

WORSHIP

**Sunday,
March 25, 2018**

10:30am in the Sanctuary

Palm/Passion Sunday

Proclaimer: Jim Dant

Scripture: John 11:54-57,
12:12-16, 19:16b-30

Sermon: Looking for Jesus and
Finding Jesus

Service Choirs: Children's and
Sanctuary Choirs with Instrumental
Ensemble

Soloist: Catherine Crowe, Violin

Anthem: *Requiem* —RUTTER

Sanctuary Flowers

If you would like to donate flowers to adorn our Sanctuary for worship, please contact Kimberly Coates at 233-2527 ext. 128 or kimberly.coates@firstbaptistgreenville.com.

From the Organist...

How exciting it would have been to be part of the crowds lining the streets to welcome the long-awaited Messiah! What joy that the people must have felt as they anticipated an end to suffering and deliverance into the kingdom of God! Sunday morning, I will be playing a piece called "Hosanna" which was written by one of my friends to capture the emotion of Palm Sunday. Read more at The Organist's Blog (firstbaptistgreenville.com/the-organists-blog/).

— Shelton



Rustlings

BY JIM DANT

YouTube ushered the conversation into homes around the world. The national news carried the story days later. Two babies – twins – are standing in a kitchen, seemingly conversing about a missing sock, in a language that only they can understand. It was a familiar concept and sound for our family; we had twins. When Holly and Meggie were preschoolers, they often addressed each other in gutturals, squeaks and tones whose meanings were indistinguishable to us. They, however, seemed to know exactly what they were talking about. If you have never witnessed this phenomenon – or if you just feel like you need a good smile – go to: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_JmA2CIUvUY

The church has ushered a unique language into the cultures of our world and the circumstances of our individual lives. At times, the language is hard to understand – difficult to decipher. We speak of sacrifice, righteousness, justification, salvation, grace, atonement, forgiveness, justice and sanctification. We causally

toss around the concepts of Easter, resurrection, baptism, crucifixion, Eucharist and passion. We rarely stop to consider the depth of each guttural, squeak and tone. The world, however, listens quizzically to this communication.

The Easter season is a beautiful time to engage and embrace the language that is ours. Holy Week holds the preponderance of our most precious and sacred terms. Within the celebrations of Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday and Easter, one can listen, learn and embrace the language of our faith. This Sunday is Palm Sunday. Thursday evening, we will gather in the parlor at 7:00pm to share Maundy Thursday communion. On Friday evening, we will gather in Carpenter Chapel at 7:00pm for the quiet, beautiful and meaningful Good Friday veneration of the cross service, and of course, on Easter Sunday morning, we will enjoy an early service on the Labyrinth to welcome the day at 8:30am and then welcome a full house at our 10:30am worship hour. Make room in your schedule for each of these events as we begin Holy Week celebration this Sunday. Bring a friend to each service. Let's chat a while...in our own language...

— Jim

Reminders

Yard Sale
March 23-24

To Donate Items or Volunteer,
Contact Frank Smith, ext. 125

Yellow Bag Project
March 24

Last Day to Donate
Contact Frank Smith, ext. 125

Easter Lilies
March 25

Last Day to Donate

Contact Kimberly Coates, ext. 128

All Are Welcome – All Are Valued

A NEW FBG T-SHIRT FOR EVERYONE, AVAILABLE FOR A LIMITED TIME



We have a selection of newly designed t-shirts on sale. Consider them for yourself, for family, and also for groups within the church who want an easy solution to the perpetual group shirt dilemma. To order:

1. Visit our online store at <https://firstbaptistgreenville.itemorder.com/sale>. You will see three different style/size selections – each available in multiple colors.
2. Order by April 6.
3. Wait impatiently for notification on how and when to pick up your shirts. We anticipate we will begin to distribute mid-April with pickup available Wednesday nights and Sunday mornings.

— Communication Committee

Why I Tithe

My husband, Darin Gehrke, and I tithe because our parents tithed.

We tithe because our grandparents tithed.

We tithe because we want our daughter, Brynn, to tithe.

- Honey, my grandmother, drilled into me “To whom much is given, much is required.” Honey taught me the Lord’s Prayer beside *my* bed and *on* her knees.
- As a child raised in this church, I experienced so much love, a lifetime of friendships, and a belief in a loving God even when a spiritual leader’s choices failed their congregation.
- From my earliest days in the kindergarten with Helen Ellis to being baptized by Don Rose to Donna Forrester stopping me in the hallway as an awkward 11-year-old and saying to me, “Come visit and let’s talk.” She *saw me* trying to grow up, and her thoughtfulness made a difference in my life.
- As a young woman growing up in SC, it mattered that my church called female leaders to the pulpit, it mattered that Dr. Louise Stanford was the head of the deacons. It mattered that Becky Bouton and Carol Ann Bell, aka “Ma Bell,” endured our antics and laughed with us in the hollows of West Virginia. It mattered that my grandmother and I taught Vacation Bible School in the “once tough and tumble” neighborhood of Viola Street.

We choose to tithe because my childhood friends are now leading FBG:

- Laura Shelley Stout and Bootie are part of my daughter’s FBG village.
- Mary Carol Anderson, the younger sister of my peer Thomas, is our Youth Minister. I’ve promised MC that we will chaperone ski trips and mission trips just like my mother, Pam Shucker, “Sweet Lou” and Gene Morin did for us and Don Flowers.
- Matt Rollins and others are holding space for individuals that may have disassociated with church even though they are children of God, too.

We tithe because THIS church’s positive impact reaches far beyond these walls. While living in Birmingham, Pittsburgh and NYC, we crossed paths with people who know the good works and progressive faith of First Baptist Greenville.

- Don Flowers and David Woody showed me how to love compassionately, and their dynamic leadership undergirds churches in Charleston and Canada.
- Dr. Buddy Nelson, son of Dr. Dotson Nelson Jr., of Riverchase Baptist took me in as his own during college in Birmingham.
- Greg Dover, former FBG youth and dear friend, is leading a progressive congregation in Greenville.
- Deb Richardson Moore leads Triune Mercy.
- Tony McDade leads United Ministries.
- The Alliance of Baptists is welcome.

We tithe because First Baptist Greenville matters to my family, my community and countless others who rely on *our light to shine* in the darkest corners of our world.

— Cherington Shucker, Stewardship Committee

Palm/Passion Sunday Music

Our upcoming service on March 25, Palm/Passion Sunday, will be a beautiful beginning to Holy Week this year. Jim Dant will bring two meditations: one of celebration of Christ's journey into Jerusalem and one based on the Passion of Christ which we remember during Holy Week in preparation for Easter. The Children's Choirs will sing hosannas, and the Sanctuary Choir and chamber ensemble will provide music from the beautiful *Requiem* by John Rutter, written in 1985. It is not a strict setting of the *Requiem Mass* laid down in Catholic liturgy, but instead is made up of a personal selection of texts, some taken from the Requiem Mass and some from the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*.

The Requiem text of the "Sanctus" (Holy, holy, holy is the Lord) is an affirmation of the glory of God, and the "Agnus Dei" (Lamb of God, who takes away the sins of the world) is a personal prayer to Christ. Rutter's setting of Psalm 23, with its exquisite oboe solos, fits beautifully into this music of comfort and hope. After 9/11 in the United States, the Rutter *Requiem*, with its uplifting music and texts, had more performances than any other *Requiem* setting. Don't miss your opportunity to begin your Holy Week with this beautiful music.

— Vivian

Neighborhood Partnership Missions Yard Sale

FRIDAY, MARCH 23, 5:00-7:00PM AND SATURDAY, MARCH 24, 9:00AM-2:00PM



First Baptist Greenville's yearly Neighborhood Partnership Missions Yard Sale is Friday, March 23, 5:00-7:00pm and Saturday, March 24, 9:00am-2:00pm. You can help by donating, volunteering and shopping.

Any household items including furniture, appliances, decorative items, toys, books and tools can be donated to the yard sale. Donated items can be dropped off at the practice gym during the day until the yard sale starts.

Volunteers are needed this week to price and organize donations as they are brought in. Volunteers are also needed during the sale on Friday, March 23, from 4:30pm to 7:00pm and on Saturday, March 24, from 7:30am to 2:00pm. All items not sold will be given to Miracle Hill Ministries. We will use volunteers as the yard sale ends on Saturday to help pack items, load the truck and clean the gym. We can use anyone for any amount of time.

Please come to shop and tell your friends and neighbors about the sale. More people shopping leads to a more successful sale. Proceeds from the Yard Sale each year are used to support our Neighborhood Partnership Missions Ministries. These ministries include building handicapped ramps, rehabbing homes, painting and minor home repair. (Each year mission groups come to Greenville to work in our Neighborhood Partnership Communities and yard sale funds pay for building materials and supplies.) The funds provide emergency assistance with rent, house payments, utility bills and medication. The funds are used to provide monthly activities, including out-of-town trips, and Trunk or Treat once each year. The funds enable our Neighborhood Partners to attend programs at First Baptist such as First Friday Lunch and More and the Senior Adult Banquet. They also assist with a yearly health fair in Nicholatown, "Let's Move" Summer Camp and Police Camp GREAT (Gang Resistance Education and Training).

If you are able to volunteer in any way or have questions about donations, please contact Frank Smith (ext.125). Thank you for supporting the yard sale and in turn strengthening the Neighborhood Partnership Ministry at First Baptist and the work we are able to do in the community.

— Shanda

For Your Calendar!

- 3/21 *Wednesdays at First Activities*
 3/23-25 Middle School Missions Blitz
 (Asheville, NC)
 3/23 5:00-7:00pm-24 9:00am-2:00pm
 Yard Sale for Neighborhood
 Partnership Missions (Practice
 Gym)
 3/24 11:00am-1:00pm Preschool
 Ministry Event: Easter Egg Hunt
 3/25 10:30am Palm/Passion Sunday
 Jim Dant, Proclaimer
 Children's Choirs
 Rutter *Requiem*
 Sanctuary Choir and Chamber
 Ensemble
 5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live
 for Youth
 5:00pm LGBTQ and Friends
 Support Group
 3/28 *Wednesdays at First Activities*
 3/29 7:00pm Maundy Thursday Service
 (Parlor)
 3/30-4/1 AYMC & Church Offices Closed
 3/30 7:00pm Good Friday Service
 (Carpenter Chapel)
 4/1 8:30am Easter Morning in the
 Garden
 Matt Rollins, Proclaimer
 Bell Tower Ringers

LIVING GENEROUSLY

Financial Needs as of 3/17
 \$550,000
 Receipts of 3/13
 \$471,904

Pastoral Care

On Call Nights and Weekends

March 19-25
 Jim Dant
 478-737-7298 (m)

March 26-April 1
 Frank Smith
 268-3890 (h)

If you are unable to reach this
 minister at the above number,
 please call the Church Office,
 864-233-2527, and leave a
 message by pressing the number
 "199" for "Pastoral Care
 Emergencies."

Wednesday Supper

Required reservations for the meal must
 be made by noon on Monday by visiting
 the church website or calling the church
 office. Serving lines are open
 4:45-6:00pm.

Menu

March 21

Adults: Beef Tips and Rice, Broccoli
 Casserole, Pineapple Casserole,
 Layered Salad, Yeast Rolls, Dessert
Kids: Macaroni and Cheese, Veggies and
 Dip, Fresh Fruit, Cookies

March 28

Adults: Fried Chicken, Mashed Potatoes
 with Gravy, Green Beans, Spinach Salad,
 Butter Biscuits, Dessert
Kids: Chicken Fingers, Tater Tots,
 Veggies and Dip, Fruit, Cookies

Wednesdays at First Schedule

Exceptions and details noted in calendar.

3:00pm Youth Hang Time and
 Supper
 4:45-6:00pm Supper Serving
 Lines Open
 5:30-7:00pm Children's Missions
 and Choirs
 6:00pm Youth Bible Study
 6:15pm MidWeek Fellowship
 7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir
 Rehearsal

Care List as of 3/19/18

Hospitals

Greenville Memorial: "Jennie" Taylor

St. Francis-Eastside: Wayne Weaver

Roger C. Peace: Ben Turner

Discharged: Harvey Sanders, Eric Cain,
 Caryl Arthur, Brian Tollison

Introducing...

Debbie and Tighe Day-Lewis,
 42 Barnwood Circle, Greenville 29607,
 joined FBG on Sunday, March 4, by
 statement of previous profession of faith
 and baptism. They are both retired and
 have joined the Carson Class.


**First Baptist
 Greenville**
 847 Cleveland Street,
 Greenville, South Carolina 29601-4495
 (864) 233-2527 www.firstbaptistgreenville.com

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 Kimberly Coates, Editor.

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Easter Lilies

If you would like to make a gift toward
 the Easter Lily Arrangement, send the
 following information to me (First Baptist
 Church, Attn: Kimberly Coates, 847
 Cleveland St., Greenville, SC 29601) by
 Palm Sunday, March 25:

Name:

Phone Number:

Email Address (if applicable)

Number of Gifts (\$25 each):

In honor of:

In memory of:

*Please make checks payable to First
 Baptist Church.*

Yellow Bag Project

Yellow bags from Miracle Hill are
 available at the Reception Desk. Fill the
 bags with clothing and return them to
 one of the pods located through the
 church and in the AYMC. Children's
 clothing is especially needed. Donations
 must be made by March 24.