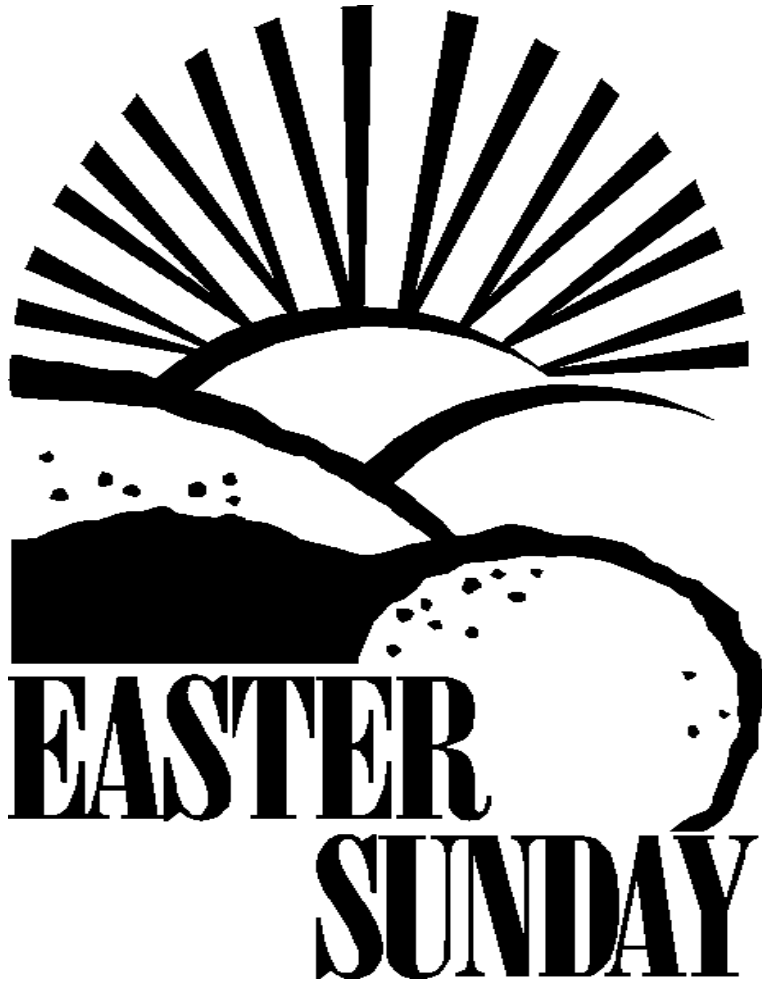


First Baptist Church



Worcester, Massachusetts
A Welcoming and Affirming Church
Mission Statement

We are a community of believers who seek to grow in our faith and understanding as we live the Way of Jesus Christ.



Morning Worship

April 12, 2009 10:00 AM

*Please turn pagers and cell phones to silent mode.
Nursery care is available for children during the worship service.
Please speak to one of the ushers for assistance.*

PRELUDE We Offer Thanks and Praise from *Cantata 134*J.S. Bach
1685-1750

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 288** Christ the Lord Is Risen Today . Easter Hymn

SALUTATION *Easter Greeting*Martin How

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Brenda Baker

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made!

People: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Leader: Hear the good news: the Lord is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: This is the Lord's doing.

People: It is marvelous in our eyes!

Leader: Give thanks to God, for God's steadfast love endures forever!

ALL: God's steadfast love endures forever!

***INVOCATION (Unison)**

O God of Victory, we thank you for this highest day of the year. On this day that changed so much of human history, grant that Easter may work its changes in us as well. Aid us now that we may worthily celebrate Christ's glorious resurrection. Deliver us from hesitancy or fear, so that we may gladly worship you, and when we leave this holy place, grant that we may be enlightened, comforted, and strengthened to live a life of joyful trust, to love you more fervently, and serve you more faithfully. In the spirit of Christ, we pray the prayer he taught: Our Father (debts)...

***GLORIA PATRI 734**Creatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Heather Kattan

ANTHEM *Christ the Lord is Risen Again*John Rutter
b. 1945

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Colossians 3:12-17 (pg. 958)

RESPONSORIAL PSALM (based on Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24)

Let God's people say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

God's steadfast love endures forever!

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord.

Let God's people say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Save us, we beseech you, O Lord! O Lord, we beseech you,

give us success!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

We bless you from the house of the Lord.

The Lord is God, and he has given us light. Bind the festal procession

with branches, up to the horns of the altar. You are my God, and I will

give thanks to you; you are my God, I will extol you.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

for his steadfast love endures forever.

Mark 16:1-8 (pg. 829)

LITTLE CHILDREN, WELCOMEKoleda

Little children, welcome! Earth is yours to live in;

arms of love protect you, little children, welcome!

We, the church of Jesus, we will help your growing,

Jesus' love enfolds you, little children, welcome!

AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDREN Heather Kattan

*(Children who desire to participate in a Children's Worship Experience
are invited to join their worship leader following the Children's Message.)*

***HYMN 290** The Strife Is O'er Victory

(Continued)

SERMON *The Unfinished Story* Thomas R. McKibbens

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Three Days Had Passed*Joel Martinson

***Doxology 289**Hymn to Joy

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 287** *Lift High the Cross*.....Crucifer

***BENEDICTION**

RESPONSE *Hallelujah! from Messiah*Georg Handel
1685-1759

POSTLUDE *Toccata from Symphonie no. 5*Charles-Marie Widor
1844-1937

**Those who are able may stand.*

*David Cady, trumpet
Chancel Choir
William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VALUES STATEMENTS

INCLUSION

We welcome all in Christ's love.

FREEDOM OF FAITH

Individual interpretation of God's Word and freedom of expression are cornerstones of our faith.

SERVICE

We seek to be a Christ-like presence in the world.

SPIRITUAL GROWTH

We encourage all to seek Christian growth.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE & PROGRAMS

WE WELCOME YOU...to the Morning Worship of the First Baptist Church. If you are a guest, we express a special word of welcome and invite you to fill out the Welcome Card found in the pew rack. We are honored by your presence and hope you will return whenever you are able. The congregation of First Baptist Church, believing that God's unbounded love and grace are offered to all and meant to be shared and celebrated by all, embraces persons of every age, race, sexual orientation, denomination, cultural background, and economic means as vital and integral members of God's family. We welcome everyone to participate in the membership, life, worship, and activities of this church. 🙏

HEARING AIDS AVAILABLE DURING THE SERVICE...If you would like to take advantage of our hearing aids, please speak with one of our ushers, who will explain this simple yet effective device.

LARGE PRINT BULLETIN AVAILABLE...with the Order of Service. Please speak with one of our ushers to receive a copy!

CHANCEL FLOWERS...The Easter Lilies are given in loving memory of Mr. & Mrs. Harry Stoddard, Mr. Lincoln Stoddard, Mr. & Mrs. Paris Fletcher, and Mr. & Mrs. Robert Stoddard. 🌸

SUNDAY EDUCATION...Today there is no Church School or Adult Forum during the education hour. However there is coverage in the nursery and preschool class during the worship hour. Please speak with one of our ushers for assistance. The children will be excused following the Children's Message and go to the Lee Room for the Easter Story, followed by the search for colorful egg treasures — our Annual Easter Egg Hunt! 🥚



ADULT FORUM NEXT WEEK...Join our **Origami Workshop**, led by Edie Swenson on Sunday, April 19 at 11:15 AM. This Forum will be held in Gordon Hall so everyone will have room to participate. We invite you to bring a bag lunch and stay a bit longer. The Forum will end around 12:45 PM

YOUTH GROUP...will meet at the home of Paula & Mike Harvey (15 Spring Valley Road, Worcester) on April 19 to continue discussion and plans for Youth Month. Paula, together with Sarah Sams will moderate the discussion, so bring your good ideas and get ready for some fun! PLEASE SIGN-UP TODAY outside Heather's office to help coordinate transportation, and *remember to bring a completed permission slip!*



FAMILY FELLOWSHIP...Sign-up outside Heather's office BY APRIL 21ST to join us on our trip to the **ECOTARIUM** on Sunday April, 26, 2009. Admission is \$10.00 for Adults, and \$8.00 for children under age 18. Depart at 1:00 PM, return around 4:00 PM.

PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBIT DEADLINE...is THIS **Wednesday, April 15, 2009!** Everyone is invited to submit a *maximum* of five (5) photos fitting the following categories: **People, Animals, Urban Sites, Scenery, Abstract Patterns, Inspiration,** and **America the Beautiful.** Photos may be black & white or in color, and MUST be matted. **Submit entries to:** Music & Arts Photo Exhibit, The First Baptist Church, 111 Park Avenue, Worcester, MA 01609. ALL ENTRIES SHOULD INCLUDE the following information on an index card attached to the back: Photographer's name, city & state, telephone, photo caption, and intended category for the submission. The exhibit will be judged by a professional photographer and there will also be a "people's choice" ballot. We look forward to receiving YOUR entry!☑



ASK THE PASTOR...Do you have questions about the church, or what it means to be a Baptist, or why the colors on the **Adult Forum** pulpit keep changing? Then join us on **May 3, 2009** at 11:15 AM in the Whitney Room for an **Adult Forum Q&A** featuring our own Senior Minister, Rev. Thomas R. McKibbens. No question is too big...or too small!



VBS IS COMING...Experience & Discover God Everywhere during **CAMP E.D.G.E.**, August 2—6, 5:30—8:30 PM at FBC! More information to come. Interested volunteers may speak with Rev. Heather Kattan. **SAVE THESE DATES!**

Prayer...

Prayer is putting oneself under God's influence.

~Harry Emerson Fosdick

Please pray for:

- Our Pastor, the church staff, and the office volunteers
- Audrey Terpo, Marijane Jones, David Siddle, Margaret Daley, Hap Miller-Vickers, Alice McQuade
- The Chancel Choir, the Children's Choir, Salisbury Belles, First Handbells
- The Governing Board
- The victims of Italy's earthquake
- For the unstable countries of the world
- For those with us each week who do not understand our language and customs
- Those suffering from chronic disease
- Each who is homebound or in a care facility
- Music & Arts Weekend at FBC
- Families in economic turmoil
- Those who are unemployed

April 15, 2009

9:00 AM The Women's Prayer Fellowship

7:00 PM The Evening Prayer Fellowship resumes (for all)

Please put these fellowship dates on your calendar;
you will be warmly welcomed!

****DID YOU REMEMBER YOUR SECRET FRIEND?****

FOR YOUR INFORMATION...The STAR in the elevator which designated the Sanctuary floor has been moved from its previous location to the correct location at the left of the "BR" button (the Main Lobby floor). This change was required as a result of our recent elevator inspection.



SAVE THE DATE...The 35th Annual Worcester CROP Walk will be held on October 25, starting from Trinity Lutheran Church. As this is a special anniversary, they are hoping to raise \$35,000, and will need lots of prayers, donations, and workers to pull this off. **SAVE THE DATE** and then **PLAN TO WALK** for hunger.



OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, Apr. 12, 2009 — Easter Sunday



7:00 AM Park CC Sunrise Service @ Institute Park
10:00 AM Worship
Annual Easter Egg Hunt

No Church School, Adult Forum, or Youth Group

- | | | |
|---------------------|----------|--|
| Tue., Apr. 14, 2009 | 10:00 AM | Weekly Staff Meeting; Skein of Kitters |
| | 1:00 PM | Salisbury Belles & Beaux |
| | 4:00 PM | Children's Choir; Worcester Interfaith |
| | 5:00 PM | Habitat |
| | 6:30 PM | First Friends |
| | 7:00 PM | Governing Board; Board of Christian Ed. |
| Wed., Apr. 15, 2009 | 9:00 AM | Women's Prayer Fellowship; Jericho Road |
| | 10:00 AM | Music Guild; Minister's Workshop |
| | 11:00 AM | Salisbury Belles & Beaux |
| | 6:00 PM | First Friends |
| | 6:30 PM | Habitat |
| | 7:00 PM | Evening Prayer Fellowship;
Food Addicts in Recovery |
| Thu., Apr. 16, 2009 | 6:15 PM | First Handbells |
| | 7:30 PM | Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous |
| Fri., Apr. 17, 2009 | 3:15 PM | Girl Scouts |
| | 6:00 PM | Habitat |
| Sun., Apr. 19, 2009 | 10:00 AM | Worship |
| | 11:15 AM | Church School; Adult Forum;
Blood Pressure Check (in Library) |
| | 12:30 PM | Youth Group @ the Harvey's |



Mon., Apr. 20, 2009 — Patriot's Day, Office Closed

The First Baptist Church
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