

A tall saguaro cactus stands prominently in the foreground, its green, ribbed segments clearly visible. The cactus has two arms, one of which is slightly curved. In the background, a desert landscape unfolds with rolling hills covered in sparse, dry vegetation. The sky is a dramatic mix of orange, pink, and blue, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. The overall mood is serene and contemplative.

...by faith

WORSHIP OF GOD | COMMUNION SUNDAY | JULY 6, 2025

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church

175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | rochesterfbc.org

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant

Samuel Baker, organist

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.

Chiming of the Hour

Prelude

Let Us Break Bread Together

arr. Charles Callahan

Welcome and Invitation To
Mission and Ministry

(Children Excused)

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Invitation To Worship (adapted from the Worship Sourcebook 2004, CRC publications) Jean Garling

One: All who thirst, come to the water.

All: Come all who are weary, to find rest.

One: The Holy Spirit through Jesus Christ washes over us.

All: Our gracious and holy God beckons and blesses us.

One: Drink deeply of these living waters.

All: Share in the table of the Lord, the abundance of God. Let us worship together.

*Hymn

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

#56

Scripture

Hebrews 11:1-20

Jean Garling

*Hymn

All Over the World

**All over the world, the Spirit is moving,
all over the world, as the prophets said it would be;
all over the world, there's a mighty revelation
of the glory of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.**

**All over His church, God's Spirit is moving,
all over His church, as the prophets said it would be;
all over His church, there's a mighty revelation
of the glory of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.**

**Right here in this place, the Spirit is moving,
right here in this place, as the prophets said it would be;
right here in this place, there's a mighty revelation
of the glory of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.**

Morning Prayer: Sharing our joys and concerns

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Special Music

The Lord's Prayer
Ashton Rapp, baritone; Samuel Baker, organ

Albert Hay Malotte

Scripture and Prayer

Hebrews 11:21-40

Sermon

The Story of the Cactus

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication

Music in Response

Break Thou the Bread of Life

arr. Seth Bingham

Invitation to The Lord's Table and Unison Prayer

We bless you, O God, for the gifts of the bread and the cup; for sustaining us in hope, everyday of our lives. We pray for your strength to prepare us now for your service as we offer to you lives of witness and worship in the world you have made. Through Christ our Lord. Amen. (Worship Sourcebook 2004, CRC Publications.)

Sharing the bread and the cup

We observe an open Communion. All are welcome at the table.

*The Covenant of the First Baptist Church of Rochester, NY

Believing that God has called us into being as persons and as a church; confessing that the adoration of God leads to the fullest experience of our humanity; accepting Jesus Christ as the human face of God, and the One we know as a brother, teacher, confessor, redeemer, Lord, and Savior; promising faithfulness to the way of Christ and to the unique community of the Church, empowered by the Holy Spirit, we establish this covenant with God and each other:

- To uphold the purpose of the First Baptist Church of Rochester, which is to inspire trust in God and to develop disciples of Jesus Christ.**
- To endeavor to live by the moral and ethical principles taught by Christ and revealed in scripture, and to be cheerful stewards of our wealth, wisdom, work, and world.**
- To uphold freedom of religious expression, to honor the diverse ways in which God is known among us, and to strive for social justice within all human relationships.**
- To create a worshiping community characterized by love, the study of scripture, prayer, forgiveness, peace, joy, and welcome.**
- To accept the risks that accompany the holy process of transformation and the struggles of any community that follows Jesus with passion.**
- To pursue our common vision to raise the quality of life in Jesus' name for the congregation, the community, and the world through our ministries of compassionate service.**

*Parting Hymn

Blest Be the Tie That Binds (v.1)

#393

***Blest be the tie that binds, our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.***

Benediction

INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!

TODAY:

- Thank you to the numerous volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work. We appreciate all you do!
- Check out the sign-up opportunities on the table in the Garden Room.

THIS WEEK:

- Join us for *Koinonia Koffee* in the Parlor, Tuesday at 10 AM, for coffee, tea, or water, and conversation.
- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) on Thursday, July 10, we will celebrate National Chocolate Day. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP to kandeetabor@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- July 19—The Pride Parade line up is at 10 AM and we are space number 150 on Science Parkway. Sign up with your cell number to be added to a group text chain for any updates the day of, and so we know you're joining us! Our group will have a vehicle to ride in, so all can join!
- July 20—The Pride Service will be at Immanuel Baptist Church at 3:00 PM.
- The family of Rev. John Lake invites you to a memorial service in celebration of his life. The Rev. Sarah Culp will officiate Sat. July 26, 2025, 1:30PM, at St. John's Meadows, Briarwood Bldg., 1 Johnsarbor Dr. West (off Elmwood), Rochester, NY 14620.
- FBCR Book Group; *The Love of My Life*, by Rosie Walsh, July 29 (5th Tuesday) at 11:30 AM.

GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

- **Communion Sunday Giving.** The missions team is asking the congregation to donate jams, jellies, and Chef Boyardee products for the Center for Youth each first Sunday of the month.

SIGN-UPS AVAILABLE:

- After-worship fellowship time has several openings through summer; please consider serving one Sunday. Readers for August and Ushers for the summer are also needed!
- Would you like to receive a copy of the prayers mentioned in worship plus any that come to the church office with the request that it be shared? Sign up on the prayer list sheet.
- We have begun our time of "Playground Church" for the summer months. We need at least one person to help Melina monitor our children each week. Please sign up for one or as many Sundays as you are able.

MEETINGS:

- There will be no Council Meeting in July. The next meeting is August 19th on Zoom.
- Trustees Meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, July 21 on Zoom at 6:00 PM.

OUR LEADERSHIP:

- If you have any interest in a specific FBCR ministry, don't hesitate to contact a committee chairperson for details: Marilyn McClellan (Care Team), Nan Wilson (Christian Education), Bob Oaks (Council), Kande Tabor (Fellowship), Chris Oaks (Treasurer—giving); Elyssa Barszewski and Melissa Spooner (co-chairs of Mission), Dave Hood (Personnel); Richard Wien (Trustees), and Judy Oaks (Worship).