

The First Baptist Church of Worcester

MORNING WORSHIP

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



February 5, 2012

10:00 AM

HYMN SING David Story, Leader

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 51** How Great Thou Art.....O Store Güd

*** CALL TO WORSHIP** (adapted from Psalm 147 and Hymn 705)

Leader: Praise the Lord! How good it is to sing praises to our God, who is gracious, and a song of praise is fitting.

Choir Refrain:

[music inserted in printed copy]

Leader: The Lord builds up Jerusalem and gathers the outcasts of Israel.
Broken hearts are healed and wounds are bound up!

Choir: *As when the shepherd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice;
So when you call your family, Lord, we follow and rejoice.*

People singing: Refrain

Choir: *With joyful lips we sing to you our praise and gratitude,
that you should count us worthy, Lord, to share this heavenly food.*

People singing: Refrain

Leader: Great is our God, and abundant in power; God's understanding is beyond measure.

Choir: *You give yourself to us, O Lord; then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in your name, in truth and charity.*

People singing: Refrain

*** INVOCATION (Unison)**

Loving God, from the very beginning you blessed creation. You have loved us and guided us through all the joys and sorrows of life. We gather once again for worship, rejoicing in the blessings you have given us and with open hearts to receive your good Word for our lives. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully worship you and worthily magnify your holy name. We offer this prayer in the spirit of Jesus, who taught us to pray... Our Father....(debts)

* GLORIA PATRI 734.....Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CELEBRATION OF THE CHILDREN Lindsay C. Comstock

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Have You Not Heard?Keaton Lee Scott b. 1950

* **Doxology** Old Hundredth
*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. AMEN*

* **Prayer of Dedication**

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE *Isaiah 40:21-31* (p.582)

COMMUNION MEDITATION *“No Inconsequential Creatures”*
Thomas R. McKibbens

*COMMUNION HYMN 695 *“As We Gather at Your Table.....*Beach Spring

A SERVICE OF COMMUNION

We welcome the following new member into the church:

Lindsay C. Comstock

Prayer of Thanksgiving

SanctusAaron David Miller b. 1972

Words of Institution

The Passing of the Bread* and Wine

Bread of Heaven..... David Ashley White b. 1944

*Beside Still Waters.....*Bernhard Hamblen 1877-1962

The Passing of the Peace and *“Blest Be the Tie”*

*Gluten-free communion wafers are provided for those who require an alternative to traditional bread.

* **HYMN 547** We Are God's People..... Symphony

* **BENEDICTION**

Choral Response *Clare Benediction*..... John Rutter b. 1945

POSTLUDE *Aria* Craig Phillips b. 1961

Chancel Choir
Randy Posey, tenor
William Ness, Minister of Music and Arts

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VALUE 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.*

WE WELCOME YOU...to the Morning Worship at First Baptist Church. If you are a visitor, we express a special word of welcome and invite you to fill out a Welcome Card and place it in the offering plate or give to an usher. We believe that God's unbounded love and grace are offered to all persons, of any age, race, sexual orientation, denomination, cultural background, and economic means as integral members of God's family.

IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY... Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in Gordon Hall following the service. If you are searching for a church home, we would love to get to know you. Please speak with a Minister or call during the week at 508-755-6143. Those with infants and children up to age 5 may take them to the Nursery/Preschool class. An usher will be happy to assist you with directions to rooms in the church building, and with any special needs.

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR...are given by an anonymous donor.

PRAYER... "Intercessory prayer might be defined as loving our neighbor on our knees." ~ Charles Brent

PLEASE INCLUDE IN YOUR PRAYERS...

- * The Scrogin Book Forum
- * The Music and Arts, Building and Grounds, Social Action and Bicentennial Committees
- * The children, young people and teachers of our church school
- * The Youth Ensemble of New England who will be our youth orchestra on February 12th.
- * Our Librarians Joyce Jensen and Nancy Oakes
- * Betty Bennett
- * Celebrations of the unsung volunteers of our church
- * Those with chronic diseases
- * First Friends Child Care Center; Jericho Road
- * Those undergoing surgery, rehab., biopsies, infusions
- * Children of the world who are sold into prostitution
- * Those seeking employment
- * Our nation, throughout its election process

THE SKEIN OF KNIITERS... will meet on Tuesday, Feb. 14th at 10:00 AM and not on Feb. 7th as previously stated.

THE YOUTH... will meet on February 12th, in the Youth Lounge at 11:15 AM.

YOUTH CAMP... All youth (ages 14-19) who are interested in attending **IMMERSE 2012** (National Gathering of American Baptist Youth) in Washington, DC on July 24-28, please contact Lindsay at LindsayC@fbc-worc.org. Worship, fellowship, service, fun!

HOPE FOR HOUSING CARDS... CVS gift cards are now available in addition to grocery cards. The cards may be purchased, after Sunday Worship Service, in Gordon Hall.

MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST - Meets the 1st Saturday of the month @ 8:00 AM

Mar. 3rd, Apr. 14th, May 5th, June 2nd

122 Diner

1392 Main Street

Holden, MA (*across from Wachusett High School*)

Any Questions? Contact Tom Ward @ tward@oxps.org

THE HOSPITAL PHONE SYSTEM...for UMass and Memorial Hospitals is in transition and they are currently unable to provide us information regarding our church members who are admitted. If you know of someone in the hospital, please leave a note or call the church office (508-755-6143) with information.

DONATIONS FOR BHUTANESE COMMUNITY FAMILIES... Rev. Warren Jones continues to serve new families who are resettling into the Worcester area. There is an enormous need for household goods and clothing. If you have something to donate, you may either bring to the church and drop it off in the Church Office or contact Rev. Jones at (520) 907-5385 to discuss the best arrangement for a donation of large quantities.

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS AND THE LENTEN SEASON...A 6-week Lenten series begins February 22nd, *Ash Wednesday*. Dinner will be served at 5:30 PM in the Lee Room every week during the Lenten series. Beginning February 29th, there will be a Wonderful Wednesday speaker for each of the next 5 weeks of the series, and what a “wonderful” line up of speakers we are fortunate to have. Please sign up for dinner by calling the church or write your name in the sign-up book in the office.

2012 IS FBC'S BICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION YEAR...and events for the weekend of **October 12-14 2012** are being planned. The weekend will be full of music of all sorts, strolls down memory lane, forays into the archives and plans for the future. You'll definitely want to be there! You should have received a letter in the mail describing the events planned during the October 2012 week-end. In addition, a reservation card was enclosed with the letter, with a request for you to complete and return to First Baptist Church for planning purposes. *Please reply!* Also, let us know of names and whereabouts of others who would be interested in knowing about our celebration events. Call the church office 508-755-6143 or e-mail to info@fbc-worc.org.

PARK CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH...invites First Baptist members to join in the celebration of their Church's 125th Anniversary Celebration on Sunday, February 26th, at 3:00 PM, in the sanctuary. Political dignitaries and special clergy have been invited to this historic event; a reception will follow in Gordon Hall.

CALL FOR MORE USHERS AND GREETERS...There are several vacancies for ushers and greeters, to replace those who recently retired. Please contact Ruth Bergstrom if you are able to volunteer: phone 508-853-1289 or e-mail: rbergstrom@charter.net.

This Week at First Baptist Church

111 Park Avenue
Worcester Massachusetts 01609
508-755-6143 www.fbc-worc.org

TODAY, Feb. 5, 2012	8:30 AM	Breakfast; Child Care
	9:00	Bible & Bagels; Sunday School
	10:00	Morning Worship and Communion
	11:15	Coffee and ...
		Scrogin Forum Youth Group Meeting with parents (Lee Room) Young Musicians (Choir Room)
Mon., Feb. 6	1:00 PM	Full Staff Meeting
Tue., Feb. 7	1:00 PM	Salisbury Belles
	4:00	Chorister Choir
	5:00	Bicentennial Committee
	7:00	Compassionate Friends
Wed., Feb. 8	9:00 AM	Women's Prayer Fellowship
	10:00	First Friends
	10:00	WCMS rehearsal
	5:30 PM	First Friends BoD
	7:00	Evening Prayer Fellowship Food Addicts in Recovery
Thu., Feb. 9	6:15 PM	First Handbells
	7:30	Chancel Choir
	8:00	AA
Fri., Feb. 10	3:15 PM	Girl Scouts
Sat., Feb. 11	6:00 PM	Park C.C. Spaghetti Supper <i>(tickets still available)</i>
Sun., Feb. 12	8:30 AM	Breakfast; Childcare
	9:00	Bible & Bagels; Sunday School
	10:00	Worship Service
	11:15	Coffee and...
		Youth Group Meeting (Youth Lounge) Young Musicians (Choir Room)

