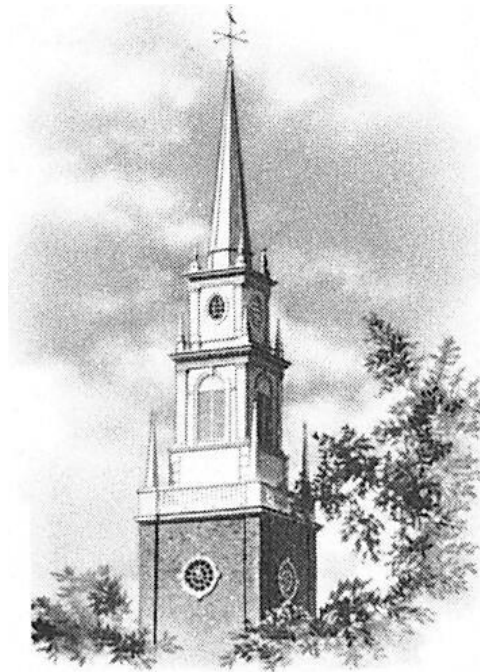


First Baptist Church

February 22, 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

February 22, 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 *O God, Thou Faithful God*..... Johann Krebs
I Love Thee God With All My Heart 1713-1780

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 106** All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!
Coronation

***CALL TO WORSHIP**..... Heather Kattan

Leader: Surely this is the place, this is the moment:
this is none other than the house of God!

**People: This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Leader: Fragile hopes arise in prayer. What wonder will we see?
What miracle will take place here?

People: For this is where we gather in faith.

Leader: Let us lift our open hearts, for love may enter here.

**People: Let us enter our worship with reverence,
for we stand on holy ground.**

Leader: Friends, it is good for us to be here!

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Sovereign God, your presence and your power are beyond our understanding; your mercy is vast and your strong tenderness is without end. Look in love upon us assembled in this house of prayer, and show your mercy and loving kindness to all the world who are united with us in thanksgiving and praise. Our hearts are raised in gratitude for the presence and prodding of your Spirit, and for your creation that sustains, inspires, awes, and delights us. Let your will be done, as we pray the prayer Jesus taught: Our Father...(debt).

***GLORIA PATRI 734**.....Creatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Brenda Baker

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 would like to participate in a Children's Worship Experience are invited to join their worship leader following the Message.)

ANTHEM *The Lord is My Light* Peter Hallock
b. 1922

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Dramatic Reading Based on II Kings 2:1-12

Here is a glorious and mystical account of the prophet Elijah's ascent to heaven.

Gospel Reading Mark 9:2-9

On a mountaintop, Jesus is gloriously transfigured.

SUNG RESPONSE Break Now the Bread of Life Bread of Life

Break now the bread of life, dear Lord to me,
as once you broke the loaves beside the sea.

Beyond the sacred page I seek you, Lord;
my spirit longs for you, O living Word.

O send your Spirit now, dear Lord, to me,
that he may touch my eyes and make me see.

Show me the truth made plain within your Word,
for in your book revealed I see the Lord.

SERMON *Mum's the Word*.....Thomas R. McKibbens & Chancel Choir

***HYMN 246** Jesus on the Mountain Peak Mowsley

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS..... Thomas R. McKibbens

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory *This Glimpse of Glory* David Ashley White
b. 1944

***Doxology 34**.....Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

***CLOSING HYMN 248** I Want to Walk as a Child of the LightHouston

***BENEDICTION**..... Thomas R. McKibbens

(Continued)

Leader: May the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," and who has shone that light in our hearts, give you "the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."

People: We go, listening for God's leading us to be light for the world this day.

ALL: AMEN!

POSTLUDE *Transfiguration Sortie*..... Richard Webster
b. 1950

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

The anthem presented during the sermon is *Transfiguration*, by Craig Phillips b. 1961



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 arrangement is given by Val and Steve Loring in appreciation of Pat Foley, Michelle Malkoski, and their staff for their dedicated service to the residents of the Knollwood Nursing Center.✠

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 Sunday 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 welcome those among us who are new!

TODAY'S ADULT FORUM...Our guest will be Paul Levenson, one of the Directors of the *Friends of Institute Park*, whose goal is to support, improve and enhance the Park (across from FBC) by realizing the recommendations set forth in the Park's Master Plan. Join us at **11:15 AM in the Whitney Room** to learn more!



BAKE SALE TODAY...following Morning Worship. Sponsored by the Music & Arts Committee. Proceeds to go to the Piano Restoration Fund. DELICIOUS!

FAMILY FELLOWSHIP TODAY...at 12:30 PM in the Lee Room for Brown Bag Lunches and Sundaes! You bring your lunch, and we will provide the ice cream and toppings. See you then!



ASH WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 25...inaugurates the season of Lent, and will be observed this year with a service **in the Chancel of the Sanctuary at 6:30 PM.** Please join us for this time of contemplation, prayer, scripture, and music. The use of ashes as a sign of our mortality is a powerful, non-verbal way of participating in the call to repentance and reconciliation, and the imposition of ashes will be available to anyone who wishes to receive it. This quiet and thoughtful service will begin our journey toward Palm Sunday and Easter.

A "WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS" REMINDER...Please assist our Kitchen Administrator with menu planning for the supper meal at 5:30 PM **by placing your name on the sign-up sheet** in the Church Office (or call 508-755-6143 to do so). If you KNOW that you are coming for supper, WE ALSO NEED TO KNOW! *The cost for the meal is \$5.00.* Thanks so much for your cooperation!

30 HOUR FAMINE BEGINS...As you have already noticed from their requests for pledges, our Youth are taking part in the 30 Hour Famine this month. They are raising money that will go towards helping to end world hunger, and will take part in a lock-in on **February 28 through March 1** where we will fast as a way to connect with the plight of the hungry. Please support and pray for us!



CANDIDATES FOR BAPTISM...Classes to prepare candidates for baptism will begin on **March 1, 2009 at 9:00 AM** in the Youth Lounge. Families having a candidate for baptism should speak with Tom McKibbens. The classes will run for five weeks, culminating with baptism on Palm Sunday.

SIGN UP FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL SECRET FRIENDS... By popular demand, this springtime tradition resumes at FBC! Sunday School Secret Friends will run from **March 15 through April 26, 2009 [note change of ending date]**, with a small party at the end for the **big REVEAL**. If there are any Sunday School children interested in participating, please write your name on the sign-up sheet posted outside Heather's office. Adults who are interested in participating should contact Heather Kattan via e-mail or phone, so she may keep your name a secret and enhance the surprise.

[heatherk@fbc-worc.org] [508-755-6143 x228]



WORCESTER CROP WALK... Organizational meeting Sunday March 22, 2009, 12:30 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, 73 Lancaster St. Worcester. For directions go to www.trinityworc.org or call 508-753-2989. Amy Porter from Church World Service will attend. The CROP [Communities Responding to Overcome Poverty] Walk, held annually in October, is sponsored by Church World Service [CWS]. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised go to the local food banks, and the rest goes to disaster relief and combating poverty throughout the world. The CROP Walk is the oldest continuing walkathon in the United States. All over the U.S. in cities and towns, concerned citizens gather in an effort to eradicate poverty and hunger. All are welcome to participate, either through walking or sponsoring, regardless of religious affiliation.

HOPE FOR HOUSING... Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to continue making your food shopping card purchases! When cards are 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.

IT'S ALL IN THE FAMILY... The America For Christ Offering is a family affair.



GIVE TO THE
America For Christ
Offering **2009**

Through it we support American Baptist mission projects and programs right here in our own country. Some of the monies come right back to Massachusetts for things we do in our own region, e.g. support of TABCOM, campus ministries, refugee resettlement, new church plantings, inner city ministries, and lots more. We join churches across America in this vital effort. Please use the envelope you received in the mail to return your offering—or any old envelope, as long as you mark it ***America For Christ!***



A Community Project For ALL!

Want to do something **HANDS ON** to help out those who are homeless and hungry? Here is the perfect answer...join us to make sandwiches and participate in a worship service held by the Worcester Fellowship at Worcester Common on **Sunday, March 8, 2009!**

Come to the kitchen next to the Roy Room after Morning Worship to make sandwiches and discuss how God calls us to help our neighbors. Then we will go to the Common to hand out the sandwiches and some socks to those who come to the service.

Please contact Heather Kattan
to let her know that you plan to participate:

[heatherk@fbc-worc.org]

This opportunity is open to youth, children, parents, and **ANYONE** who wishes to take part!



Prayer...

*God, the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
increase in us faith and truth and gentleness,
and grant us part and lot among the saints*

~Polycarp

Please include in your prayers...

- The Baptism Class
- Today's Music & Arts Bake Sale
- FBC Youth Programs and the 30 Hour Famine
- The Board of Finance and the Board of Directors
- Those with cancer, heart disease, lupus, blood diseases, arthritis, diabetes, or other chronic conditions
- Harry Bayliss, Arlene Alexander, Betsy Minott
- Families with teenagers in crisis
- Victims of fire in Australia
- A peaceful resolution to world conflict



NOTICE: The EPF will not meet for the duration of Wonderful Wednesdays, but will resume **April 8 at 7:00 PM** [NEW TIME!] in the Roy Room. Men and Women are invited!

REFUGEES IN WORCESTER...need our help with these items:

- Beds (mattress & box spring)
- Table and chairs
- Washing machines
- Bureaus
- Small tables
- Computers
- Sewing machines

Please see or contact Warren Jones [978-368-1310]



**DONATIONS
NEEDED**

CORRECTION TO THE ASSISTANT CLERK'S ANNUAL REPORT – DEATHS 2008

Joined Church
3/3/52

Name
Mrs. Harriet Miller – Hight

Date of Death
3/12/08

Respectfully Submitted, Jean Tait, Assistant Clerk

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

Sun., Feb. 22, 2009 — **TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY**



8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Sunday School; Adult Forum
Music & Arts Bake Sale (Piano Fund)
12:30 PM Family Fellowship (Brown Bag & Sundaes)

Mon., Feb. 23, 2009 — 12:00 PM Elm Park Ministries

Tue., Feb. 24, 2009 9:30 AM Literacy Volunteer Reading
10:00 AM Weekly Staff Meeting
1:00 PM Salisbury Belles
4:00 PM Children's Choir

Wed., Feb. 25, 2009 — **ASH WEDNESDAY**



9:00 AM Women's Prayer
5:30 PM WONDERFUL WEDNESDAYS SUPPER
6:30 PM Ash Wednesday Service in the Chancel
7:00 PM Park Congregational; Food Addicts in Rec.

Thu., Feb. 26, 2009 9:00 AM Literacy Volunteers; Literacy Vol. Reading
6:15 PM First Handbells
7:30 PM Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., Feb. 27, 2009 9:00 AM NAEP
3:15 PM Girl Scouts

Sat., Feb. 28 thru Mar. 1, 2009



Sun., Mar. 1, 2009 8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels
10:00 AM Worship
11:15 AM Sunday School; Scrogin Forum

The First Baptist Church
111 Park Avenue — Worcester, MA 01609
508-755-6143
www.fbc-worc.org