

## Ministers

<b>Paul Baxley</b>	<i>Senior Minister</i>
<b>Frank Granger</b>	<i>Minister of Christian Community</i>
<b>Randy Brittain</b>	<i>Minister of Music</i>
<b>Janet Cleland</b>	<i>Minister of Children, Families, and Outreach</i>
<b>Brandon Pendry</b>	<i>Minister of Youth and Mission</i>
<b>Emily Harbin</b>	<i>Minister of College Students</i>
<b>Anne Brittain</b>	<i>Organist and Music Associate</i>
<b>Alan McArthur</b>	<i>Pianist</i>



### **First Baptist Church**

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[www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org)



# *First Baptist Church*

*Athens, Georgia*

March 25, 2018

11:00 a.m.

*Palm/Passion Sunday*

## Weekly Calendar

### *Creative Brooding*

The *Seven Last Words* are a set of texts that have their origins in the Bible and are often referenced in liturgical services during Holy Week. Musical settings exist as far back as the sixteenth century, with notable versions by Haydn and later by Gounod, Franck, and Dubois.

Haunting in their simplicity, they expose a gamut of emotions experienced during the Passion of Christ, in a way that distills the most poignant moments of the human condition: from the tender forgiveness of “*Father, Forgive Them*” to the hopefulness of the promise of paradise, “*Today, You Will Be with Me.*” The work unfolds to reveal a complex tapestry of states of emotion: compassion (*Behold Your Son*), yearning (*I Thirst*), despair (*My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me?*), acceptance (*Into Your Hands I Surrender My Soul*), and resignation (*It Is Finished*). This setting uses various interpolations of biblical and liturgical texts such as, “Truly this man was the Son of God,” and “All of the gates were opened wide” as commentary on and in dialogue with the words of Christ, further expanding the story and the reaction of those present and witness to the Passion.

—Michael John Trotta, Composer

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*First Baptist Church is a thriving community in Christ  
where we all participate in worship  
and are transformed by mission.*

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#### **Sunday, March 25 — Palm Sunday**

9:15 a.m. .... Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — 3rd floor Gathering Area  
9:45—10:45 a.m. .... Sunday School for all ages— throughout the building  
11:00 a.m. .... Worship Service — Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. .... Easter Egg Hunt  
12:00 p.m. .... Next Steps Conversation Luncheon — Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. .... Youth Activities — Youth Area

#### **Monday, March 26**

2:00 p.m. .... Staff Meeting — Farrall Conference Rm.

#### **Tuesday, March 27**

*Deacon election ballots due in church office for counting*

12:00 noon .... Bible Study — Rm. 324  
6:30 p.m. .... Bible Study/Prayer with Chestnut Grove Baptist— TBA  
7:00 p.m. .... Boy Scout Troop #22 — Fellowship Hall

#### **Wednesday, March 28**

5:00 p.m. .... Wednesday Night Supper — Fellowship Hall  
6:00 p.m. .... Holy Wednesday Worship — Sanctuary  
7:00 p.m. .... Sanctuary Choir — Sanctuary

#### **Thursday, March 29**

6:00 p.m. .... Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion — Sanctuary

#### **Friday, March 30**

12:00 noon .... Good Friday Worship — Sanctuary

#### **Sunday, April 1 — Easter**

7:00 a.m. .... Easter Sunrise Worship — Ocone Hill Cemetery  
9:15 a.m. .... Coffee, Donuts, and Fellowship — 3rd floor Gathering Area  
9:45—10:45 a.m. .... Sunday School for all ages— throughout the building  
11:00 a.m. .... Easter Worship Service — Sanctuary

### *Welcome Visitors!*

We are so glad you're here! There are wonderful programs and opportunities for all ages! If you'd like to learn more about our ministries, please fill out the guest information card in the pew rack in front of you and drop it in the offering plate. You may also speak to any of our ushers, greeters, or ministers and then visit the FBC website at [www.firstbaptistathens.org](http://www.firstbaptistathens.org) for more information.

# The Sunday Messenger

## COMMUNITY NOTES

Plan to join us after worship today for the next congregational lunch in the **NEXT STEPS CONVERSATION**. We will gather in the Fellowship Hall to enjoy lunch and discuss the next steps for missions at FBC. Childcare is available upon request. Sign up on the FBC website.

**PASSPORT KIDS CAMP** will be held at Converse College in Spartanburg for children in grades 3-6 from July 11-14. The cost is \$235/child (scholarships are available). Email Janet Cleland (janet@firstbaptistathens.org) to sign up. Space is limited!

Online registration is now available for the **2018 VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL** on June 11-14 from 9 am to noon. "Lights, Camera, Action!" is the theme for this year's VBS, open to children who are rising Kindergartners through sixth grade. Please register on the FBC website.

Our **DEACON ELECTION PROCESS** is well underway with all resident church members nominating up to 12 eligible members who meet the criteria outlined in the FBC Weekly and Midweek Messenger. Ballots have been mailed to membership. On **Tuesday, March 27**, ballots must be submitted to church office for counting.

Mark your calendars for the **CELEBRATION OF THE COMPLETION OF RENOVATION AND REDEDICATION OF THE BUILDING** on Sunday, April 15. We will begin the morning with a special tour with a twist during the Sunday School hour, formally rededicate the building during worship, and open our doors to the community with an Open House in the afternoon. Stay tuned to FBC publications for more details!

## OUR CHURCH ON MISSION

**Emergency Food Bank Needs:**  
Hamburger Helper, Peanut Butter  
Volunteers are needed on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays and Wednesdays of each month. Sign up on the FBC website.

If you are interested in joining a newly formed **EMERGENCY WEATHER RESPONSE TEAM** to be a back-up family shelter for the Salvation Army during weather emergencies, please sign up on the FBC website under Mission Opportunities. FBC will host a training for this team soon.

Watch your inbox for our weekly electronic news **THE MIDWEEK MESSENGER** which is sent each Wednesday. If you do not currently receive our weekly enews but would like to, please contact Sharon Jenkins (Sharon@firstbaptistathens.org). Items to be included should be submitted to Sharon by 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays.

## Recent Prayer Concerns

We extend our Christian love and sympathy to Menda Lambeth and family on the death of her father, Richard Beeson, in King, NC on March 21, 2018.

Claire Brown – breast cancer  
Evelyn Harney – PARMC, Rm. 6074  
Zuzanna Kotchuchova and newborn daughter  
Tereza

# The Worship of God

<b>Invitation to Worship</b>	Paul Baxley	
<b>*Hymn 175</b>	<i>All Glory, Laud, and Honor</i>	ST. THEODULPH
<b>*Invocation</b>	Frank Granger	
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>I Will Trust in You</i> Brownie Bears; Sarah Deal, Director; Emily Gertsch, Accompanist	Don Phillips
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>Hosanna We Sing</i> Music Makers and Joyful Singers Jennifer Baxley, Director; Teresa Granger, Director; Margaret Earnest, Accompanist	Glenn and Susan Eernisse
<b>Gospel Lesson</b>	Mark 14: 43-52 Leader: This is the Word of the Lord. <b>People: Thanks be to God.</b>	Brandon Pendry
<b>Meditation</b>	<i>Deserters?</i>	Paul Baxley
<b>Seven Last Words</b>		Michael John Trotta
<b>1. Father, Forgive Them</b>	<i>Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.</i>	Luke 23: 34
<b>2. Today, You Will Be with Me</b>	<i>Today, you will be with me in paradise. Remember me when you come into your kingdom.</i>	Luke 23: 42-43
<b>3. Behold Your Son</b>	Rachel Eve Apfelbach, Soprano <i>Behold, your son. At the cross her station keeping, stood mournful mother weeping.</i>	John 19: 26-27

**4. I Thirst** John 19: 28; Matthew 27: 40  
 Soonseung Hong, Tenor  
*I thirst!*  
*If you are Christ, come down from the cross, that we might see and believe.*

**5. My God, Why Have You Abandoned Me?** Matthew 27: 46; Mark 15: 34  
*My God, why have you abandoned me?*

**6. Into Your Hands I Surrender My Soul** Luke 23: 46; Matthew 6:10  
*Into your hands I surrender my whole soul.*  
*Not mine, but your will be done.*

**7. It Is Finished** John 19: 30; Luke 23: 44-45;  
 Matthew 27: 51-52, 54; Psalm 75  
 Soonseung Hong and Alan Hester, Tenors  
*And with a loud voice, Jesus cried, exclaiming: 'It is finished!'*  
*Darkened was the sun, and darkness covered the earth;*  
*torn was the veil; the earth did quake; all of the graves were opened wide!*  
*Truly this man was the Son of God.*

**\*Hymn 186** *When I Survey the Wondrous Cross* HAMBURG

**\*Prayer of Stewardship** Cindy Haygood, Deacon

**Offertory** *Were You There* African American Spiritual

**\*Recognition of Commitments**

**\*Benediction** Mary Colley

**\*Postlude** *Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken* Haydn/arr. Sprunger

**\*Please stand, if able.**

**We are grateful to the following musicians for supporting our worship today:**

Flute: Katherine Emeneth  
 Oboe: Whitney Holley  
 Horn: Cathy Kilroe-Smith  
 Trumpet: Geoff Wood, Deborah Caldwell  
 Timpani: Nathan Tingler  
 Violin I: Michael Heald, Phil Reesman,  
 Sahada Buckley

Violin II: Pedro Miszewski, Vivian Cheng,  
 Catherine Cook  
 Viola: Elitsa Atanasova, Claudia Malchow  
 Cello: Valentina Ignjic  
 Bass: Claudia Amaral



**SANCTUARY FLOWERS**

*The flowers in the sanctuary this morning are given by the Joe Callaway Sunday School Class in loving memory of Dr. Joseph A. Callaway and Mrs. Sara Callaway on the occasion of Dr. Callaway's March 31 birthday anniversary.*



*Serving Together*

**Co-Deacons of the Week**

March 25-31: *Cindy & Daniel Haygood*

**March Fellowship Team**

*Helen & Milton Mills, Ray Noblet, Shaun O'Rear*

**Welcome Center Team—March 25**

Fanning Foyer: *Margaret Earnest, John Marshall*  
 Branyon Foyer: *Sherri Divers, Joan Beckham*

**March Usher Team**

*Brad Lastinger, Doug Dillard, Ches Smith, Kevin Price, Bill Horton, Wes Hogan*

**Counting Committee**

March 25: *Bevan Hopper, Michael Jenkins*

**Join us for worship this week as we observe HOLY WEEK :**

- **Tuesday, March 27—6:30 p.m.** Bible Study and Prayer with Chestnut Grove Baptist Church at First Baptist Church
- **Holy Wednesday, March 28—6:00 p.m.** Worship in the Sanctuary
- **Maundy Thursday, March 29—6:00 p.m.** Maundy Thursday Worship with Communion
- **Good Friday, March 30—12:00 noon** Good Friday Worship
- **Easter Sunday, April 1**  
**7:00 a.m.** Sunrise worship at Ocone Hill Cemetery  
**11:00 a.m.** Easter worship at FBC