



## Welcome to Richmond's First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Avenue Richmond, VA 23220 | 804-355-8637 | fbrichmond.org

August 2, 2026 | 11 a.m.

The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

### Preparation For Worship

*Today we come to the end of our ten-week series on “Good Psalms for Hard Times,” and we end on one of the “goodest”—Psalm 51. But it comes out of one of the hardest times in David’s life. I wonder how often that’s true, that the most difficult circumstances of our lives inspire the deepest beauty, truth, and faith?*

—Jim Somerville

### Chiming of the Hour

#### Welcome and Invocation

Matthew Hensley

#### Piano Prelude

*“How Great Thou Art”*

arr. Mark Hayes

#### Call to Worship (from Psalm 51)

Matthew Hensley

**Leader:** Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love;  
according to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions.

**People:** **Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin.**

**Leader:** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within me.

**People:** **Then I will teach transgressors your ways, and sinners will return to you.**

#### Hymn No. 337, “Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven”

LAUDA ANIMA

#### Pastoral Prayer

Robert Thompson

#### Hymn No. 295, “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing”

NETTLETON

#### Sharing of the Faith

Carson and Laura Foushee

#### Offertory

*“Speak, O Lord”*  
Stephanie Kim, flute

arr. Lloyd Larson

OLD 100TH

#### Doxology

*Children are invited to exit the sanctuary for Children’s Worship. Details on next page.\**

#### Dedication of Gifts

Steve Blanchard

#### Old Testament Lesson, Jeremiah 31:31-34 (Pew Bible OT page 899)

Laura Foushee

**Leader:** The Word of the Lord.

**People:** **Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

*“The Heavens Declare the Glory of God”*  
Adult Choir

arr. McAfee

*The heavens declare the glory of God; the earth sings forth his holy name:  
The hills and plains sing praise to him. New songs of joy they raise to him.  
Both day and night his might proclaim.*

*The day shows forth his majesty, the night sings praise eternally.  
Their voice is sounding, resounding praise to him.  
Let all creation lift its voice, all nature and mankind rejoice. Amen.*

**Sermon**

A Clean Heart

Jim Somerville

**The Celebration of Communion**

*“Be Still, My Soul”*  
Stephanie Kim, Flute

arr. Lopez and Whitcomb

**Hymn No. 587, “Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”**

NEW BRITAIN

**Staff Recognition****The Life of the Community**

Jim Somerville

**Charge and Benediction**

Jim Somerville

**Congregational Response**

*“The Lord’s Prayer”*

Albert Hay Malotte

*Our Father, which 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.*

**Postlude**

*“Fugue in C major, BWV 545”*

J.S. Bach

*Participating in worship today are Carson and Laura Foushee who have been Cooperative Baptist Fellowship (CBF) field personnel in Kanazawa, Japan, since 2013. They have 2 children: Ada and Judah. Their ministries in Kanazawa Baptist Church and their international ministries in Japan are one of our church’s **Mission Beyond partners** (the missions that take place outside Richmond, VA.) Learn more about our partners, [fbcrichmond.org/outreach/missions-beyond/](http://fbcrichmond.org/outreach/missions-beyond/)*



Next week Jim Somerville is starting a new sermon series, Before I Go. Next week's sermon title will be,  
What about God?

August 30 is Serve Sunday. There will be one worship service at 8:45 a.m. in the Sanctuary and online.  
Following the service will be breakfast in Flammig Hall and service projects in the local area.

**Scan the QR code for today's scripture readings.**



The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of  
Andrew Forrest Allred by the Allred and Wilson families.

The 11 a.m. worship service is streamed on Sundays at [fbcrichmond.online.church](http://fbcrichmond.online.church)  
and on YouTube at [fbcrichmond.org/youtube](http://fbcrichmond.org/youtube).

This week's Sunday worship will be broadcast in central Virginia on TV8 on a one-week delayed basis.

Wireless personal receivers are available for those who need assistance hearing in the Sanctuary.  
Restrooms are available in the Narthex near the Monument Avenue entrances.

\*We gladly welcome families with children to worship today. Worship clipboards can be found at all Sanctuary  
entry doors. During the Doxology, children in grades K-3 are invited to gather at the  
Children's Worship sign at the upper and lower piano-side doors.  
After Children's Worship in Suite 220, children will return to their pew during the final hymn.

If you have any questions please feel free to ask an Usher or Greeter for help. We are glad you are here!

### **Ministry Leadership Staff**

#### **The Ministry of Christian Community**

Rev. Robert E. Thompson, Minister of Pastoral Care  
Becky Payne, Pastoral Care Associate

#### **The Ministry of Christian Formation**

Dr. Allison Collier, Senior Associate Pastor  
Rev. Amanda Lott, Minister to Children & Families  
Rev. Chris Wondree, Minister to Students & Families  
Mukshah Phom, Youth Ministry Associate  
Carter Abbitt, Children's Ministry Associate  
Alex Hamp, Preschool Administrator

#### **The Ministry of Communication**

Allen Cumbia, Director of Communication Technology  
Beth Davis, Director of Communication  
Emma Tilley, Graphic Design and Communication Associate  
Rodney Macklin, Audio/Video Production Technician

#### **The Ministry of Christian Invitation**

Dr. Matthew Hensley, Associate Pastor  
Lee Byerly, Recreation Director

#### **The Ministry of Christian Compassion**

Rev. Steve R. Blanchard, Associate Pastor  
Michael Lacy, Compassion Ministry Assistant

#### **The Ministry of Christian Worship**

Dr. Philip L. Mitchell, Associate Pastor  
Ruth Szucs, Music Ministry Associate  
Eunice Kim, Pianist  
Dr. Brent te Velde, Organist

#### **The Ministry of Support**

Kim Boys, Interim Business Manager  
Bonnie Wilmoth, Facilities Director  
Christine Johnson, Food Services Director  
Rev. Rusty Lee, Director of Stewardship

Dr. James G. Somerville, Senior Pastor

# Serve Sunday August 30

A Day of Service: Join us for early worship at 8:45 a.m. and a churchwide brunch, then roll up your sleeves and serve alongside other RFBC folks as we tackle projects in the church or throughout the community.

**Registration is open!** Each team will have a different job, so you can choose which one appeals to you. Register by TODAY to order your T-shirt.

**KO  
H2  
DAY**  
2026



## • First Sunday Fellowship | TODAY

Visit the Gathering Spaces after the 11 a.m. service for cookies, lemonade and time to fellowship with friends!

• **Welcome back to Wednesday Night! | August 5** | Gather around the table in Flamming Hall at 5 p.m. for dinner. At 6 p.m. choose from a variety of offerings for all ages. This week, we will host the Quarterly Business Meeting and New Member Celebration. Hear from our leadership and finance teams, then meet the newest members at RFBC and welcome them to the First Family!

• **Pop-up Market | August 9** | Fresh organic produce will be available after the 11 a.m. service in the Mulberry portico. Proceeds go toward supporting our community farm at Charlotte Acres which provides fresh produce to those in Richmond who are food insecure.

• **Ruth Szucs Ordination | August 9 | 1 p.m.** | Ruth Szucs, our Music Ministry Associate, will be ordained Sunday afternoon in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!

• **BBQ, Books & Bucc-ees | August 14** | Join Allison Collier and Lee Byerly for a day trip to Harrisonburg, VA with fun, good food and fellowship! Sign up on the app or website.

• **Organ Concert Series | August 23 | 3 p.m.** | The organ concert series continues, featuring phenomenal musician Daniel Stipe on our newly restored Sanctuary organ. Our next concert features Michael Burkhardt on October 23 at 7 p.m. Don't miss this wonderful series!

• **Register Now!** All registration forms for upcoming events are in one place on the website! Scan the QR code to view the forms or go to [fbcrichmond.org/sign-up](https://fbcrichmond.org/sign-up). You can also sign up on the FBCNow! app.



## • Fall Art Show | Deadline September 1 | Tell the Story.

**Share Your Faith. Inspire Others.** | Artists are invited to create works that reflect stories from the Old Testament of the Bible or share their own personal journey of faith through art. Submissions may explore themes of God's presence, guidance, redemption, and transformation, offering creative expressions that illustrate biblical narratives or the artist's own relationship and walk with God. Contact Dee Dee Simmons for more information at [deeds13@hotmail.com](mailto:deeds13@hotmail.com) or 804-869-7979.

## • Back2 School Drive

Financial donations for backpacks (suggested \$20) and school supplies (suggested \$30) may be made through August 9 by: Check to FBC (earmarked Backpack) or pay online through the FBCnow! app or website.

## • Lead at First – Join a team!

From the Walthall Altar Guild, First Impressions, to Generosity Team and beyond: teams at RFBC make our ministries possible. Visit [fbcrichmond.org/lead-at-first](https://fbcrichmond.org/lead-at-first) to explore the 40+ teams that support worship, hospitality, care, and outreach. The Nominating Team will help you find the opportunity that's the best fit for you. Joining a team is a wonderful way to share your gifts, build meaningful relationships, and become more connected to the life of our church. Submit the form by August 9.

• **One Accord** | the auditioned choral ensemble of the Adult Choir, is seeking 2 tenors to join this gifted and enthusiastic group. Rehearsals are on Sunday evenings at 6:30, beginning on September 20. For more information contact Phil Mitchell, [mitchell@fbcrichmond.org](mailto:mitchell@fbcrichmond.org) or Ruth Szucs, [szucs@fbcrichmond.org](mailto:szucs@fbcrichmond.org)

## • Upcoming Events:

September 13 – ONE SUNDAY  
October 10 – Men's Ministry Bed Build  
October 16 – Date Night Salsa Class  
October 17 – RFBC Prayer Retreat

For a full list of upcoming events, visit [fbcrichmond.org/upcoming-events](https://fbcrichmond.org/upcoming-events) And stay up to date through our weekly newsletter, **First Family News**, every Monday in your email inbox. Visit [fbcrichmond.org/news](https://fbcrichmond.org/news) to subscribe!