THE WORSHIP OF GOD

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST | NOVEMBER 8, 2026

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude — *Partita on 'Terra beata'* — *I. Introduction* — Dan Lawhon — Raymond H. Haan

Welcome — Chuck Poole

Choral Introit — *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* — PICARDY

Processional Hymn No. 41 — *O Worship the King* — LYONS
Hymn sheet on page 3

Call to Worship — Camille Jolly

One: In the beginning, God made the heavens and the earth,
All: And God saw that it was good!
One: And so, my friends, whatever is good, whatever is true,
All: Whatever is honorable, whatever is just,
One: Whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable,
All: If there is any excellence, anything worthy of praise,
One: In short, if there is anything beautiful,
All: Turn toward these things!
One: Live toward these things!
All: Come, let us worship God!

– Inspired by Philippians 4:8

Prayer of Invocation — Pasty Brown

Hymn No. 625 — *How Great Thou Art* — HOW GREAT THOU ART
Hymn sheet on page 4

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Sermon on the Steps — Ann Carol Mann

Hymn No. 350 — *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* — KEEP YOUR LAMPS
Hymn sheet on page 5

Gospel Reading — Matthew 25:1-14 — Peggy Sanderford Ponder

One: For the Word of God in Scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,
All: Thanks be to God.

Choral Call to Prayer — *Come Down, O Love Divine* — DOWN AMPNEY

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer — Eric Clark

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.

Reading from the Prophets — Amos 5:18-24 — Chuck Poole

One: For the Word of God for the people of God,

All: We give thanks to God.

Giving Story — *What I Find Beautiful About Covenant* — Molly Garrett

Anthem — *Lift Up Your Heads, O Ye Gates* — William Mathias

Covenant Choir

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors,
And the King of glory shall come in.
Who is this King of glory?
Who is this King of glory?
Who is this King of glory?

The Lord strong and mighty,
The Lord strong and mighty,
The Lord mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
Lift up your heads, O ye gates,
And be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors,
And the King of glory shall come in.

Who is this King of glory?
Who is this King of glory?
Who is this King of glory?
The Lord of hosts,
The Lord of hosts,
The Lord of hosts,
He is the King of glory, glory, glory, glory.

Sermon — *Swimming Inward, Floating Outward* — Chuck Poole

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Invitation to Christian Commitment — Chuck Poole

Hymn of Response No. 757 — *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples* — KINGSFOLD

Hymn sheet on page 6

Words of Dedication — Camille Jolly

Reception of the Offering — Ushers

Giving sacrificially of our money is one tangible expression of a wholehearted self-giving stewardship of all of life.
Monetary offerings may be given online at baptistchurchofthecovenant.org/giving.

Offertory — *Partita on 'Terra beata'* *II. Meditation* — Raymond H. Haan

Dan Lawhon

Offertory Response — *Doxology* — OLD 100TH

Life of the Church — Eric Clark

Benediction — Chuck Poole

Postlude — *Partita on 'Terra beata'* *III. Fantasy* — Raymond H. Haan

Dan Lawhon

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41 O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

1 O wor - ship the King, all glo - rious a - bove!
O grate - ful - ly sing God's power and God's love:
our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.

2 O tell of God's might; O sing of God's grace,
whose robe is the light, whose can - o - py space,
whose char - iots of wrath the deep thun - der - clouds form;
and bright is God's path on the wings of the storm.

3 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
Al - might - y, your power has found - ed of old;
es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.

4 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
It breathes in the air; it shines in the light;
it streams from the hills; it de - scends to the plain,
and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
our Mak - er, De - fend - er, Re - deem - er, and Friend.

625

O Lord My God

How Great Thou Art

1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
2 When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der and hear the
3 And when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma-tion and take me

all the *worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, when I look down from
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then *I shall bow in

hear the *roll - ing thun - der, thy power through-out the
loft - y moun-tain gran - deur and hear the brook and
bur - den glad - ly bear - ing, he bled and died to
hum - ble ad - o - ra - tion, and there pro - claim, "My

Refrain

u - ni - verse dis - played:
feel the gen - tle breeze:
take a - way my sin:
God, how great thou art!"

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to

thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my

Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

350 Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

1 Keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing; keep your lamps trimmed and burn - ing, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
2 It's our faith makes us hap - py; it's our faith makes us hap - py; it's our faith makes us hap - py, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
3 We are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der; we are climb - ing Ja - cob's lad - der, for the time is draw - ing nigh.
4 Ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er; ev - ery round goes high - er, high - er, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

Refrain

Sis - ters, don't grow wea - ry; broth - ers, don't grow wea - ry; chil - dren, don't grow wea - ry, for the time is draw - ing nigh.

757 Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples

1 To - day we all are called to be dis - ci - ples of the
2 God made the world and at its birth or - dained our hu - man
3 Pray jus - tice may come roll - ing down as in a might - y
4 May we in ser - vice to our God act out the liv - ing

Lord, to help to set the cap - tive free, make
race to live as stew - ards of the earth, re -
stream, with righ - teous - ness in field and town to
word, and walk the road the saints have trod till

plow - share out of sword, to feed the hun - gry, quench their
spond - ing to God's grace. But we are vain and sad - ly
cleanse us and re - deem. For God is long - ing to re -
all have seen and heard. As stew - ards of the earth may

thirst, make love and peace our fast, to serve the
proud; we sow not peace but strife. Our dis - cord
store an earth where con - flicts cease, a world that
we give thanks in one ac - cord to God who

poor and home - less first, our ease and com - fort last.
spreads a dead - ly cloud that threat - ens all of life.
was cre - at - ed for a har - mo - ny of peace.
calls us all to be dis - ci - ples of the Lord.



Cover art: Fountains in a larger installation titled “Revelation”, a memorial to Martin Luther King. The project was a collaboration of Houston Conwill, poet Estella Conwill Majoza and architect Joseph DePace. Christian Barrette, photographer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WEDNESDAY NIGHT FELLOWSHIP
November 11 at 6:00 pm

Why Advent? Although Christians have always celebrated the birth of Jesus in various ways, "Advent" as we generally know it has not always been something that Christians or even Baptists have always done. We will take a look together at the story of Advent, including looking at how the past ways Christians have engaged with this period of time and how to best carry this story forward into a sometimes very different 21st century.

Our mid-week fellowship meal is in the Fellowship Hall from 5:00 – 6:00 pm. You can make a reservation online. Reservations must be in by Monday at noon.

GBM FOOD FUND
Consider Donating

This month BCOC will not hold a food drive for Greater Birmingham Ministries. Please give what you are able to GBM’s food fund. They will be giving Thanksgiving and Christmas food boxes to our neighbors. Thanks for your continuing support!

BCOC & ME
November 15 at 10:30 am

The Deacons are hosting a BCOC & Me session for visitors and new members this month! This session is designed to help newcomers learn more about the church and get connected to opportunities at the church. The BCOC & Me session will be held during the Sunday School hour in the Bock Mayse Ministry Center.

THANKSGIVING POTLUCK
Sunday, November 22 at 11:30 am

Please make plans to join your friends and family at BCOC’s Thanksgiving potluck lunch in the Fellowship Hall right after Sunday School in a few weeks! Ham and drinks will be provided. We need you to bring your favorite side dishes and desserts. We can keep things warm in the kitchen, but cannot bake or cook anything at the church.