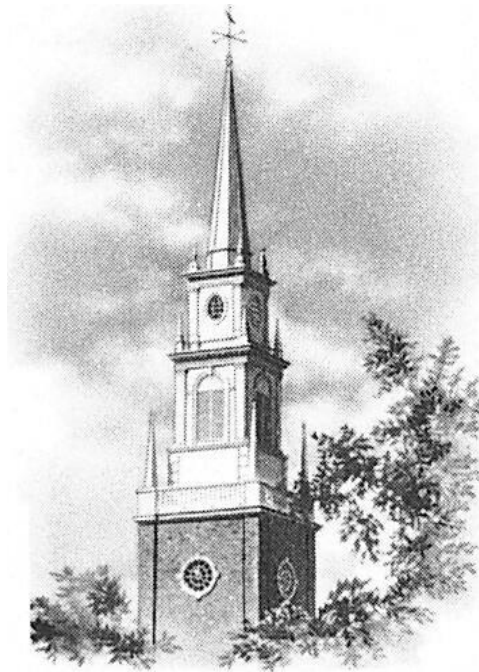


First Baptist Church

April 19, 2009



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 19, 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 Partita on Now the Green Blade Riseth David Lasky
Five variations b. 1959

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 295** Jesus Christ Is Risen Today..... Llanfair

***CALL TO WORSHIP** (based on Psalms 95 and 34)..... Barbara Ward

Leader: O, come, let us worship and bow down.
Let us kneel before the Lord our Maker:
for he is our God,

**People: and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.**

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me,

People: and let us exalt God's name together:

Leader: For with God is the fountain of life:

ALL: and in God's light shall we see light.

***INVOCATION (Unison)**

**Come quietly, O God,
and still our noisy, boisterous, stormy selves.
Come with power
and cast out the fears and hatreds that divide and torment us.
Come with grace, and exalt our dreams and deeds
with the knowledge of Your ever-present companionship.
Come with love, and bind us together in community
here and throughout the world.
Come to make the words of Your Son come alive
as we pray the prayer which Jesus taught...
*Our Father, who art in heaven (debts)...***

***GLORIA PATRI 734.....** Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Barbara Ward

ANTHEM *Valediction* David Conte
b. 1955

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:23-40 (pg. 804)

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..... Barbara Ward

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

***HYMN 11** Stand Up and Bless the LordSt. Thomas

SERMON *The Loss of Connectivity*..... George H. Sinclair, Jr.

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory *Now the Green Blade Riseth*.....Simon Lindley
b. 1948

***Doxology**Hymn to Joy
Alleluia, alleluia! Hearts to heaven and voices raise:
Sing to God a hymn of gladness, sing to God a hymn of praise;
He who on the cross a victim for the world's salvation bled—
Jesus Christ, the King of Glory, now is risen from the dead!

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 310** Thine Is the GloryJudas Maccabeus

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Toccata in G Major*..... Théodore Dubois
1837-1924

**Those who are able may stand.*

*Chancel Choir
William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*

(Continued)

TODAY'S MUSIC

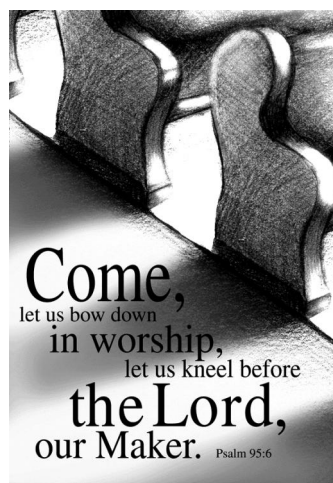
Both Prelude and Offertory are based on the *Noel nouvelet* tune found on page 311 in the hymnal. This tune does double duty with texts that fit both the Christmas and Easter seasons. Many settings of this tune appear for organ solo, the most famous being the *Variations on a Noel* by Marcel Dupré. Please refer to hymn 311 if you care to follow the text as the choir sings a setting by Simon Lindley, who keeps the rhythm of the tune intact. The alternate text for Christmas is *Sing We Now of Christmas* as found in hymn 193. Here is an interesting use of melody for two major religious festivals originating in France in the 15th Century.

WELCOME TO THE REV. GEORGE H. SINCLAIR, JR.

Anyone who has been an American Baptist in Massachusetts is bound to have run into the Rev. George Sinclair sooner or later. He must hold the record for the most interim pastorates of any minister in the commonwealth. Just ask him how many churches he has served! He has also served on countless committees and boards, published numerous articles, and led multiple workshops.

Following a long career as a faculty member at Andover Newton Theological School, including a stint as Interim President, George Sinclair still serves Massachusetts Baptists at Andover Newton in whatever capacity he is called upon to provide. Most recently, he and the Rev. Michael Harvey have been working with training for those would like to serve as Interim Ministers.

We also know George Sinclair as father of the Rev. Barbara Sinclair Ward, and grandfather of Ashley Ward. We welcome this father/daughter team to the leadership of today's Worship Service while Tom McKibbens and Heather Kattan are both attending the Annual Convocation of the Alliance of Baptists.



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...Today's arrangements are dedicated by Dr. Robin McFee in memory of her father, Willard "Mac" McFee, and dedicated by Shirley and Alfred Barry, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Albert LaPrade. ✨

SUNDAY EDUCATION...We offer a variety of worship and learning opportunities for children and youth. Following the Children's Message, children are invited to attend a Children's Worship session upstairs in the Green Room. At 11:15 AM, we have Church School classes for all ages on the second floor. For more information, please speak with one of our ushers, or the Rev. Heather Kattan. 📖

COFFEE AND...Join with the family and friends following the service today in Gordon Hall. Be sure to take time to reach out to those among us who are new to the First Baptist Church! ☕



TODAY'S ADULT FORUM...Join our **Origami Workshop**, led by Edie Swenson. This Forum will be held 11:15 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 TODAY ...will go to the home of Paula & Mike Harvey (15 Spring Valley Road, Worcester) to continue discussion and plans for Youth Month. Bring your good ideas and get ready for some fun! Please see Paula for details, and remember to bring a completed permission slip!



MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP...will meet **Saturday, April 25, 7:30 AM** together with the Men's Fellowship at Emmanuel Baptist Church (717 Main Street). Join us, and discover the tremendous results!



FAMILY FELLOWSHIP...Sign-up outside Heather's office TODAY 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.



IT'S ALMOST TIME FOR THE "BIG REVEAL"!...On Sunday, April 26, we will have a small party to reveal our *Secret Friends* at 12:15 PM. Join us in the Lee Room to find out who you have been writing to for the past few weeks. Also, if you are able to donate some baked goods for the party, please let Heather Kattan know [508-755-6143 x228 or heatherk@ fbc-worc.org]. *Note: We will leave for the EcoTarium at 1:00 PM, following the party.*



BIBLE & BAGELS...resumes on Sunday, April 26 when we begin our study of the book of Acts. Classes are at 8:00 AM and 9:00 AM. Come and enjoy coffee, bagels, and stimulating Bible study!



REFUGEE RECOGNITION...Join us **NEXT SUNDAY**, April 26, for a worship service in which we recognize the refugees in our midst. There will be both education and inspiration as we hear from some of the refugees, and Tom McKibbens will preach on the subject. Following the service, a special Adult Forum will be held on the subject of Worcester's refugees.



ASK THE PASTOR...Do you have questions about the church, or what it means to be a Baptist, or why the colors on the 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!

Prayer...


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

~Psalm 51:10

Please include in your prayers:

- Praise for the magnificent Easter Sunday Service
- The Board of Christian Education; the Health Cabinet
- Those who are undergoing medical testing and treatment
- Spencer Parsons, Harrison Taylor, June St. Amand, Audrey Terpo, Margaret Gowetz, David Siddle
- The family of Margaret Crombie
- Those who are unemployed or facing possible layoffs
- Those in danger of losing their homes
- Victims of natural disaster, crime, violence, war
- The chronically ill
- Those who are recently bereaved
- Eric Gustafson, and all those in military service

YOUTH GROUP SERVICE WEEKEND...The Youth will go to open Camp Oceanwood on May 22 through 25. Those interested should sign-up on the sheet outside of Heather's office. Schedule and details will be sent out to those who sign-up!


 ***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!**

HOPE FOR HOUSING...Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to continue making your food shopping card purchases! When used at local grocery stores, the store will contribute 5% of the total purchase to Hope for Housing to give to the Central Mass Housing Alliance, for use in prevention and early intervention assistance to families and individuals that are at risk of homelessness.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS! Do you have ANY photographs or video clips from church events or activities? PLEASE SHARE! Stop by with your camera, a CD or DVD, or e-mail the URL from a sharing website where you have the photos or video clips posted. Please stop by to see Cindy Johnson, leave items in her mail slot in the Church Office, or email (URLs only) to cindyj@fbc-worc.org. Please do not e-mail photos or video clips as attachments. Thank you!

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

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 (meet to travel to the Harvey's)

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

Tue., Apr. 21, 2009

10:00 AM Weekly Staff Meeting
6:00 PM Stewardship
6:30 PM Health Cabinet
7:00 PM Benevolence; Mothers of Twins

Wed., Apr. 22, 2009

9:00 AM Women's Prayer Fellowship;
10:00 AM Music Guild
7:00 PM Evening Prayer Fellowship;
Park Cong.; Food Addicts in Recovery

Thu., Apr. 23, 2009

6:15 PM First Handbells
7:30 PM Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous


Fri., Apr. 24, 2009

10:00 AM TABCOM
3:15 PM Girl Scouts

Sat., Apr. 25, 2009

2:00 PM ACE Spring Festival

Sun., Apr. 26, 2009



8:00 & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Church School; Adult Forum;
12:15 PM *Secret Friends "Big Reveal!"*
1:00 PM Family Fellowship (depart for EcoTarium)

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