



*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
111 Park Avenue
Worcester, Massachusetts 01609
January 2, 2011

MORNING WORSHIP



January 2, 2011..... 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 Prelude no 3, Op. 37..... Felix Mendelssohn
1809-1847

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 728** God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand ... National Hymn

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.*

People: **As light-seekers we come, O God, and rejoice in your light.**

Leader: May our worship open a window, that God's light may flow freely.

People: **As Christ-followers we come, O God, and we open ourselves to his leading.**

Leader: May our worship empower us to carry God's light into the world.

People: **Into this place of worship we bring the hopes and needs of all who find themselves in the dark places of the world: the grieving, the sick, the abused, and the forgotten.**

Leader: Into this place of worship we bring the hopes and dreams of all who have lost their purpose and vision: the rejected, the disappointed, and the discouraged.

People: **Into this place of worship we bring the strength and courage of all who serve and uplift others: the leaders, the nurturers, the protectors, and the teachers.**

ALL: **We praise you for the light that shatters darkness, the hope that rises from the ashes, the life that comes from you. May that true life fill the earth, as dawn fills the sky.**

***INVOCATION (Unison)**

Almighty and merciful God, we thank you for sending to us the light of the world, the Word who became a human being and lived among us. Enable the light of faith to shine within us and be seen by those around us. We ask this in the humble spirit of Jesus, who taught us to pray: Our Father (debts)...

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Anthem *There Shall a Star* Felix Mendelssohn
*...from Jacob come forth, and a sceptre from Israel rise up and dash in pieces
princes and nations. As bright the star of morning gleams, so Jesus sheddeth
glorious beams of light and consolation! Thy word, O Lord, radiance darting,
truth imparting, gives salvation; Thine be praise and adoration!*

***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 John 1:1-18 (pg. 862)

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.)

COMMUNION MEDITATION *Nourishment for a New Beginning* Thomas R. McKibbens

***COMMUNION HYMN 702** *We Come as Guests Invited... Wie Lieblich ist der Maien*

A SERVICE OF COMMUNION Thomas R. McKibbens & Heather Kattan
Invitation and Prayer of Thanksgiving

Sanctus Felix Mendelssohn

Words of Institution

The Passing of the Bread and Wine

Cast Thy Burden Upon the Lord Felix Mendelssohn

He That Shall Endure

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

***HYMN 409** *God of Our Life* Sandon

***BENEDICTION**

***RESPONSE** *Lord, Now Lettest Thou Thy Servant Depart In Peace...* Felix Mendelssohn

POSTLUDE *Andante tranquillo from Sonata no. 3, op 65*..... Felix Mendelssohn

**Those who are able may stand.*

Chancel Choir; William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts

CCLI #2763143

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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 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.

IF YOU ARE VISITING FOR THE FIRST TIME TODAY...Please 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 Senior Minister Thomas R. McKibbens, or call to speak with him during the week at 508-755-6143. Those with infants and children up to age five are welcome to take them to the **Nursery/Preschool class, in the Nursery.** Please ask one of our ushers to assist you.

HEARING AIDS, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, AND CHILDREN'S BULLETINS...
Please speak with one of our ushers for assistance.



TODAY'S SCHEDULE

9:30 AM Childcare Opens

10:00 AM: Morning Worship; Children's Worship (approx. 10:20 AM)

11:00 AM: Coffee and...

11:20 AM: Bible Adventures

Youth Group: See bulletin announcements or the posted schedule.

CHURCH SCHOOL NOTICE...Church School did not meet today. Church School will resume next Sunday at 9:00 AM

YOUTH GROUP PLANNING MEETING TODAY...for this year's 30 HOUR FAMINE event. We will **meet in the Lee Room at 11:30 AM** to select a date and to discuss other details. Be prepared to share your ideas for service projects we can do for the community. Don't forget your calendars! Lunch will be served.

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FEBRUARY'S ISSUE...is Friday, **January 7, 2011**. Please submit all items to cindyj@fbc-worc.org. Many thanks!

MEN'S BREAKFAST FELLOWSHIP...meets at 8:00 AM on Saturday, **January 8, 2011**, at the Parkway Diner, 148 Shrewsbury Street in Worcester. Please contact Tom Ward if there are questions [tward@oxps.org].

WORCESTER CHAMBER MUSIC SOCIETY...presents *Songs of Innocence and Experience* on Saturday, **January 8, 2011 7:30 PM** in Gordon Hall. Program includes works by Weil, Schubert, Berger, Foote, and Mozart. With Maria Ferrante, soprano; Tracy Kraus, flute; Krista Buckland Reisner and Amy Rawstron, violins; Mark Berger and Peter Sulski, violas; David Russell, cello, and William Ness, piano. TICKETED.

THE MEN WILL SING...The men of the choir will sing on **January 16, 2011**. If you would like to join with us, please come to rehearsals on January 6 and 13. Join us, we always have a great time!

ANNUAL REPORT & ANNUAL MEETING...The Annual Meeting is scheduled for **Sunday, February 13, 2011**, following Morning Worship. Annual reports from committee chairs and selected church staff are due no later than **Sunday, January 23, 2011**. Please submit reports to Cindy Johnson [cindyj@fbc-worc.org/508-797-3313 fax]. Many thanks!



ADULT FORUMS IN JANUARY 2011:

- ☞ The **January 9, 2011** Scrogin Forum will feature a discussion facilitated by Anne Goff on *Schultz and Peanuts: A Biography*, by David Michaelis.
- ☞ The Adult Forums on **January 9 & 16, 2011** will feature CHAIR YOGA with Fern Lee returning as our Yoga instructor. Fern, the founder of Wellness Works Yoga, will lead us in movements we can do while sitting that can improve flexibility and reduce the stress held in the human body. Sponsored by the Health Cabinet, please sign-up in the Church Office for one or both of the following dates:
 - **January 9th session = \$7.50 donation**
 - **January 16th session = \$7.50 donation**
- ☞ The **January 23, 2011** Adult Forum will feature *The CASA Project Worcester County*, an agency which recruits, trains, and supervises volunteers to serve in the Worcester County Juvenile Court on behalf of child victims of abuse and neglect. Sue Ellen Scrogin, Esq., CASA Executive Director will be our speaker. Please plan to come and hear more about the work CASA performs. *Sponsored by the Benevolence Committee.*
- ☞ Adult Forum on **January 30, 2011**, will feature a visit from Robin Lunn, Council Chairperson on the board of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists [AWAB]. Robin has been a member of AWAB since 2000 and sees the vision cast for AWAB as one that sustains her own understanding of God's radical welcome through historic Baptist principles. Please plan to attend and catch the ongoing vision of the Association of Welcoming and Affirming Baptists.

**The Adult Forums meet on Sundays as scheduled at 11:20 AM,
in either the Whitney Room or Gordon Hall.**

The Scrogin Forum meets at 11:20 AM in the Roy Room. Complete reading list available in the Newsletter or at www.fbc-worc.org/education.html.

PRAYER...

*Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in
they sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer.*

~Psalm 19:14 KJV

Please include in your prayers...

- The staff meeting, our clergy and staff
- The Men's Breakfast Fellowship
- Those in care facilities and their caregivers
- Charles Young, Judith Morris Fugere, Landy Johnson, Bernard Lempicki
- People with heart disease, cancer, diabetes, chronic pain
- Those serving in foreign lands: Andrew Staruk, Erik Gustafson,
David Goff
- People who are grieving, lonely, alienated
- The children, youth, and teachers of FBC
- Families under stress

THE SKEIN OF KNITTERS... will be meeting for the first time this new year on Tuesday, January 11, 2011, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM in the Krueger Room. New knitters of Prayer Shawls are welcome. We especially need knitters of Pocket Prayer Shawls.

YOUTH GROUP ROLLER SKATING AT ROLLER KINGDOM... on Sunday, **January 30, 2011**. Gather in the lobby by the Lee Room for our 11:45 AM departure. Make sure to dress comfortably for Roller Skating. The cost is \$8.00 per person. Lunch will be provided, and a **permission slip is required**. Please contact Rev. Heather Kattan if you have any questions!

HOPE FOR HOUSING GROCERY CARDS... remember to stop by the table in Gordon Hall to purchase Hope for Housing Homeless Prevention Cards to use for your weekly grocery shopping and join the effort to prevent homelessness in Worcester.

COPIES OF SERMON TEXTS are available in the Narthex and online at www.fbc-worc.org/sermons.html. An audio version is also available online.

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

508-755-6143 • www.fbc-worc.org



TODAY, Jan. 2, 2011



9:30 AM	Childcare opens
10:00 AM	Morning Worship
11:00 AM	Coffee and...
11:20 AM	Bible Adventures
11:30 AM	Youth Group

Mon., Jan. 3, 2011 — Office Closed

Tue., Jan. 4, 2011

10:00 AM	Full Staff Meeting
1:00 PM	Salisbury Belles
4:15 PM	Chorister Choir
6:00 PM	Habitat
7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends

Wed., Jan. 5, 2011

9:00 AM	Women's Prayer Fellowship; JRW
10:00 AM	WCMS Rehearsal
7:00 PM	Evening Prayer; Food Addicts in Rec.

Thu., Jan. 6, 2011



10:00 AM	WCMS Rehearsal
3:00 PM	milc Support
6:15 PM	First Handbells
7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
8:00 PM	AA

Fri., Jan. 7, 2011

10:00 AM	WCMS Rehearsal
3:15 PM	Girl Scouts

Sat., Jan. 8, 2011

8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast Fellowship (offsite)
10:30 AM	Habitat
7:30 PM	WCMS Concert (ticketed)

Sun., Jan. 9, 2011

8:30 AM	Breakfast; Childcare opens
9:00 AM	Bible & Bagels; Church School
10:00 AM	Worship
11:00 AM	Coffee and...
11:20 AM	Scrogin Forum; Adult Forum