



# Refocus *on* Christ

**WORSHIP OF GOD | COMMUNION SUNDAY | AUGUST 3, 2025**

**First Rochester | An American Baptist Church**

**175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | [rochesterfbc.org](http://rochesterfbc.org)**

**Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant—preaching  
Samuel Baker, organist**

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

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

Chiming of the Hour

For Meditation

*Costly grace is the gospel which must be sought again and again and again, the gift which must be asked for, the door at which a man must knock. Such grace is costly because it calls us to follow, and it is grace because it calls us to follow Jesus Christ.*  
Dietrich Bonhoeffer, *The Cost of Discipleship*

Prelude *An Upper Room Did Our Lord Prepare* arr. James Biery

Welcome and Invitation to Mission and Ministry (Children excused) Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Invitation To Worship (based on *Psalm 107*, ely) Rev Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

One: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: Let the redeemed of the Lord declare this love.

**All: When we were in trouble, God delivered us because of this love.**

One: God satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry are filled with good things.

**All: Let us pay attention to what God is doing all around us and worship God together.**

\*Hymn *I Will Sing of the Mercies* #60

Scripture *Ecclesiastes 1:2, 12-14; 2:18-23* Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

Special Music *The Gift of Music* John Rutter  
Ashton Rapp, baritone; Samuel Baker, organ

Morning Prayer: Sharing our joys and concerns Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

\*Hymn *Community of Christ* #615

Scripture and Prayer *Colossians 3:1-11 MSG*

Sermon *Refocus on Christ* Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant

Giving our Gifts to God and Dedication

Music in Response *Trio* J. Rheinberger

Invitation to The Lord's Table

Eliecia Young, Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon

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

Sharing the bread and the cup

\*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.**

Benediction

\*Parting Hymn

*Sent Forth by God's Blessing*

#712



*Thank you to everyone who donated jellies, jams, and canned Chef Boyardee to our Food Drive today to benefit the clients of the Center for Youth.*

*(Collected each First Sunday of the month/Communion Sunday)*

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## INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

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***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:

- Our kids will be excused after the Welcome for Playground Church and return for Communion.
- Thank you to the numerous volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work. We appreciate you!
- Join us in the Garden Room, adjacent to the Sanctuary, for Fellowship Time following worship.

### THIS WEEK:

- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors) on Thursday, July 31, will be *The Dog Days of Summer and Other Idioms*. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP to [kandeetabor@gmail.com](mailto:kandeetabor@gmail.com).

### UPCOMING EVENTS:

- FBCR Book Group: *By Any Other Name*, by Jodi Picoult, August 26 at 11:30 AM.
- Wednesday Studies will resume in the fall on Wednesday, October 1 with a Bible study on the book of Timothy for two weeks, followed with a study on the book of Titus for one week led by Pastor Joanne. Plans are underway for a study on the book of Ephesians, a Service of Gratitude in November, and a three-week Advent program to conclude the 2025 programs.
- Save the dates: Cantata, December 7, and Children's Christmas Program, December 14.

### 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 IN THE GARDEN ROOM:

- Our after-worship fellowship time has several openings through summer and beyond; please consider serving one Sunday.
- We need one reader for the end of August and Ushers throughout the summer. The September and October sign-up sheets are also available.
- 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? Call the office or sign up on the prayer list sheet.

### MEETINGS:

- The Trustees are scheduled to meet on August 18 at 6 PM on Zoom.
- The next Council meeting is August 19th on Zoom at 6 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).