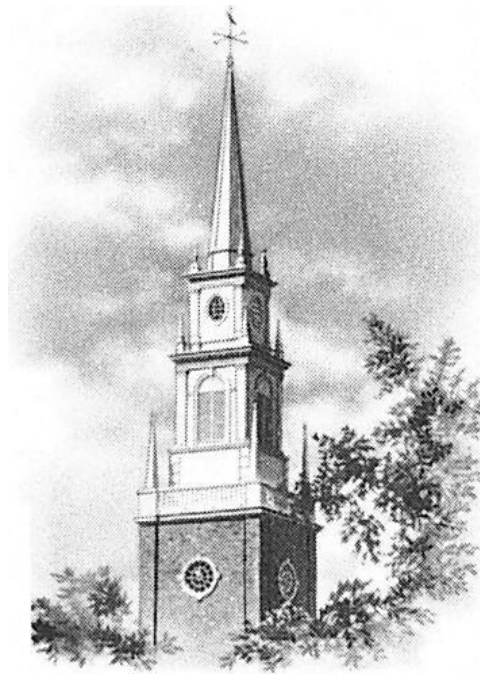


# *First Baptist Church*

*November 9, 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



November 9, 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** Suite in G Major ..... Georg Böhm  
1661-1733

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 722** Praise and Thanksgiving..... Bunessan

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP** ..... Brenda Baker

Leader: O God, you will hear the desire of the meek; you will strengthen their hearts; you will incline your ear to do justice for the orphan and the oppressed, that those from earth may strike terror no more.

**All: God has told you, O mortal, what is good: and what does the Lord require of you, but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?**

**\*INVOCATION (unison)**

Ever-present God, you not only reign above, but also reign around, within, and through us. Stir in our hearts a holy expectancy, so that we will be ready and open to hear your voice, to feel your gentle tug, to sense your reassuring presence. May our spirit be open to the calling of your Spirit, that in listening for you we might hear you; that in waiting for you we might meet you; that in meeting you, we might follow you. We pray this in the spirit of the one who taught us to pray: **Our Father...(debts).**

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

## A SERVICE OF BAPTISM

The Baptism of Kabura Chekanao

**BAPTISM HYMN 68** Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing ..... Nettleton

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** ..... Heather Kattan

**STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY** .....Warren Jones

## A LITANY FOR VETERANS' DAY (from *The Book of Worship for United States Forces*, 1974)

Leader: Let us give thanks to God for the land of our birth, with all its chartered liberties. For all the wonder of our country's story:

**People: WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O GOD.**

Leader: For leaders in nation and state, and for those who in days past and in these present times have labored for the commonwealth:

**People: WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O GOD.**

Leader: For those who in all times and places have been true and brave, and in the world's common ways have lived upright lives and ministered to their fellows:

**People: WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O GOD.**

Leader: For those who served their country in its hour of need, and especially for those who gave even their lives in that service:

**People: WE GIVE YOU THANKS, O GOD.**

Leader: O Almighty God, and most merciful Father, as we remember these your servants, remembering with gratitude their courage and strength, we hold before you those who mourn them. Look upon your bereaved servants with your mercy. As this day brings them memories of those they have lost awhile, may it also bring your consolation and the assurance that their loved ones are forever in your living presence.

**ALL: AMEN!**

## **THE READING OF HOLY SCRIPTURE**

**I Thessalonians 1:1-10 (pg. 959)**..... Brenda Baker

**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.)*

**SERMON** *In Every Place Your Faith is Known!*..... Thomas R. McKibbens

**\*HYMN 687** All Things Are Yours!..... Germany

**THE OFFERING OF OUR PRAYERS**..... Thomas R. McKibbens

## **THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

**Offertory** If We Believe That Jesus Died ..... John Goss  
1800-1880

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

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

## **THE OFFERING OF OUR LIVES**

**\*CLOSING HYMN 572** God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending .... Rustington

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** Präludium in G Major ..... Johann Christian Kittel  
1732-1809

*\*Those who are able may stand.*

*Chancel Choir*

*William Ness, Minister of Music & Arts*

## **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 arrangement is given by D. Lyn Stevens in loving remembrance of her parents, Wynne and Angus Macdonald. ✨

**FALL BUSINESS MEETING TODAY...**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!




**The First Baptist Church...**


- ...is an authentic community of faith
  - ...cares for the needs of others
  - ...has a global conscience and practices mission action
- We need your help to continue our mission!**

**NEXT SUNDAY is  
STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY.  
Remember to return  
your PLEDGE CARD!**

**A HEARTFELT THANKS...** luncheon in Gordon Hall will be offered by the Sunday School children and church family of The Park Congregational Church **NEXT SUNDAY, November 16** following Morning Worship. 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!

 **HAVE YOU ORDERED YOUR THANKSGIVING PIE?** Last day to place your order is **NEXT 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.

**CHANCEL CHOIR...** will have rehearsal **NEXT Sunday, November 16** at 11:30 AM. This extra rehearsal ensures all will be well rehearsed for our heaviest month of the year in December. See you then! 🎵

**TIME TO MEET OUR NEIGHBORS...** Our **Adult Forum on November 23** will not be held in the Whitney Room, Gordon Hall, or the Lee Room. Instead, we will leave FBC for a short walk across Park Avenue for a visit to the  American Antiquarian Society. Ellen Dunlop, the Society's Executive Director, has graciously offered to give us a guided tour through this world famous resource that we proudly claim as our neighbor. If you think you will be joining the tour, please let us know on the sign-up sheet in Gordon Hall. This is just to give Ellen a rough idea of how many attendees to expect — and if indeed she may need a second tour guide. Also, if anyone will be needing to use the elevator, please let Jean Perkins know in advance [508-755-2875 or jperkins25@aol.com]. Thank you!

**YOUTH THANKSGIVING PROJECT...** The Youth will serve a meal on **Tuesday, November 25, 2008** [4:45 PM—6:30 PM], as part of the Mustard Seed ministry in which FBC participates. **We are also collecting donations of non-perishable food items for Plumley Village, as well as financial donations to purchase the items needed for the meal that we will serve.** Please make checks out to FBC, and write "Youth Thanksgiving" on the memo line. Food donations can be brought to Sunday School classes, and there is also a basket for donations in the narthex. To sign-up for serving of the meal, please contact Heather Kattan **by November 18** so that she may arrange transportation [HeatherK@fbc-worc.org, 508-755-6143 x228 or by writing your name on the sheet outside of her office].

**SIGN-UP TODAY FOR A FLU SHOT...**The FBC Health Cabinet will provide Flu Shots on **Sunday, November 30, 2008**. If you are very interested in receiving the vaccine, please contact the Church Office to sign-up, or e-mail Robin McFee [tweetydoctor@aol.com].



**ADVENT WORKSHOP...**Our Annual Advent Workshop will be held on Sunday, **November 30, 2008** directly following Morning Worship. There will be holiday crafts, snacks, and time for fellowship. ALL are invited to join us! *We do still have openings for craft tables, so if you would like to lead a craft or have another idea, please contact Heather Kattan* [heatherk@fbc-worc.org; 508-755-6143 x228; OR JUST STOP HER IN THE HALL!]



This will also be the appearance of this season's **Angel Giving Tree**, decorated with gift tags for children and youth in our community, whose names were received from the Department of Social Services of Massachusetts. The names provided represent individuals who live in a variety of difficult situations who are not likely to receive the items they want or need at Christmas. Please look for the Giving Tree during the Workshop, select a gift tag, purchase one or more of the suggested gifts listed, then return the wrapped gift(s) to the church with the gift tag **securely** attached by Sunday, December 14. The DSS social workers will pick up the gifts and distribute them to the children. Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

**NOMINATING COMMITTEE...**It is the responsibility of the First Baptist Church Nominating Committee to prepare a slate of nominees to serve as effective leaders on the boards and committees that are so vital to the life of this congregation. Many church members have already accepted the invitation to assume an important role for the next three-year-term. We are blessed by their willingness to give of their time and talents. Other positions are still waiting to be filled. If you are honored by an invitation to serve, please consider a resounding , "YES!" In addition, if you have suggestions for those willing to serve, pick up a ballot to complete in the Church Office, and be sure it gets to a member of the Nominating Committee!



**Annual Christmas Dinner December 14 at 5:00 PM**  
**\$12 Adults · \$6.00 Children under 12 · \$35 Family**

**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 **HOPE for HOUSING** at 371 Pleasant Street. The need is huge — in one hour, *Preventing Homelessness • Providing Hope* 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**



**YOU ARE INVITED TO**

**AN INTERFAITH**

**THAKSGIVING SERVICE**

**SPONSORED BY ELM PARK MINISTRIES**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2008**

**5:00 PM**

**AT THE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH**

**CORNER OF SALISBURY STREET AND**

**PARK AVENUE**

**WORCESTER, MA**

**COMBINED CHOIR WILL REHEARSE**

**AT 3:00 PM**

**CHRISTIAN, JEWISH, AND MUSLIM FRIENDS**

**WILL JOIN TOGETHER IN OUR COMMON**

**GRATITUDE TO GOD.**

## Prayer...

*Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

~Matthew 11:28

## Please include in prayer...

- The Fall Business Meeting
- The Governing Board; the Health Cabinet
- The Benevolence Committee
- The families of Oris Norwood and Jean Podell
- Those who are unemployed
- Those who are chronically ill; those who are hospitalized
- Madelyn Morse, Stanley Manierre, Alice Hohler, Laura Coe, Cheryl Goff, Hillary Bath, Nancy Burgess
- Our country throughout this time of transition
- The Youth of our church and its leadership



## 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.

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**W.A.R.M. [Worcester Area Refugee Ministry]...**Here are some of the current needs of refugees from Iraq, Bhutan, and Nepal:

- Winter coats and warm clothing
- Blankets
- Mattresses (box spring & frame optional)
- Pots and pans
- Kitchen/dining tables with or without chairs
- Apartments
- Transportation to Worship & Sunday School at FBC
- Used computers (including those in need of repair)
- Educational and employment opportunities

Please contact Warren Jones should you have available any items on this list [978-368-1310].



## OUR CALENDAR—YOUR OPPORTUNITIES

TODAY, November 9    8:00 AM & 9:00 AM Bible & Bagels  
10:00 AM    Worship  
11:15 AM    Sunday School; **Fall Business Meeting**

Mon., November 10    7:00 PM    Habitat

Tue., November 11    10:00 AM    Weekly Staff Meeting; Skein of Knitters



6:30 PM    Habitat  
7:00 PM    Governing Board; Health Cabinet  
7:30 PM    Benevolence Committee

Wed., November 12    9:00 AM    Women's Prayer Fellowship

9:30 AM    Interim Ministers

5:30 PM    Wonderful Wednesdays!

7:00 PM    Food Addicts in Recovery

Thu., November 13    9:00 AM    Literacy Volunteers

6:00 PM    Nominating Committee

6:15 PM    First Handbells

7:30 PM    Chancel Choir; Alcoholics Anonymous

Fri., November 14    1:30 & 3:15 PM    Brownies

Sun., November 16    **STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY**

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

10:00 AM    Worship

11:15 AM    Sunday School; Adult Forum

***"A Heartfelt Thanks" reception***

11:30 AM    Chancel Choir

12:30 PM    "Movie, Pizza, Popcorn" (Youth Group)



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