



WORSHIP OF GOD | 8th SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | JULY 23, 2023
First Baptist Church of Rochester
175 Allens Creek Road, Rochester, New York 14618
Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Evann Hasenauer, student pastor

Prelude

Largo (from Serse)

G. F. Handel

Chiming of the Hour

For Reflection as We Gather *Matthew 5:45-47*

The Message by E. Peterson

You're familiar with the old written law, 'Love your friend,' and its unwritten companion, 'Hate your enemy.' I'm challenging that. I'm telling you to love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the supple moves of prayer, for then you are working out of your true selves, your God-created selves. This is what God does. He gives his best—the sun to warm and the rain to nourish—to everyone, regardless: the good and bad, the nice and nasty. If all you do is love the lovable, do you expect a bonus? Anybody can do that. If you simply say hello to those who greet you, do you expect a medal? Any run-of-the-mill sinner does that.

Gathering Music

Courante
Katie Worley, Violin

A. Corelli

Welcome

Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Call to Worship

Psalm 86: 11-17
Adapted for worship-JGC

Marcia McCarthy

ONE: Teach us Your ways, Lord, that we may rely on Your faithfulness;

ALL: Give to each of us an undivided heart, that we may fear Your name.

ONE: We will praise You, Lord our God, with all our hearts; We will glorify Your name forever.

ALL: For great is Your love toward us; You have delivered us from the depths, from the realm of the dead.

ONE: You, Lord, are a compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness. This day we worship You.

***Hymn 2/Blue**

O Worship the King

J. M. Hayden
R. Grant

Hebrew Scriptures *2 Chronicles 7:11-22* Marcia McCarthy

Morning Prayer Evann Hasenauer
Sharing our Joys and Concerns
Lord's Prayer

Special Music *Bourree* J. S. Bach
Katie Worley, violin

Children's Time Evann Hasenauer

***Hymn 350/Blue** *The Summons* Scottish melody, arr. J. Bell

Gospel *Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43* Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Prayer for Illumination and Help

Sermon *Living Humbly Amongst Thistles* Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts to God

In response for the gift of God's abundance, we return to God gifts of what we have and gifts of who we are. To contribute financially to the work of FBCR you may leave an offering in the plate as it is passed, or send an offering by mail or give at rochesterfbc.org/contribute.

Music in Response *Be Thou My Vision* P. Manz

***Doxology 496/Blue** *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy one,
Give thanks because God's given Jesus Christ, The Son.
And now let the weak say "I am strong"; let the poor say "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. Give Thanks.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Gracious and loving God, we offer our gifts for your work in our community of faith, and through Mission & Service in the world. May these gifts surprise those who receive them with Your love, compassion, and joy. Amen.

United Church of Canada

**congregation sings*

Invitation to Mission and Ministry

Worshippers with information on the life of the church are invited to offer announcements. From Zoom simply unmute and speak up. From campus, come to one of the congregation microphones.

***Hymn 383/Blue** *If My People's Hearts are Humbled* C. Cloninger
Levitt's *The Christian Lyre*

Benediction Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Postlude *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* C. Callahan



Thank you to those participating in today's service including: Marcia McCarthy, reader; Evann Hasenauer, student pastor; Bob McDonald, usher; Scott and Susen McClellan, and Janet Richardson, tech team; and our musicians: Katie Worley, guest violinist and Samuel Baker, organist.

**congregation sings*



At First Baptist Church we welcome and affirm all people regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation in worship, in community, in membership, and in all aspects of congregational life. If you wish to be a part of the FBCR community, we have good news – we already consider you a part. Please sign our guest book or trade contact information with any member so we might get to know you better and help you connect more fully. If you wish to consider

entering into a covenant relationship (membership) with FBCR, ask any member to tell you about their experience. Welcome.



We're delighted you've joined us in worship today. If this is the first time or one of the first times you've worshiped with us, would you consider letting us know? We would love to get to know you better. If you are willing to trust us with your contact information so we may connect you soon, please sign the book in the narthex, complete the card found in the small pocket in your pew—placing it in the offering plate, or go to rochesterfbc.org/guest.

INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

Wednesday Check-in: Our online Zoom room is available to anyone who wishes to check in and have a chat each Wednesday evening through the summer beginning at 5:30 PM.

OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors): OWLS Thursday, July 27 begins early at 11:00 AM as we depart the church for a bus tour to the Seneca Park Zoo. Box lunches will be provided with a private tour guide with golf carts. It is sure to be a special and informative trip. Please RSVP to Kandee Tabor at (585) 520-6948 or email her at kandeetabor@gmail.com.

Margaret Cooley's Service will be held on Monday, July 24 at 10:00 AM (tomorrow)..

Sleep in Heavenly Peace: An early fall Mission experience is coming!

Over the next several weeks we will begin to share information about a wonderful hands-on and congregational-gifting mission project that is scheduled for September 9, 2023. *Sleep in Heavenly Peace* has the motto of **"No Kid Sleeps on the Floor in Our Town."** Through donations from companies and organization of raw materials, the hands-on hard work of volunteers, and the gifts of twin bedding from others, this non-profit organization strives to live up to its motto in local communities all across the country. If you are interested in learning more about this organization, go to shpbeds.org.

Nursery Care; We are seeking paid help for the nursery on Sundays (infants through toddlers). If you know anyone who may want a little extra money working on a Sunday morning with our youngest, please let us know.

Save the Date: Please place the evening of September 29 on your calendar. Then get ready for a evening of food, fun, and fellowship. To give you a clue of what's to come... Let us ask, "Who's Got Talent?" Be sure to watch for more information!

For the latest news and information, please go to our website to the *FBCR Connections* page at www.rochesterfbc.org/connections.