

# *First Baptist Church*

*March 16, 2008*



Worcester, Massachusetts  
A Welcoming and Affirming Church

**Morning Worship**  
*Holy Week*

**March 16, 2008 ..... 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** Grand Chœur Dialogué ..... Eugène Gigout  
1844-1925

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 267** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna ..... Ellacombe

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** ..... Ruth Richards

People of God, Rejoice!  
Sing out in celebration, God's people!  
Your Christ is coming to you,  
humble, riding on a donkey  
on a donkey's foal.

<b>Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!</b>	<i><b>iHosanna! iHosanna en las alturas!</b></i>
<b>Blessed is the one who comes</b>	<i><b>iBendito es el que viene</b></i>
<b>in the Lord's name!</b>	<i><b>en el nombre del Señor!</b></i>
<b>Glory to God! Hosanna!</b>	<i><b>iGloria a Dios! iHosanna!</b></i>

**\*INVOCATION**

**Eternal God, in Christ you entered our broken world. You joined us on our journey of pleasure and pain, sorrow and joy. In Christ, you have shown us the way to a life full of meaning. We celebrate the coming of Christ, not with political power or military might, not with glamour or fame or wealth, but in humility and love, gently and with great compassion. We lift our voices to praise you, for these are the qualities we long to embrace, and we know that you are the source for all that is good. We pray the prayer that Jesus taught: Our Father [*Padre Nuestro*]...(depts)**

**\*GLORIA PATRI 734** ..... Greatorex

**BAPTISM**

We welcome to the waters of baptism the following candidates:

Ariel Pease Hitzhusen	Nereo Joseph
Lily Lindstrom	Jennifer Riendeau Ann Ming Samborski

We also welcome Pastor Abel Vilcapoma, who will baptize the following candidates from Primera Iglesia Bautista:

Erika Alcala                      Elvis N. Arancibia  
Vanessa Calixto                Eduardo Martinez

**\*HYMN 679** Baptized in Water ..... Bunessan

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ANTHEM** Lift Up Your Heads .....William Mathias  
1934-1992

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**..... Thomas R. McKibbens

**THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

**Call to Giving**

**Offertory** Ride On!..... Grayston Ives  
b. 1948

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**..... Ruth Richards

**\*HYMN 76** We Are Singing, for the Lord Is Our Light..... Siyahamba

**SCRIPTURE** Matthew 27:15-26 (p. 810)

**SERMON** *Which Jesus to Crucify?* ..... Thomas R. McKibbens

**\*HYMN 268** Ride On, Ride On in Majesty! .....Truro

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*RESPONSE** God Be in My Head .....John Rutter  
b. 1945

**POSTLUDE** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna ..... Albert Travis  
b. 1940

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

*Chancel Choir  
William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*

### ***ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE***

***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.

***CHANCEL FLOWERS...***The baptismal roses are given in loving memory of Patty Welcom by her husband, Don, and their children, Sandra, and Seth.

***RECEPTION...***Please join us following the service in Gordon Hall at a special reception celebrating the baptismal candidates.

***HOW'S YOUR BLOOD PRESSURE?...***Why not take a moment TODAY to have it checked following the Worship Service in the Going Library across from Gordon Hall? Sponsored by the Health Cabinet.

***ADULT FORUM...***David Siddle will lead the reading and discussion of a sermon on forgiveness by Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Please join us in the Whitney Room!

***MAUNDY THURSDAY SERVICE...***A service of COMMUNION & TENEBRAE will take place on Thursday, March 20, at 7:30 PM. We will be joined by members of the Park Congregational Church. The worship will be a focus on the events surrounding the last days in the life of the earthly Christ. Please plan to be with us.

***EASTER SUNDAY...***Next Sunday, March 23, there will be no Sunday School, Adult Forum, or Youth Group. The children will be excused from the 10:00 AM Worship Service following the Children's Message and will go to the Lee Room for the Easter Story. Following the program, the search for colorful egg treasures will begin!

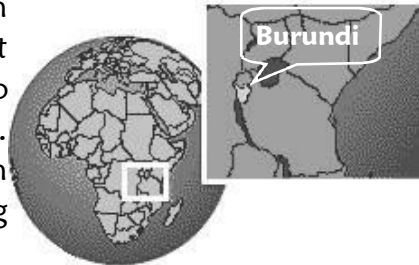
**MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY...**Resumes March 19, 2008 at 6:30 PM.

**FLOWERS FOR THE SANCTUARY...**Consider donating for one of the following available Sundays: April 6 (1 Urn), April 13 (2 Urns), April 20 (1 Urn). Please complete the form located by the floral sign-up sheet outside the Church Office, and return it with your payment. Thank you!

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM YOUR SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE..**



And a heartfelt thank you from our Committee and from the Kagema family. Working with Lutheran Social Services, First Baptist Church has joined a group of local faith communities to serve refugee families as they arrive in Worcester. Last Sunday, when the Kagema family from Burundi found their way to First Baptist Church for morning worship, Warren Jones moved into action and the members of our church family joined him with their usual generosity. FBC members gave and delivered furniture, household items, and clothing for two-year old Geraldine (*Ndihukubwayu* is her name in Burundi). Before their arrival in Worcester six weeks ago, Gerald was a Baptist minister and high school teacher in the refugee camps in Burundi, Africa. We are happy to greet them as they participate with us in worship on this Palm Sunday and Baptism Sunday. We hope you will contact Warren to learn more about joining him in this ongoing project!



**Coming, May 3 & 4...**

Our Annual Music & Arts weekend, with the premiere performance of the composition of our Anthem Competition Winner, and the performance of the oratorio St. Paul, by Felix Mendelssohn, on May 3 at 7:30 PM in Sudbury, Massachusetts and on May 4 at 3:00 PM at First Baptist Church in Worcester—a joint effort on behalf of Memorial Congregational Church of Sudbury, Massachusetts and First Baptist Church of Worcester, Massachusetts. **SAVE THE DATES!**

An illustration of four people—two men and two women—dressed in formal attire, looking at sheet music. They appear to be a choir or a musical ensemble.

**MUSIC GUILD SPRING LECTURE SERIES...**



The Music Guild invites you to a series of three lectures given by Steven Ledbetter, Ph.D. on April 2, 9, and 16 (Wednesdays) from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM in the Lee Room. Dr. Ledbetter will speak on 19<sup>th</sup> Century Composers of New England,

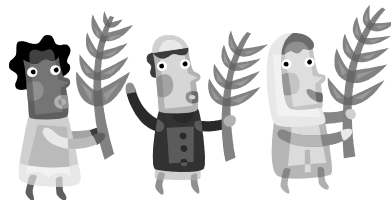


who directed the New England Conservatory and the Worcester Music Festival. Dr. Ledbetter was the pre-concert lecturer and program annotator for the Boston Symphony Orchestra for 20 years, and is recognized throughout the country for his outstanding notes for concerts and recordings. Admission is \$8.00 per lecture, \$20 for the series.

**Contact Janice Hitzhusen (508-791-6687) for tickets or more information.** All proceeds are used to fund Music Guild activities.

**HAVE YOU CONSIDERED...**volunteering at FBC? If so, there *is* something you can do to help once every fifth week. We are in need of help tidying pews in preparation for Sunday worship. You'll remove discarded bulletins, replace envelopes and brochures, and gather items that may have been left behind. You can do this before the next worship service, at any time during normal business hours. **Contact Susan Phaneuf at ext. 224 to learn more!**

**HOPE FOR HOUSING...**Please remember to purchase and use these family homelessness prevention grocery cards for all of your own shopping. Available in Gordon Hall following worship every Sunday are grocery cards from Shaw's, Stop & Shop, and Big Y in \$25, \$50, and \$100 dollar denominations. You will get the full value of that card at the grocery store, AND the store will contribute 5% of your total purchase to Hope for Housing, which will give that 5% to the Central Mass Housing Alliance, who, in turn, will use it to provide prevention and early intervention assistance to families and individuals that are at risk of homelessness.



## Prayer...

*O Lord, never allow us to think we can stand by ourselves  
and not need you, our greatest need.*

~John Donne

Please include in your prayers...

- Our church family in this most holy season
- Pastor Thomas McKibbens; Minister of Music & Arts, William Ness; and Field Education Student, Ruth Richards
- The Board of Christian Education
- Thanksgiving for all who prepared and worked on the Choir Breakfast
- The Communion and Tenebrae Service this Maundy Thursday
- Betsy Minott, Robert Hohler, Lynn McMillen, Betty and Edmund “Ned” Bennett, Elizabeth Waithanji, the family of Harriet Hight
- Each who is suffering from chronic disease
- Families in need of stability
- The people of Africa
- The displaced, disenfranchised, needy



**PLEASE NOTE:** The Evening Prayer Fellowship will not meet again until Wednesday, March 26, at 7:30 PM. The Women's Prayer Fellowship continues to meet each Wednesday morning at 9:00 AM to 10:00 AM in the Roy Room.

## OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES



## H O L Y · W E E K

### **TODAY, Mar. 16—Palm Sunday**

8:00 AM Choir Breakfast  
10:00 AM Worship and Baptism  
11:15 AM Reception; Sunday School; Adult Forum  
Blood Pressure Check in the Library!

Mon., Mar. 17 7:00 PM Benevolence (offsite)

Tue., Mar. 18 9:00 AM Literacy Volunteers  
10:00 AM Weekly Staff Meeting  
4:00 PM Children's Choir  
4:45 PM Orff Session  
7:00 PM Finance Comm.; Board of Christian Ed.;  
Mothers of Twins; Compassionate Friends  
7:30 PM Liturgical Dancers

Wed., Mar. 19 9:00 AM Women's Prayer Fellowship; Literacy Vols.  
6:30 PM Midweek Bible Study; Habitat

### **Thu., Mar. 20—Maundy Thursday**

7:30 PM Communion & Tenebrae; Alcoholics Anon.  
*Choir Rehearsal following the Tenebrae Service*

### **Fri., Mar 21 — Good Friday**

Office Closes at 12:30 PM

### **Sun., Mar. 23 — Easter Sunday**

10:00 Worship  
*Easter Egg Hunt*

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