skillings**

The Bond of Love

Offertory Prayer

Offertory **Sanctuary Choir**

I Have Felt the Hand of God

Martin/Courtney

I have felt the hand of God in your hand. Holding me, you gave me strength to stand. When I was all alone, you came and met my need. And when I lost my way, your hand was there to lead. Through your touch God's hand reached out to me. I have felt the hand of God in your hand.

I have heard the voice of God in your voice. Singing praise, you taught me to rejoice. Your voice of comfort caused my grief to end. And when my faith was gone, you called me home again. When you spoke, God's voice called out to me. I have heard the voice of God in your voice.

I have seen the face of God in your face. Giving all, you shared with me God's grace. And you were faithful to guide me as I grew. I saw your love for God, and I saw God in you. When you smiled, God's love surrounded me. I have seen the face of God, I have heard the voice of God, I have felt the hand of God through you."

(Composer's Note: The reality of God's love comes to us in many forms.

I have often been most transformed when that love has come to me through another person, one in whose heart Christ's love has taken residence. It is a humbling thing indeed that a holy, infinite God chooses to express His character through sinful, finite creatures like you and me.)

Instrumental Special Music **Susan Spivey**

Sermon **Greg Pope**

Better Together: Compelled to Love God's Family

Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Congregation

We believe in God:

*who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.*

*We are called to be the church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to follow Jesus, crucified and risen,
our Savior and our hope.*

*In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.*

Invitation to Discipleship and Community

If you are feeling led to publicly profess your faith in Christ as Savior and Lord or to join your life with this community of faith, you are invited to come forward during the hymn of response and share that decision with the pastor. If you have any questions about membership, you are welcome to speak with the pastor at any time. For all worshipers, may this be a time of rededication of our lives to the kingdom of God and the way of Jesus.

Hymn of Response 286 **DENNIS**

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

Benediction **Greg Pope**

Postlude **Barbara Jacobs**

CCLI Account #1809261

**Our Service of Worship has Ended.
Our Worship Through Service is Beginning.**

Sanctuary Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of Bill Jacobs and Brent Jacobs by Jean, Blane & Barbara, The Ben Jacobs Family and The Bailey Miller Family.

Worship Schedule

Better Together: 40 Days of Community September 6 – October 15

- September 17 *Commissioned to Reach Out Together*
 September 24 *Chosen to Fellowship Together*
 October 1 *Connected to Grow Together*
 October 8 *Called to Serve Together*
 October 15 *Created to Worship Together*

Wednesday Night Vespers 6:00 PM Mann Hall

- Sept 13 Nancy Brinson: 8 Days of Hope
 Sept 20 Sheila Solomon: Lifehouse Ministries

Children's Ministry Children's Events

- Sunday School (10:00am)
 Children's Choir meet at 5:30pm in the
 Children's Choir Room (Upstairs Breezeway)
 Mission Friends meet at 6pm (Pre-school Building)
 GAs & RAs meet at 6pm (Upstairs Breezeway)

Youth Ministry Events

- Sunday School at 10am in the Youth Room
 WNL at 6pm in the Youth Room

Music Ministry

- Thanks to all who joined us for our summertime choir!
 The sanctuary choir is now back singing each week.
 Our next Choir practice is September 24 at 9:15am in the Sanctuary.

Deacons Meeting

- Today, September 10
 1:30pm (Mann Hall)

Women on Mission Bible Study

- Tuesday, September 19
 10:00am (Library)

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPT 10 SIXTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST

- 9:15 AM.....Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal*
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Worship Service (Sanctuary)*
 1:30 PM.....Deacon's Meeting (Mann Hall)
 5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, SEPT 11 Daily Scripture: Exodus 12.1-14. Psalm 149

- ### TUESDAY, SEPT 12 Daily Scripture: Romans 13.8-14. Psalm 149
- 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)
 4:00 PM.....Staff Meeting

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 13 Daily Scripture: Matthew 18.15-20. Psalm 149

- 5:30 PM.....Children's Choir*
 6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Mann Hall)*

THURSDAY, SEPT 14 Daily Scripture: Exodus 14.19-31, 15.1b-11, 20-21. Psalm 114

- 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, SEPT 15 Daily Scripture: Romans 14.1-12. Psalm 114

SATURDAY, SEPT 16 Daily Scripture: Matthew 18.21-35. Psalm 114

- ### SUNDAY, SEPT 17 SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST
- 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Worship Service (Sanctuary)*
 5:00 PM.....Women's Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, SEPT 18 Daily Scripture: Exodus 14.19-31, 15.1b-11, 20-21. Psalm 114

- 4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPT 19 Daily Scripture: Romans 14.1-12. Psalm 114

- 10:00 AM.....Women On Mission Bible Study (Library)
 10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 20 Daily Scripture: Matthew 18.21-35. Psalm 114

- 5:30 PM.....Children's Choir*
 6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Mann Hall)*

Ministers
 Pastor
 Minister of Music & Youth
 Administrative Assistant
 Director of Children's Activities
 Organist
 Pianist
 Nursery Staff
 Custodian

All Members
 Rev. Greg Pope
 Rev. Blane Jacobs
 Ms. Dana Luckie
 Ms. Carly Harper
 Ms. Barbara Jacobs
 Ms. Susan Spivey
 Ms. Dana Luckie, Miss Megan McLeod, and Ms. Candy Herod
 Mr. Jeffrey Morgan

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The Sixteenth Sunday of Pentecost September 10, 2023 11 O'clock in the Morning



First Baptist Church

*Is a loving and caring Christian
 community seeking to extend the open
 hand of God's grace to meet physical
 and spiritual needs through worship,
 education, ministry, fellowship,
 and spiritual nurturing.*