

WAKE FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH

SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

September 4, 2016

Chiming of the Hour

Preparation for Worship

Don't ask yourself what the world needs. Ask yourself what makes you come alive, and go do that, because what the world needs is people who have come alive.

~Howard Thurman, *Jesus and the Disinherited*

Prelude

Simple Gifts

Shaker Tune
arranged by Charles Callahan

* Call to Worship (solo voice)

Aurora Leigh

Elizabeth Barrett Browning

And truly, I reiterate, nothing's small!
No lily-muffled hum of a summer-bee,
But finds some coupling with the spinning stars;
No pebble at your foot, but proves a sphere;
No chaffinch, but implies the cherubim:
And, — glancing on my own thin, veined wrist, —
In such a little tremour of the blood
The whole strong clamour of a vehement soul
Doth utter itself distinct. Earth's crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God:
But only he who sees, takes off his shoes,
The rest sit round it, and pluck blackberries,
And daub their natural faces unaware
More and more, from the first similitude.

* Hymn of Praise

Ours the Journey

OURS THE JOURNEY

*In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering their sep'rate ways?*

Refrain (R):

*God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
we your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever,
now and evermore.*

*Through the flood of starving peoples, warring factions and despair,
who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? (R)*

*Though we reach the highest heavens, holding worlds at our command,
we are yet a desert people searching for the promised land. (R)*

*Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. (R)*

* Invocation

Marianne McIver

Welcome and Passing of the Peace of Christ

* Gathering Music

MAKE US ONE

*Make us one, Lord, make us one.
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know,
We are one in you.*

First Lesson from the Hebrew Bible

Genesis 1:5, NRSV

God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

* Hymn of Offering No. 53

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

*Morning has broken, like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken, like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!*

*Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall, on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass*

*Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
born of the one light, Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!*

Ushers please come forward during the final verse of the Hymn of Offering.

Giving Our Tithes and Offerings

* Offertory Response

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Come

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*Praise God from whom all blessings come;
Praise God, in Christ, the risen one:
Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

The children may exit to the nursery for playtime.

* Offertory Prayer

Second Lesson from the Hebrew Bible

Exodus 3:1-12, NRSV

Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the west end of the wilderness and came to the mountain of God, Horeb. The angel of God appeared to him in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a bush. He looked. The bush was blazing away but it didn't burn up. Moses said, "What's going on here? I can't believe this! Amazing! Why doesn't the bush burn up?"

God saw that he had stopped to look. God called to him from out of the bush, "Moses! Moses!" He said, "Yes? I'm right here!" God said, "Don't come any closer. Remove your sandals from your feet. You're standing on holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father: The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob."

Moses hid his face, afraid to look at God.

God said, "I've taken a good, long look at the affliction of my people in Egypt. I've heard their cries for deliverance from their slave masters; I know all about their pain. And now I have come down to help them, pry them loose from the grip of Egypt, get them out of that country and bring them to a good land with wide-open spaces, a land lush with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite. "The Israelite cry for help has come to me, and I've seen for myself how cruelly they're being treated by the Egyptians. It's time for you to go back: I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt."

Moses answered God, "But why me? What makes you think that I could ever go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?" "I'll be with you," God said. "And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain."

Prayers of the People

* Lesson from the Gospels

Matthew 9:9-13, NRSV

As Jesus was walking along, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth; and he said to him, "Follow me." And he got up and followed him. And as he sat at dinner in the house, many tax collectors and sinners came and were sitting with him and his disciples. When the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard this, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means, 'I desire mercy, not sacrifice.' For I have come to call not the righteous but sinners."

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord. **All: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem

Praise

George Dyson (1883-1964)

*Let all the world in ev'vy corner sing My God and King.
The heav'ns are not too high, God's praise may thither fly,
The earth is not too low, God's praises there may grow.
The Church with psalms must shout, No door can keep them out;
But, above all, the heart Must bear, the longest part.*

George Herbert (1593-1633)

Sermon
That Which Makes You Come Alive

Lia Scholl

Communion

* **Hymn of Thanksgiving No. 386**

We Come as Guests Invited

WIE LIEBLICH IST DER MAIEN

We invite you to commit your life to Christ as a disciple and to join our church as a member. We receive members by transfer of church membership, confession of faith in Jesus followed by believer's baptism, or by statement of previous Christian experience. You may also wish to reaffirm your faith in Christ or make other commitments. You are welcome to come forward at this time.

Announcements and Welcoming New Members

* **Benediction**

Postlude

Praeludium in C

Dieterich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

**Please stand as you are able.*

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Sexton*Steve Andrews*
Worship Leader.....*Marianne McIver*
Sound System..... *Glenn Aldridge, Steve Andrews, Bob Ellison*

STAFF

Minister of Campus Engagement*Elizabeth Corney*
Choir Director/Organist.....*Woodson Faulkner*
Member Care Specialist.....*Don Roberson*
Pastor.....*Lia Scholl*

Hearing Devices and Large Print Hymnals are available. Talk with an usher if you need assistance. **Audio recordings** of the Worship Service are available on the church website. **Music and Lyrics** are reprinted with permission of OneLicense # A-719218.

Wake Forest Baptist Church is a progressive, welcoming and affirming Christian community committed to Jesus Christ. We value prophetic worship, thoughtful religious education, social justice, and peacemaking.



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WAKE FOREST BAPTIST CHURCH

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

Sunday Schedule

9:45 Sunday School Classes
10:00 Godly Play, Children's Room
11:00 Worship
12:00 Reception in Narthex
12:15 Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sunday, September 4

Hunger Offering

12:15 College Ministry Pancake Brunch

Wednesday, September 7

10:00 Community Office Hours

Starbucks, North Dining Hall

Sunday, September 11

11:00 Worship

Monday, September 12

10:00 Women's Circle – Salemtowne

Wednesday, September 14

10:00 Community Office Hours

5:30 Wednesday Night Supper Resumes

PRAYER CONCERNS

Our Faith Community

Ed Adams and David Marshall
Sarah and Hannah Boyles
Penny Ender
Margaret Johnston

Our Loved Ones

Doris Adams, Betty Ellison's friend
Beverly Aldridge, Glenn's relative
Robert Mercurio, Kathi Diana's brother
Joyce Hash, Kathi Diana's friend
Wendell Swain, Martha Wood's cousin
Della Terrell, Martha Wood's aunt
Donna Warden, sister of Eve Andrews

COMMUNITY NEWS

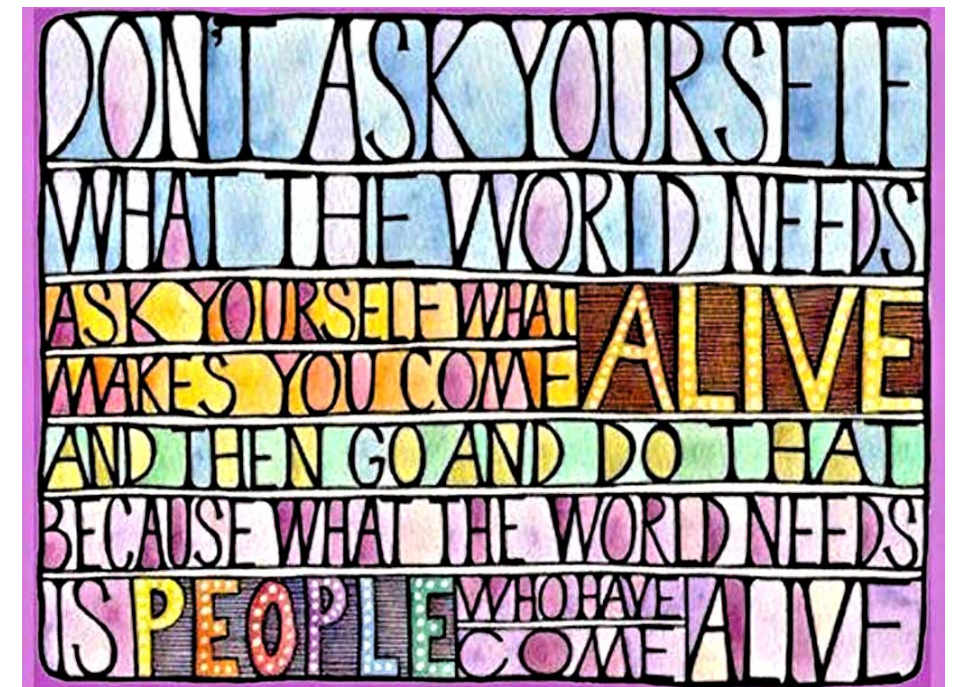
The Kingdom for All: The Role of Faith Communities in Improving the Lives of LGBTQ Youth and Families

While progress has been made in eliminating negative attitudes, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals remain one of the most oppressed minorities in our nation and in our state. North Carolina's HB2 legislation is a stark reminder of the prejudice, discrimination, and other forms of hostility LGBT people face, and this discrimination takes a heavy toll on LGBT individuals, faith communities, and society at large.

One of the most exciting changes taking place today is the growing affirmation of LGBTQ people in faith communities. The number of churches in North Carolina standing against HB2 demonstrates how faith communities are moving towards acceptance and celebration of their LGBTQ neighbors. Join us at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Sept. 27 at Wake Forest Baptist Church on the campus of Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, for a public dialogue about combatting the harm created by HB2 and similar legislation, that we might find a way to codify equality, inclusion, and justice rather than derision and social hostility.

College Students and Young Adults: Please join us for pancakes and conversation downstairs in the Lower Auditorium following worship today.

Sign up for the CROP Walk on October 16. Proceeds go to Church World Service, Crisis Control Ministry, Sunnyside Ministry to fight hunger locally and globally.



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