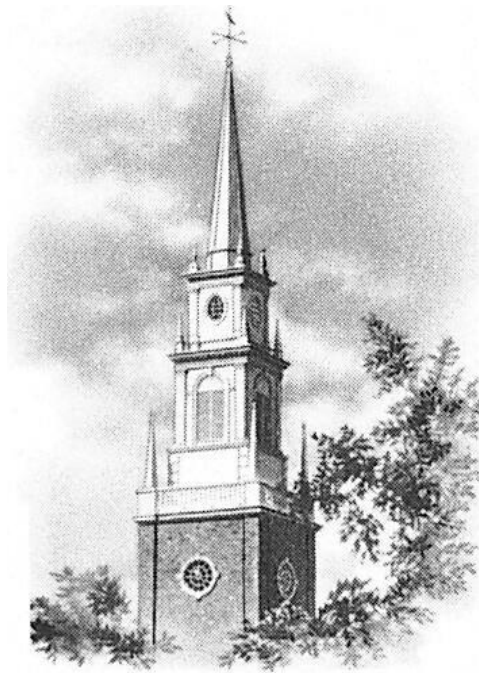


First Baptist Church

March 30, 2008



Worcester, Massachusetts
A Welcoming and Affirming Church

Morning Worship

March 30, 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 Two settings of *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* Peter Pindar Stearns
b. 1931
Albert Travis
b. 1940

Congregation rises to sing the Processional Hymn at the conclusion of the second prelude setting.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 295** *Jesus Christ Is Risen Today* Llanfair

***CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 16)**David Goff

Leader: I bless the Lord, who gives me counsel; in the night also, my heart instructs me.

People: I keep the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Leader: Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

People: For you do not give me up to Sheol, or let your faithful one see the Pit.

ALL: You show me the path of life. In your presence, there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

***INVOCATION**

Almighty God, you dwell in light unapproachable. Grant that we may know you through the One whom you have given to be the Light of the World, Jesus Christ, and in the joy of Easter faith may we worship you in spirit and in truth. We pray the prayer Jesus taught: Our Father...(debts)

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Call to Giving

Offertory Song of ExultationJohn Ness Beck
1930-1987

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

***Prayer of Dedication**

SUNDAY SCHOOL SCRIPTURE I Peter 1:3-9 (p. 983).....Abigail Ayres

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE.....David Goff
(After which, the children ages 4 years old through 4th grade may depart to attend Junior Worship.)

***HYMN 478** I Need Thee Every HourNeed

SCRIPTURE John 20:19-31(p. 883) Revelation 3:20(p. 997)

SERMON *Christ at the Door* Thomas R. McKibbens

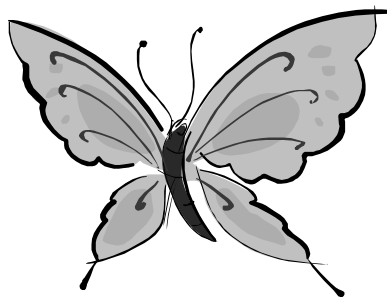
***HYMN 298** The Day of Resurrection!Lancashire

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE Prelude and Fugue in C Major, BWV 545J.S. Bach
1685-1750

**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...Today's arrangement is dedicated in remembrance of Christopher Terpo by Audrey Terpo.

COFFEE AND...Join your friends, and perhaps make a few new friends following the service in Gordon Hall!



AUDIO JOURNAL
An Affiliate of TIC Network

ADULT FORUM...We welcome Jason Rufo and Vincent Lombardi from the Audio Journal radio reading service for the blind and print-disabled. Please join us in the Whitney Room to learn more about this valuable service, now in its 20th year!

MEN'S SATURDAY BREAKFAST THIS WEEK...Men of all ages are welcome to join us on Saturday, April 5, 8:00 AM at Bickford's Restaurant on Lincoln Street in Worcester. Need more information? Contact Tom Ward [tward@oxps.org].

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



Music & Arts Weekend is May 2 thru 4!

This year's Annual Music & Arts weekend commences with an ORGAN RECITAL by Wesley Hall, stellar student of Minister of Music & Arts William Ness, on Friday, May 2, 2008 at 7:30 PM. Wesley won second place in the Albert Schweitzer Organ Competition in September, 2007. He will perform music by Bach, Bruhns, Sweelinck, Messiaen, Bossi, Vierne, and Reger. This will be an outstanding program by a young talented musician. Free to all, with reception following.



Next, will be the moving 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.


Finally, during Sunday morning worship on May 4, our Chancel Choir will bring inspiration with the premiere performance of the composition of our Anthem Competition Winner BJ Brooks, entitled "Thou, Who art the Light." Be sure to **SAVE THESE DATES** and be fully present for this weekend of musical celebration!



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 19th 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.



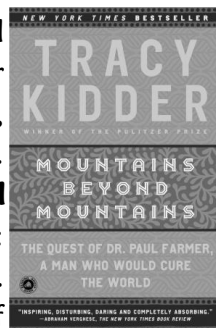
The Massachusetts Bible Society Presents...

The GOSPEL of MARK  Alive!

Experience the exciting performance of the Rev. Bert Marshall,
Regional Director, Church World Service, Northern New England,
as he shares Mark's entire mysterious, enigmatic story from beginning to end
through the medium of oral tradition. An opportunity you don't want to miss!

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Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 1:00 PM (rescheduled)
First Baptist Church, Worcester—Gordon Hall
Free and open to the public—All are Welcome!

PAUL FARMER LECTURE... Dr. Paul E. Farmer will deliver the Fifth Annual Lecture of the Abdella Center for Ethics at Saint John's High School, 378 Main Street, Shrewsbury on Tuesday, May 13, 2008, 7:00 PM. Admission is by ticket only. **Interested parties should request tickets no later than May 1** to: farmer@stjohnshigh.org, or 508-842-5934, ext. 596. Please include name, address, telephone, and number of tickets requested in any correspondence. Dr. Farmer is co-founder of **Partners in Health**, and the subject of New York Times Bestseller, Mountains Beyond Mountains, by Tracy Kidder.



A SAVE THE DATE ALERT FROM YOUR SOCIAL ACTION COMMITTEE... We hope you will join us on Sunday, May 18, at the **WALK FOR THE HOMELESS**. Be a member of our FBC team as we walk to help alleviate homelessness. Beneficiaries this year include *Hope for Housing*, making this a great opportunity to burn off calories acquired from the good food we buy with our *Hope for Housing* grocery cards. We will team up with the **Health Cabinet**, support *Hope for Housing*, and get great exercise—all together in one fun walk! Watch the bulletin boards and the Worship bulletin for more details, or please speak with Jean Perkins.

Prayer...

*To the Holy Spirit, who sanctifies us,
with the Father who made and created us,
and the Son who redeemed us,
be given all honor and glory, world without end.*

~Thomas Cranmer

Please include in your prayers...

- Pastor Thomas McKibbens, Minister of Music William Ness
- The Children's Choir, the Orff Sessions, the Chancel Choir
- The Liturgical Dancers, the Literary Volunteers
- Edmund Bennett, Cynthia Fischer, Elizabeth Waithanji, Lynn McMillen, Anthony Davis, Bernadette McBride
- Each who is struggling with chronic disease, those facing surgery
- Those experiencing radiation, chemotherapy, immunotherapy
- Children who are in need of mentoring, guidance, protection
- Those who are working for freedom, justice, affordable housing
- Those who, in innumerable ways, support the Prayer Ministries of this church
- Those who are traveling

The Prayer Request Cards in the pew racks may be filled out with your private prayer requests and "mailed" in any of the Prayer Mail Boxes, located outside the Sanctuary doors, or in the Main Office foyer. Your requests will be prayed for by Prayer Fellowships and the Pastor.

Both Prayer Fellowships meet on Wednesdays at 9:00 AM and 7:30 PM respectively, in the Roy Room. You are invited to join either group.



OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, Mar. 30	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Sunday School; Adult Forum
	12:30 PM	Youth Group
Tue., Apr. 1	9:00 AM	Literacy Volunteers
	10:00 AM	Full Staff Meeting
	4:00 PM	Children's Choir
	4:45 PM	Orff Session
	7:00 PM	Social Action Committee
	7:30 PM	Liturgical Dancers
<i>Pick up FBC Fund and Loan Applications Beginning Today!</i>		
Wed., Apr. 2	9:00 AM	Women's Prayer Fellowship; Literacy Volunteers
	9:30 PM	Interim Ministers
	10:00 AM	Music Guild Spring Lecture Series
	6:30 PM	Midweek Bible Study
	7:30 PM	Evening Prayer Fellowship
Thu., Apr. 3	6:15 PM	First Handbells
	7:15 PM	Chancel Choir
	7:30 PM	Alcoholics Anonymous
Fri., Apr. 4	3:15 PM	Brownies
Sat., Apr. 5	8:00 AM	Men's Breakfast at Bickford's (Lincoln St.)
	11:00 AM	Harriet Hight Memorial Service
Sun., Apr. 6	10:00 AM	Worship
	11:15 AM	Sunday School; Scrogin Forum
	12:30 PM	Youth Group

Newsletter Deadline for May issue is Monday, April 7!

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