

The First Baptist Church of Worcester
A Welcoming and Affirming Church

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



July 31, 2011 10:00 AM

PRELUDE Toccata in D minor, BWV 565 J. S. Bach 1685-1750

*** HYMN 71** Praise to the Lord, the AlmightyLobe Den Herren

***CALL TO WORSHIP**.....Adapted from a prayer by the Terma Collective

Leader: May our feet rest firmly on the ground.

People: May our heads touch the sky.

Leader: May we see clearly and have the capacity to listen.

People: May our words be true and may our hearts and minds be open.

Leader: May our hands be empty to fill the need.

People: May our arms be open to others.

All: May our gifts be revealed to us so that we may return that which has been given, completing the great circle.

***INVOCATION (Unison)**.....Adapted from Eugene H. Peterson's *The Message*, Psalm 18.

Dear God, we love you. You make us strong. You are the bedrock under our feet and the place where we run for dear life. We sing to you and we find ourselves safe and saved. You caught us: you reached all the way from sky to sea and pulled us out of the ocean of hate, that enemy chaos, the void in which we were drowning. You stuck by us and we stand here filled with your love as we say the prayer: Our Father, who art in Heaven...(debts)...

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

**Those who are able may stand.*

Please turn pagers and cell phones to silent mode.

Nursery care is available for children during the worship service.

Please speak with an usher for assistance.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

*Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see.
All I have needed thy hand hath provided, great is thy faithfulness, Lord unto me!*

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE Psalm 13 (p. 429)

CELEBRATION OF CHILDREN

Following the Affirmation, children are invited to join their worship leader for Children's Worship.

SOLO My Heart Ever Faithful from Cantata BWV 68 J. S. Bach

SERMON *More Than a Feeling* Ashley Ward

HYMN 426 Blessed Assurance Assurance

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Prelude in G minor, BWV 558 J. S. Bach

*** 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**

*** HYMN 424** How Can I Keep From Singing..... Endless Song

*** BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Chaconne in G minor Louis Couperin 1626-1691

*Andrew Hagberg, Organ
Halla Kalmansson, Soprano
William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*

THE FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR TODAY... are given in loving memory of Dr. Paul Aney.

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 First Baptist Church. If you are a visitor, we invite you to fill out a Welcome Card from the pew rack and place 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 Minister Thomas R. McKibbens 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 (e.g. hearing aids).

OUR GUEST PREACHER TODAY... is Ashley Ward. Ashley gladly agreed to serve as our Interim Minister of Education and Youth when the position came open in the spring, and what a superb job she has done! Today is her last Sunday with us, as she is headed to New York to teach the 6th grade. Let us hear her gladly, and then join us in Gordon Hall for a reception in her honor.

OUR GUEST MUSICIANS TODAY...We welcome organist Andrew Hagberg and soprano Halla Kalmansson. Andrew will be a sophomore organ performance major this fall studying with Marilyn Mason at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. He is from Sterling MA. Halla comes from a musical family where everyone plays or sings, both siblings and parents! She plays flute, piano and sang solos with the *New England Youth Chamber Ensemble* which performed here in February. This fall she will matriculate in college in Texas where she will be a voice major. Halla has also participated in the pre-college music program at New England Conservatory. Tomorrow she will present a recital at Thayer Conservatory, Lancaster MA.

MOVING BIBLES & HYMNALS ...During the month of August, Sunday Worship Service will be held in air-conditioned Gordon Hall. After worship service, as you leave the Sanctuary for refreshments and fellowship, kindly take 1 Bible and 1 hymnal from the pew rack and place them on the cart near the steps leading to Gordon Hall.

This Week at First Baptist Church

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

TODAY, July 31	8:45 AM	Nursery & Preschool childcare open
	9:00 AM	Bible & Bagels (final until Sept 11)
	10:00 AM	Worship; Summer Church School
	11:00 AM	Fellowship & Refreshments in Gordon Hall
Mon., Aug 1	1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
Tues., Aug 2	6:30 PM	First Friends BoD
	7:00 PM	Compassionate Friends
Wed., Aug 3	9:00 AM	Jericho Road
Thurs., Aug 4	3:00 AM	milk Support Group
	8:00 PM	AA
Sun., Aug 7	9:45 AM	Nursery & Preschool childcare open
	10:00 AM	Worship in Gordon Hall Summer Church School
	11:00 AM	Fellowship & Refreshments in the Lee Room

HOPE FOR HOUSING GROCERY CARDS... Stop by the table in Gordon Hall following morning worship service to purchase **Hope for Housing Homeless Prevention Cards** to use for your grocery shopping and help to prevent homelessness in Worcester.

FBC SUMMER WEEKDAY SCHEDULE... Through the end of August, the Church Office will be open 9 AM to 4 PM Monday through Friday. After Labor Day, 9-5 office hours resume. A Custodian will be on duty Tuesday and Thursday evenings for meeting coverage and for building cleaning and maintenance. On Wednesday evenings, the church will be closed.