



**THE PEOPLE
WERE AMAZED
AT HIS TEACHING,
BECAUSE HE
TAUGHT THEM
AS ONE WHO
HAD *AUTHORITY*.**

MARK 1:22, NIV

WORSHIP OF GOD | FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY | JANUARY 28, 2024
First Rochester | An American Baptist Church
175 Allens Creek Road, Rochester, New York 14618
Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, Pastoral Assistant
Henry Griffin, music director | Samuel Baker, organist

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude *Benedictus (Blessed be the Lord God)* Max Reger
Samuel Baker, organ

Chiming of the Hour

Music for Gathering Henry Griffin, piano

Welcome

Call to Worship JoAnn Trolley

One: Finally, beloved, whatever is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure...

All: **Whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any
excellence,**

One: and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things;

All: **and the God of peace will be with You. Let us worship God.**

***Hymn 1** *God Is Here* Fred Pratt Green
Cyril V. Taylor

Hebrew Scripture *Psalms 111* JoAnn Trolley

Morning Prayer Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Sharing our Joys and Concerns

Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come,
thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

Special Music *Almighty God, We Come to You,* Paul S. Jones
arr. Richard A. Nichols

First Rochester Choir; Samuel Baker, organ; Henry Griffin, director

Children's Time

Pastor Joanne

***Hymn 664**

Thy Word

A. Grant, M. Smith

Scripture

Mark 1:21-28

Rev. Joanne
Gilbert-Cannon

Prayer for Illumination

Sermon

A Question of Authority?

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, send an offering by mail, or give at rochesterfbc.org/give/.

**Music in
Response**

Prayer

Jean Langlais

Offertory 359

Give Thanks

H. Smith

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.

Prayer of Dedication

Celebration of the Life of Barbara Dinse

Reflections

Pastoral Prayer of Gratitude

Invitation to Mission and Ministry

Worshipers 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.

Benediction

Postlude

Reprise: *God is Here*
Samuel Baker, organ

Joel Martinson

Thank you to those who contributed their gifts to today's service including: JoAnn Trolley, reader; Bob McDonald and Ken Hines, ushers; our tech team: Wesley Selleck, apprentice; Oliver Hood; Scott and Susen McClellan; Glenn Stahl, and Janet Richardson; and our musicians: First Rochester Choir with section leaders: Naomi Chad, soprano; Emma Unkrich, mezzo-soprano; Andrew Miller, tenor; Ashton Rapp, baritone; Samuel Baker, organ, Henry Griffin, piano, director.

We're delighted you've joined us in worship today. If you are new to First Rochester's worship, would you consider letting us know? We would love to get to know you better. We hope you will trust us with your contact information so we may connect with you. Please either sign the book in the narthex, complete the card found in the small pocket in the pews and place it in the offering plate, or go to rochesterfbc.org/guestbook/ to leave us your name and contact information.



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.

INVITATION TO MISSION & MINISTRY

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Wednesday Study will resume this Wednesday, January 31, 2024. For two weeks we will reflect on the Theology of Atonement with two readings from the book: *Saving Paradise, How Christianity Traded Love of this World for Crucifixion and Empire* by Rita Hakashima Brock and Rebecca Ann Parker. Please email Joanne at joanne@rochesterfbc.org if you plan to participate so the articles can be sent to you in advance. On-campus fellowship and Zoom check-in begins at 5:30PM.

OWLS (Older Wiser Learned Seniors): On Thursday, February 1, OWLS will gather ***Rebus Fun***. Exercise begins at 11:30 AM with lunch and program at 12:15 PM. A \$10 donation is appreciated. Please RSVP to Kandee Tabor at her email kandeetabor@gmail.com or call or text her at (585) 520-6948.

Save the Date for February 4, 2024 for the Section Leader Recital - *A Musical Theater Showcase!* Following worship and a brief beverage break, join us in the sanctuary for this special performance. After the recital, there will be a potluck lunch and time of community in Hubbell Hall. Please sign up at the Vitality Table today or by email to office@rochesterfbc.org with the number attending and food item to share, if you are able.

First Rochester is a praying community. We have decided to take a different approach to our notification system which will be implemented soon. If you are an active church participant or member and would like to receive a weekly prayer update by email, we ask that you go to the Connections page (rochesterfbc.org/news-and-events/) to complete a very short sign-up or you may contact the church office.

Ash Wednesday Service, Wednesday, February 14 at 6:30 PM. Join us for this contemplative prayer service to begin our Lenten Journey. We plan to gather in the chapel and on Zoom

View from cameras in worship. Did you know that the cameras in worship and the viewing of our service is a closed loop for worship participants only? We do post the sermons on our website featuring our Pastor or guest preacher for the day. Any time a member of the congregation is seen, they are seen only by our congregation worshipping with us on-campus and on Zoom.

INVITATION TO MISSION & MINISTRY

Worship Readers and Ushers needed in February and March. Please sign up at the Vitality Table in the Hallway if you are able to help.

For the latest news and events, please go to our website on the *Connections* page at www.rochesterfbc.org/news-and-events/.

Our Retired Ministers and Missionaries special offering—collected today.
Please consider your gift for those who have served others in their faith journey.

“Good will come to those who are generous and lend freely, who conduct their affairs with justice.” — Psalm 112: 5 (NIV)

Good will come from community.

“So many servants of God gave all that they have but were not compensated enough during their active ministry day. I have been the beneficiary of their dedication and know of many who are struggling to make ends meet after their retirement. I think we are morally responsible to support them.”

— *Rev. Sebastian Ong, First Chinese Baptist Church of San Francisco*

Good will come from caring.

“It is a blessing to know that our ministry has made a difference in the lives of the people and churches we have served for the past 50 years.”

— *Pastor Bill of Ohio*

Good will come from giving.

“I am sure I represent many widows who are happy to receive this [thank you check] from the churches we served.”

— *Widow of Florida pastor*

RMMO2024: Good Will Come

Goodness came from the pastors, missionaries, and leaders who have served ABCUSA churches and ministries. Through your giving to **RMMO2024** goodness will come back to each of them in the form of a thank you check—a tangible expression of our enduring gratitude for their service.

What is the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering?

RMMO is a congregational offering and a joint project of ABCUSA and MMBB. Collected annually in December from participating congregations, RMMO funds are distributed as thank you checks to ABCUSA retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to our denomination, as well as surviving spouses. A certain portion is also allocated for direct emergency assistance. The offering originated in the mid-1930s as the Communion Fellowship Offering and since 1977 has been known as RMMO.

Please make your gift in the envelopes provided by your church.