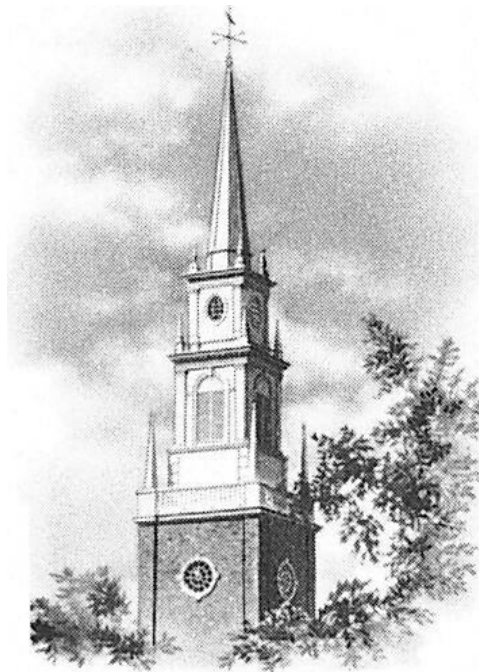


First Baptist Church

November 2, 2008



Worcester, Massachusetts
A Welcoming and Affirming Church
Mission Statement

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

Morning Worship

Communion

November 2, 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 Meditation, Op. 50, no. 1 Arthur Foote
Our Father who art in Heaven, Op. 50, no. 2 1853-1937

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN 529** For All the Saints Sine Nomine

***CALL TO WORSHIP** Thomas R. McKibbens

Leader: I am the resurrection and the life, said the Lord.

People: Whoever lives and believes in me, though dead, shall have eternal life.

Leader: We are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses!

All: The Lord's name be praised! Alleluia!

***INVOCATION (unison)**

Eternal God, you have blessed us with a great multitude of witnesses whose lives have testified to the amazing power of your presence. Grant us strength to run with patience the race that is set before us. Keep us in the way of Christ, following his guidance, and moving in step with all your people who are stretching toward the goal of your high calling, and running in the strength of your continued presence with us until we, too, join in endless celebration with all your saints in glory. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray: Our Father...(depts).

***GLORIA PATRI 734** Greatorex

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Heather Kattan

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY

THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS Thomas R. McKibbens

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Thou Art God! John Ness Beck
1930-1987

***Doxology 34** Old Hundredth

***Prayer of Dedication**

LET THE CHILDREN COME Root

Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Red and yellow, black and white, all are precious in His sight;
Jesus loves the little children of the world.

AFFIRMATION OF THE CHILDREN..... Heather Kattan

(Children who would like to participate in a Children’s Worship Experience are invited to join their worship leader following the Message.)

THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE

Revelation 7:9-17 (pg. 999) Brenda Baker

At the center of heaven stands the Lamb on the throne of God, and all the saints sing praise to the Lamb who reigns. “I looked and I saw a great multitude,” says the writer.

UNISON Reading of Psalm 34:1-9 (pg. 441)

Matthew 5:1-12 (pg. 785)..... Stephanie Harvey

Jesus opens his “Sermon on the Mount” with a series of blessings that we know as “The Beatitudes.”

SERMON *Naming the Saints Before Us*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

***COMMUNION HYMN 522** *Shall We Gather at the River* Hanson Place

We welcome the following new members:

Carla Coltharp Elaine & Craig Holt
Heather Kattan George McDermott

A SERVICE OF COMMUNION—LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE (See insert)

Prayer of Thanksgiving

SanctusAlec Wyton
1921-2007

The Passing of the Bread and Wine

Lord of Lords, Adored by AngelsPaul Bouman
b. 1918

The Passing of the Peace

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIVES

***CLOSING HYMN** *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* (see insert)..... Dennis

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *March in C*..... Francis Jackson

b. 1917

**Those who are able may stand.*

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

LITANY OF REMEMBRANCE

❖ *All Saint's Day* ❖

Leader: We gather together before this table of remembrance and recall the names of our members who have died during this past year:

Time of Remembrance

People: We give you thanks, O God, for those whom we have loved. We give you thanks for the laughter and the love, the insight and the strength that they gave to us.

Leader: We thank you, O Lord, for bringing into being these unique people, and for bringing them into our lives.

People: And now their death has left an empty place within us.

Leader: So we pray for ourselves, for the days when that empty place hurts like a raw wound and for the days when it returns as a gentle ache in the midst of the everyday living of our lives.

People: We hold onto the memory of those who have died, but we also pray for the grace to let go of any hurts un-forgiven, any conflict unresolved, and words from the heart left unsaid.

Leader: O Lord, you have promised your presence through the valley of the shadow of death.

People: We pray in confident trust that those who have passed through that valley are now in your gentle arms. And for those who remain on this side of the valley, we pray for strength in our grieving and joy in our remembering.

Leader: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses...let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us.*

People: For these, our family and friends, we give you thanks.

Leader: Almighty and loving God, we come to this table, not because we have earned the right to be here. We come not because we have been good enough or faithful enough to deserve our place. We come because by your grace you have welcomed us here.

People: Forgive us, O Lord, when we want to restrict your invitation to those who measure up to our standards. Forgive us when we want to limit your grace to those with whom we agree, to our friends and not to our enemies.

Leader: As we take this bread and this cup, remind us of the depth and the breadth of your mercy.

ALL: May we find here the wisdom to celebrate and live a vision of your kingdom, a kingdom whose doors are open to all who would enter in. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Leader: And now, encouraged by their example and strengthened by their fellowship, let us be partakers with the saints of the inheritance of grace. Jesus said, *I am the bread of life; those who come to me shall never hunger; those who believe in me shall never thirst.* In company with all believers in every time and beyond time, we join in an everlasting song of praise:

SANCTUS

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his betrayal, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said: This is my body, given for you; do this in remembrance of me.

In like manner also the cup, after supper, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

PRAYER

Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon us, O God, that we may know the presence of the living Christ, be one body in him, and grow into his likeness. Renew our communion with all your saints, especially those whom we have named this day both aloud and in our hearts. May we run with perseverance the race that is set before us, being surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses and looking to Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, and to his coming in final victory. Through him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

PASSING OF THE BREAD AND WINE

Bread: The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

Wine: We lift the cup of salvation and call upon the name of the Lord.
O taste and see that God is good!



Dr. Donald Hight
Mrs. Ima Anderson
Mrs. Shirley Colebrook
Mrs. Mary Helen Hallock
Mrs. Ruth Linden
Mrs. Faith Pearson
Mrs. Doris Malm
Mrs. Harriet Hight
Mr. Verner Frost
Miss Esther Wight
Mr. Carroll C. Parker
Miss Mary E. Stone
Mrs. Edith Richards
Miss Cynthia B. Fischer
Mr. Robert C. Hohler

ALL SAINTS DAY

All Saints Day, November 1, is a universal festival of the Church. On All Saints Sunday, we direct our attention to the richness of Christian history and the varied experiences of the grace of God by lifting up the lives of the saints.

The custom of commemorating all those who have “finished the course and kept the faith: goes back at least to the third century. All Saints Day celebrates not only those whom some parts of the larger Church have officially designated as “saints”, but also the people of God, living and dead, who together form the mystical Body of Christ.

The names of the members of First Baptist Church in Worcester who have died since All Saints Day last year will be read during the **Time of Remembrance**. We remember them in our prayers today, and we give thanks for their lives. We remember and find strength in their faith and the faith of all the saints both known to us and known only to God.

Blest Be the Tie That Binds 393

F C C7 F F7 Bb F C



1 Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris-tian love;
 2 Be-fore our Fa-ther's throne we pour our ar-dent prayers;
 3 We share our mu-tual woes, each oth-er's bur-dens bear;
 4 From sor-row, toil, and pain, and sin we shall be free;

C7 F C C7 F Bb F Bb F C7 F

E A D C



the fel-low-ship of kin-dred minds is like to that a-bove.
 our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com-forts and our cares.
 and oft-en for each oth-er flows the sym-pa-thiz-ing tear.
 and per-fect love and friend-ship reign through all e-ter-ni-ty.

WORDS: John Fawcett (1740-1817), alt.
 MUSIC: Johann G. Nægeli (1773-1836); arr. Lowell Mason (1792-1872)

DENNIS
 S.M.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH VALUES 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.

ABOUT TODAY'S SERVICE & PROGRAMS

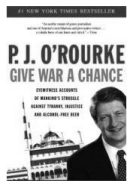
WE WELCOME YOU...to the Morning Worship of the First Baptist Church. If you are a guest, we express a special word of welcome and invite you to fill out the Welcome Card found in the pew rack. We are honored by your presence and hope you will return whenever you are able. The congregation of First Baptist 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 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.

LARGE PRINT BULLETIN AVAILABLE...with the Order of Service. Please speak with one of our ushers to receive a copy.

CHANCEL FLOWERS...Today's floral arrangements are given by Natalie and Rod Ferris, in loving memory of their parents and of Natalie's brother and sister, and by the Lionett Family, in remembrance of Pauline and William Lionett. 🌸

TODAY'S FORUMS...In Adult Forum in Gordon Hall, our own Richard Wolf reports on his recent trip to Bulgaria and will bring us up-to-date on the status of the Sofia Church Training Centre. Also, The Scrogin Forum meets in the Roy Room to discuss Give War a Chance, by P.J. O'Rourke.



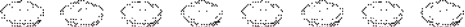
Both forums begin at 11:15 AM.



SANDWICHES & SUNDAES...Open to ALL Youth at FBC (6 grade through 12th grade). Please join us at 12:30 PM **TODAY** in the Lee Room for lunch, to talk about the Youth Group and the kinds of activities and trips we want to have this year. Don't forget to BRING A FRIEND!



FALL BUSINESS MEETING NEXT SUNDAY...immediately following Morning Worship. We will hear BRIEF reports, and vote on The First Baptist Church Strategic Plan. Copies of the Strategic Plan are available in the Church Office for your review. Please plan to attend this informative meeting!

ORDER YOUR THANKSGIVING PIE...Pick up an order form in the Church Office and make your choice of a nine-inch HOMEMADE pie! Last day to place your order is Sunday, November 16. Pies will be ready for pick up on Sunday, November 23. All proceeds to benefit the refurbishing of our Mason & Hamlin Piano in Gordon Hall. 

YOUTH THANKSGIVING PROJECT...For Thanksgiving this year, we will come together to collect and serve food to those who are in need. The Youth will be serving a meal on **Tuesday, November 25, 2008**, as part of the Mustard Seed ministry in which FBC participates. **Throughout the month of November, we will also collect donations of non-perishable food items for the Plumley Village Health Center, as well as financial donations to purchase the items needed for the meal that we will serve.** Please make checks out to First Baptist Church, and write "Youth Thanksgiving" on the memo line. Food donations can be brought by children and youth to their Sunday School classes, and there will also be a basket for donations in the narthex. To sign-up for serving of the meal (November 25 at 4:45 PM to about 6:30 PM), please contact Heather Kattan via e-mail [HeatherK@fbc-worc.org], by phone [508-755-6143 x228] or by writing your name on the sheet outside of Heather's office. Thank you!



A HEARTFELT THANKS...luncheon will be offered by the Sunday School children and church family of The Park Congregational Church on **Sunday, November 16** following Morning Worship, in Gordon Hall. Park desires to show appreciation for their new church home in our building, as well as the love and warmth shown to them since their arrival. Come one, come all, as our two church families enjoy a time of thankful fellowship together!

FLU SEASON IS UPON US...and once again the FBC Health Cabinet is considering providing free flu shots. If you are very interested in getting the vaccine, please contact the Church Office to sign-up, or e-mail Robin McFee [tweetydoctor@aol.com]. Do not delay in signing up—we will need to obtain the vaccine and choose a date for administering the shots.



HOPE FOR HOUSING—FOR THE HOLIDAYS...We hope you are already in the habit of buying HOPE FOR HOUSING homelessness prevention cards for all of your weekly grocery needs! When you buy your Stop & Shop, Big Y, or Shaw's cards in \$25, \$50, or \$100 denominations, you will get full card value for your grocery shopping, and the store contributes 5% of each sale to the emergency fund administered by the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance for families with children who are at risk of homelessness. As we approach the holiday season, we encourage you to do ALL of your holiday shopping this way as well—and perhaps consider purchasing grocery cards to slip into your greeting cards, or to donate to local food pantries. We will have a supply of \$10 card in stock for this purpose, and if you have a specific need for cards, please let us know so we may have them ready for you the following Sunday.

Don't forget our annual appeal for the Victory Center's "Bread of Life" pantry at 371 Pleasant Street. The need is huge — in one hour, 75 in-need families signed up for frozen turkeys — 150 to 200 will probably be needed by the November 17 distribution date. Ten dollar grocery cards (or larger ones), or frozen turkeys, are urgently needed. Gift cards may be left in a designated envelope at the Hope for Housing table, and we will see that they get there. All contributions are tax deductible [MA Tax Number 260 065 6367]. To claim your tax deduction, please include some identification with your gift card—or, you may mail your gift card or a personal check (write BOL on the memo line) to Victory in Christ, PO Box 30454, Worcester, MA 01603.

FBC Social Action Committee

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service at The First Baptist Church
Sunday, November 23, 2008—5:00 PM



Get your tickets **TODAY** for the Annual Christmas Dinner
on December 14 at 5:00 PM.
\$12 Adults – \$6.00 Children under 12 – \$35 Family

Prayer...

*Father, hear the prayer we offer: not for ease that prayer shall be,
but for strength that we may ever live our lives courageously.*

~Hymn words by Love M. Willis, 1824-1908

Please pray for...

- Our country as it elects new leadership
- Our church in its various ministries
- Those in care facilities; those with chronic illness
- The Friend to Friend (FTF) First Tuesday Fellowship on Monday, with the First Handbells
- Mustard Seed ministry
- Worcester Interfaith
- Those unemployed; those seeking housing
- Stanley Manierre, Oris Norwood, Cheryl Goff, Madelyn Morse, Margaret Gowetz, Alice Hohler, Nancy Burgess, Eleanor Long, Roger Williams, Laura Coe
- Those awaiting organ transplant
- Those who face upcoming surgery, medical testing, or rehabilitation



Please Note:

- The Women's Prayer Fellowship continues its weekly 9:00—10:00 AM Wednesday meetings.
- The Evening Prayer Fellowship [EPF] will NOT meet during the evenings of Wonderful Wednesdays, or on Thanksgiving eve. The EPF will resume its meeting time Wednesday, December 3, 7:30—8:30 PM in the Roy Room.



I wish to extend a **GIANT THANK YOU** to everyone who helped out with our Annual Halloween Party. I really enjoyed having the opportunity to get to know our children, youth, and parents better. We all had a lot of fun, and, of course, ate a lot of candy! My sincerest thanks to all of the youth and adult helpers who came together to make this event a success!

HEATHER KATTAN—Minister of Christian Education and Youth
SCHOOL SUPPLIES...The school supplies collected for the orphanage in Bulgaria were not able to be shipped, due to the high cost. The financial equivalent of the items collected was sent instead, so supplies could be purchased for the children. The items we collected have been donated to local area children in need. 🍷

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE...All items for the **DECEMBER** issue of our newsletter should be submitted by midnight on Wednesday, November 5, 2008 [cindyj@fbc-worc.org OR 508-797-3313 FAX]. **THANK YOU!**

OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, November 2—Daylight Saving Time Ends!

8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels

10:00 AM Worship

11:15 AM Sunday School; Adult Forum;
Scrogin Forum

11:30 PM Music & Arts Committee

12:30 PM Sandwiches and Sundaes (FBC Youth)

Mon., November 3

12:00 PM Elm Park Ministries

5:45 PM Buildings & Grounds

6:30 PM First Handbells at Briarwood

7:00 PM Habitat

Tue., November 4

ELECTION DAY!

10:00 AM Full Staff Meeting

1:00 PM Salisbury Belles

4:00 PM Children's Choir

7:00 PM Social Action Committee

Wed., November 5

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR DECEMBER ISSUE!

9:00 AM Women's Prayer Fellowship

5:30 PM Wonderful Wednesdays!

6:30 PM Habitat

7:00 PM Park Cong.; Food Addicts in Recovery

Thu., November 6

9:00 AM Literacy Volunteers

6:00 PM Nominating Committee

6:15 PM First Handbells

7:00 PM Habitat

7:30 PM Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., November 7

3:15 PM Brownies

Sun., November 9

8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels

10:00 AM Worship

11:15 AM Fall Business Meeting; Sunday School

The First Baptist Church—111 Park Avenue

Worcester, MA 01609

508-755-6143

www.fbc-worc.org