

# The Worship of God

Please silence all cell phones during worship. Thank you.

Pre-Service Music Barbara Jacobs

Welcome Carly Harper  
*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. The rose indicates there has been a birth into our family of faith. Today the rose is placed in Celebration of the birth of Maddie Grace Reed.*

Hymn for Worship 276 REGENT SQUARE  
*Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation*

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 Greg Pope  
*(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 Amanda Roberts  
*Be Still My Soul (In You, I Rest)*

Scripture Reading Larry Hall  
Since we are all one body in Christ, we belong to each other, and each of us needs all the others (Romans 12.5b)

Let us agree to use all our energy in getting along with each other (Romans 14.19a)

Excel in showing respect for each other (Romans 12.10b)

All of you should be of one mind, full of sympathy toward each other, loving one another with tender hearts and humble minds (1 Peter 3.8)

I beg you in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ to stop arguing among yourselves.

Let there be real harmony so that there won’t be splits in the church. I plead with you to be of one mind, united in thought and purpose (1 Corinthians 1.10)

Be patient with each other, making allowance for each other’s faults because of your love (Ephesians 4.2b)

Speak the truth in love. No more lies. No more pretense. Tell each other the truth. In Christ’s body we’re all connected to each other. When you lie to others, you end up lying to yourself (Ephesians 4.15, 25)

Offertory Hymn 284 ST. BRENDAN’S  
*They’ll Know We Are Christians by Our Love*

Offertory Prayer

Offertory Sanctuary Choir  
*Peace Like a River* with *Amazing Grace* arr. Raney

Instrumental Special Music Susan Spivey

Sermon Greg Pope  
*Better Together: Chosen to Fellowship Together*

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 Madge and Mickey Paulk from their children.

Rosebud Flower  
The rosebud in the sanctuary today is placed in celebration of Maddie Grace Reed, born on September 19, 2023. She is the daughter of proud parents, Josh and Rachel Reed of Ashburn, Georgia, the granddaughter of Jimmy and Amelia Davis and Rodd and Linda Reed of Ashburn, Georgia. Maddie Grace, mommy and daddy are doing great receiving warm wishes and lots of love from family and friends.

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

|            |                                    |
|------------|------------------------------------|
| October 1  | <i>Connected to Grow Together</i>  |
| October 8  | <i>Called to Serve Together</i>    |
| October 15 | <i>Created to Worship Together</i> |

Wednesday Night Vespers  
6:00 PM

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| September 27 | What Does It Mean to be the Church? Session One (Burch Hall) |
| October 4    | What Does It Mean to be the Church? Session Two (Burch Hall) |

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)  
“GOODY BAGS AND GAMES TODAY”  
Children can join us immediately after worship  
from 12:00pm-2:00pm over at the gym for lunch, games  
and putting together goody bags for the awesome caseworkers  
at Called to Care. All children are encouraged to bring a monetary  
donation to go towards gift cards to go with the goody bags!

Youth Ministry Events

Sunday School at 10am in the Youth Room  
WNL at 6pm in the Youth Room  
“HANG OUT TIME TONIGHT”  
at Blane and Barbara’s Home  
(5:30pm-7pm at 111 Wendy Ln)  
Be sure to respond to the Sunday afternoon  
text if you plan to attend or not! Invite a friend too!

Music Ministry

The sanctuary choir is now back singing each week.  
Our next Choir practice is October 1<sup>st</sup> at 9:15am in the Sanctuary.

Church Council

Sunday, October 1  
1:30pm in Mann Hall  
All staff and a representative from  
each committee are encouraged to attend.

55+ Club Covered Dish Luncheon

Monday, October 2  
12:00pm in Burch Hall  
October’s Host/Hostesses: Donna Norman, Mike Norman,  
Tommy Hatcher, Linda Hatcher, Shirley Coxen, and Quita Carswell

Church Conference  
and Lunch

Sunday, November 12  
Following service in Burch Hall  
The deacons will be serving lunch.

CHURCH CALENDAR

SUNDAY, SEPT 24  
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST  
9:15 AM.....Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal\*  
10:00 AM.....Sunday School\*  
11:00 AM.....Worship Service (Sanctuary)\*  
12:00-2:00 PM.....Children’s Goody Bags & Games Day (Gym)  
5:00 PM.....Women’s Bible Study (Mann Hall)  
5:30 PM.....Youth Hang Out at Blane and Barbara’s Home

MONDAY, SEPT 25  
Daily Scripture: Exodus 16.2-15. Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45  
4:15 PM.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, SEPT 26  
Daily Scripture: Philippians 1.21-30. Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45  
10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

WEDNESDAY, SEPT 27  
Daily Scripture: Matthew 20.1-16. Psalm 105.1-6, 37-45  
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 (Burch Hall)\*

THURSDAY, SEPT 28  
Daily Scripture: Exodus 17.1-7. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16  
10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

FRIDAY, SEPT 29  
Daily Scripture: Philippians 2.1-13. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16

SATURDAY, SEPT 30  
Daily Scripture: Matthew 21.23-32. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16

SUNDAY, OCT 1  
NINETEENTH SUNDAY OF PENTECOST  
9:15 AM.....Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal\*  
10:00 AM.....Sunday School\*  
11:00 AM.....Worship Service (Sanctuary)\*  
1:30 PM.....Church Council (Mann Hall)  
5:00 PM.....Women’s Bible Study (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, OCT 2  
Daily Scripture: Exodus 17.1-7. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16  
12:00 PM.....55+ Club/Young at Heart Luncheon (Burch Hall)

TUESDAY, OCT 3  
Daily Scripture: Philippians 2.1-13. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16  
10:00 AM.....Exercise Class (Mann Hall)

WEDNESDAY, OCT 4  
Daily Scripture: Matthew 21.23-32. Psalm 78.1-4, 12-16  
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 (Burch Hall)\*

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|---|---|
| Ministers   | All Members   |
| Pastor  | Rev. Greg Pope  |
| Minister of Music & Youth   | Rev. Blane Jacobs                                       |
| Administrative Assistant  | Ms. Dana Luckie   |
| Director of Children’s Activities   | Ms. Carly Harper  |
| Organist  | Ms. Barbara Jacobs                                      |
| Pianist   | Ms. Susan Spivey  |
| Nursery Staff   | Ms. Dana Luckie, Ms. Candy Herod, and Miss Megan McLeod |
| Custodian   | Mr. Jeffrey Morgan                                      |
| Website: <a href="http://www.fbcfitz.com">www.fbcfitz.com</a> Email: <a href="mailto:fbc@fbcfitz.com">fbc@fbcfitz.com</a> Phone: 423-4367 |   |

The Eighteenth Sunday  
of Pentecost  
September 24, 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.