

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

# **The First Baptist Church**

**A Welcoming and Affirming Church**

**Worcester, Massachusetts**

**January 10, 2010**

# MORNING WORSHIP

January 10, 2010 ..... 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** *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*..... Don Phillips  
*Christ our Lord, to Jordan Came, BWV 684*..... J.S. Bach  
1685-1750

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 519** *On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand*..... Promised Land

## **\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you.

**People: When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.**

Leader: For I am the Lord your God; the Holy One...your Savior...You are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you.

**ALL: Do not fear, for I am with you!**

## **\*INVOCATION (unison)**

Blessed God, your mercy is from everlasting, your love is deeper and wider than our frail minds can imagine, and your care is tender and kind like that of a mother for her children. We gather to watch for you and to listen for you in this hallowed time of worship. We come with our burdens and our failures, our praises and intercessions, our silences and our groans too deep for words. Grant that this place may be holy for us today, and the familiar forms of adoration may be a means for the proclaiming of your gospel to our hearts. In the spirit of Christ our Lord, we offer the prayer he taught: Our Father... (debts)

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

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** ..... Thomas R. McKibbens

**ANTHEM** *Walk in the Light*..... André Thomas  
b. 1952

*(Refrain) We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,  
Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
Shine all around us by day and by night,  
Jesus, the Light of the world.*

*Hark! the herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of the world;  
"Glory to the newborn King," Jesus, the Light of the world. (Refrain)*

*Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!, Jesus, the Light of the world;  
Christ, the everlasting Lord! Jesus, the Light of the world. (Refrain)*

**\*GREETING ONE ANOTHER 650** (Philippians 4:4) .....Anonym ous

*Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!  
Rejoice in the Lord always, again I say, rejoice!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say rejoice!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Again I say rejoice!*

**JESUS LOVES ME**.....China

*Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so!  
Little ones to him belong; they are weak, but he is strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.*

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

**THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE:** Luke 3:15-22 (pg. 834)

**SERMON** *Claiming the Voice* ..... Thomas R. McKibbens

**\*HYMN 241** *When Jesus Came to Jordan* ..... Munich

## **THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS**

### **THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory Anthem** *Father in Heaven* .....David Hurd

*...who at the baptism of Jesus in the river Jordan  
proclaimed him your beloved Son and anointed him with the  
Holy Spirit, grant that all who are baptized into his name may  
keep the covenant they have made and boldly confess him as  
Lord and Savior, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns,  
one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.* 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**

**\*CLOSING HYMN 345** *Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult*..... Galilee

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Jesus Calls Us*.....Emma Lou Diemer  
b. 1927

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

Chancel Choir  
William Ness, Minister of Music & 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.*

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### **IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY:**

**Join us for fellowship in Gordon Hall following the service.** You can enjoy refreshments, meet members of this congregation, and learn about the many programs of this church. Gordon Hall is located by exiting the sanctuary through the double doors near the pulpit. Enter Gordon Hall by the first door on the left in the hallway.



**If you are searching for a church home,** we would love to get to know you. Please speak with the pastor, Thomas R. McKibbens, or call to speak with him during the week at 508-755-6143.

*Those with infants are welcome to take them to the **Nursery.**  
Please ask one of the ushers to assist you.*

## 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, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, AND CHILDREN'S BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE...** Please speak with one of our ushers for assistance.

**CHANCEL FLOWERS...**Today's arrangements are dedicated by Betty and Kimball Woodbury, in memory of their parents.

### **\*SUNDAY EDUCATION SCHEDULE\***



8:00 AM: Bible & Bagels I

8:45 AM: Continental Breakfast Served

9:00 AM: Bible & Bagels II, Church School

10:00 AM: Morning Worship

11:00 AM: Coffee and...

11:20 AM: Forum, AB Kids, Mini-Chorister Choir

**Youth Group: Watch for bulletin announcements or see the posted schedule for meeting times and activity.**

**ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TODAY...** Please submit reports to Cindy Johnson via E-mail [[cindyj@fbc-worc.org](mailto:cindyj@fbc-worc.org)], fax [508-797-3313], or place a hard copy in her mail slot in the Church Office. Many thanks! ***The Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, February 7, 2010 following Morning Worship. SAVE THE DATE!***

**TODAY'S SCROGIN BOOK FORUM...** TOPIC: Early American Church History. BOOK: *Wordy Shipmates*, by Sarah Vowel. Features the many diaries of the Puritans as they journeyed to America seeking homes and religious freedom. Discussion led by Anne and Frank Puffer. Please join us in the Lee Room at 11:20 AM.

**THE MEN WILL SING...**The men of the choir will sing on January 17. If you would like to join with us, please come to our next rehearsal on January 14. There is one upbeat piece and the other is a spiritual. It should be fun!

**\*\*\*ADULT FORUMS IN JANUARY\*\*\***



**January 17—The Sermons of MLK, Jr., with David Siddle**

**January 24—The Children of Tibet: Living at the Roof of the World,** with Ken Swenson. Join us and learn how the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts are partnering with a school and orphanage in Lhasa, Tibet so that the physical, educational, and spiritual needs of orphan children are being met. You will be moved!

**January 31—Family Forum: Our Renewable Nation,** with Colin McCullough. During the months of May and June, 2009, Colin, his wife Jennifer, together with their two sons, toured the U.S. in their vegetable oil-powered VW Beetle as an eco-video travel project. Their goal is to inspire and empower kids and others to create a renewable and sustainable future. Come with your family and hear more about their exciting project!

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**SNOW TUBING AT SKI WARD...**Youth and any interested parties are invited to join us on **Sunday, January 17** for the fun outdoor activity of snow tubing at Ski Ward in Shrewsbury, MA! Bring your WARM clothes to change into after the service. We'll meet in the Lee Room at 11:45 AM, and then leave from there for the ski area. **Bring \$22.00 to**



**help cover the cost of the trip** (includes lunch and a snack). **Those planning to go MUST sign-up with Heather Kattan** (via E-mail or the sheet outside her office). **Permission slips required for those under the age of 18.** JOIN US!

**MEMBERSHIP CLASS...**Senior Minister Thomas R. McKibbens will offer orientation and information sessions for those interested in membership at the First Baptist Church. These classes will take place on three successive Sundays: **January 31, February 7, and February 14 at 11:15,** following Morning Worship. All interested individuals are welcome to attend!



## PRAYER...

*Lord, make me see your glory in every place...*

~Michelangelo

### Please include in your prayers...

- Thanksgiving for answered prayers and our blessings
- The Bible & Bagels study and discussions
- The Scrogin Forum
- Weekly Staff Meetings
- The Buildings & Grounds Committee throughout John Belanger's recovery
- Each who is ill, alone, lonely, or in need
- Victims of violence, crime, accident, war
- John Belanger, Roberta Fitch, Russell and Ruth Weber, Eleanor Long
- Those who have lost loved ones
- Those who need marital wellness, or familial happiness
- The unemployed

**REMINDER...** We receive and pray for your prayer request each week. Do

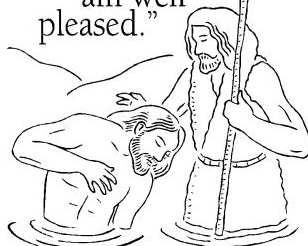


use the cards in the pew racks and deposit them in the Prayer Mail Boxes just outside the Sanctuary doors.

**HOPE FOR HOUSING...** Remember to stop by our table in Gordon Hall each week to make your food shopping card purchases! When used, 5% of your total purchase goes toward the prevention and early intervention assistance to families and individuals who are at risk of homelessness.

And a voice came from heaven:

“You are my Son,  
whom I love;  
with you I  
am well  
pleased.”



L u k e 3 : 2 2

## OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

### TODAY, Jan. 10, 2010 — ANNUAL REPORTS ARE DUE TODAY

8:00 AM	Bible & Bagels Session I
8:45 AM	Continental Breakfast
9:00 AM	Bible & Bagels Session II; Church School
10:00 AM	Morning Worship
11:20 AM	Scrogin Great Issues Book Forum; AB Kids

Mon., Jan. 11, 2010      5:45 PM      Building & Grounds

Tue., Jan. 12, 2010      10:00 AM      Weekly Staff Meeting; Skein of Knitters  
    1:00 PM      Salisbury Belles  
    4:00 PM      Choristers  
    **7:00 PM      **Governing Board/Board of Finance (JOINT)****

Wed., Jan. 13, 2010      9:00 AM      Women’s Prayer Fellowship  
    10:00 AM      First Friends  
    7:00 PM      Evening Prayer Fellowship;  
    Food Addicts in Recovery

Thu., Jan. 14, 2010      9:00 AM      Literacy Volunteers  
    10:00 AM      WCMS rehearsal  
    6:15 PM      First Handbells  
    7:30 PM      Chancel Choir  
    8:00 PM      AA

**The First Baptist Church**  
 111 Park Avenue  
 Worcester, MA 01609  
 508-755-6143  
[www.fbc-worc.org](http://www.fbc-worc.org)

Fri., Jan., 15, 2010      10:00 AM      WCMS rehearsal  
    1:00 PM      Hall Club  
    2:00 PM      Worcester Interfaith  
    3:15 PM      Girl Scouts

Sun., Jan. 17, 2010      8:00 AM      Bible & Bagels Session I  
    8:45 AM      Continental Breakfast  
    9:00 AM      Bible & Bagels Session II; Church School  
    10:00 AM      Morning Worship  
    11:20 AM      Adult Forum; AB Kids; BP Screening  
    11:45 AM      Youth Group  
    5:00 PM      MLK Jr. Service at Emmanuel Baptist Church



### Mon., Jan. 18, 2010 — Martin Luther King, Jr., Day — OFFICE CLOSED