Welcome to Richmond's First Baptist Church

2709 Monument Avenue Richmond, VA 23220 | 804-355-8637 | fbcrichmond.org
November 1, 2026 | 11 a.m.
All Saints Sunday

Preparation For Worship

Jesus' humility is neither passive nor timid; it is the courageous freedom of one who has nothing to prove, no status to defend, and no need to diminish others to exalt one's self. To practice such humility is to cultivate a way of being in which: love takes precedence over ego…compassion over judgment…and service over self-interest. It requires a decentering of the self—not the erasure of our personal identity, but freedom from the exhausting need to be the center of every relationship and circumstance. With that kind of humility, we are all invited to the Lord's table this morning.

Chiming of the Hour

Welcome and Invocation — Matthew Hensley

Piano Prelude — *"Blessed Assurance"* — arr. Larry Dalton

Call to Worship *(from Psalm 107)* — Matthew Hensley

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

People: For his steadfast love endures forever.

Leader: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so

People: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love and wonderful works.

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

People: For he satisfies the thirsty and the hungry he fills with good things.

Hymn No. 19, *"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"* — FOREST GREEN

Remembering the Saints — Allison Collier and Robert Thompson

Old Testament Reading, Micah 3:5-12 *(Pew Bible OT page 1057)* — Robert Thompson

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Call to Prayer, Hymn No. 387, *"God Who Made Us, Christ Who Calls Us" (Stanzas 1 & 3)* GALILEE

Pastoral Prayer — Amanda Lott

Hymn No. 290, *"Lord, Make Us Servants of Your Peace"* — O WALY, WALY

Introduction of Our Guest Preacher — Mike Harton

Offertory *"Hymn Fantasy"* arr. Fred M Hubbell
Stephanie Kim, flute

Doxology, Hymn No. 706 OLD 100TH

*Children are invited to exit the sanctuary for Children's Chapel. Details on next page.**

Dedication of Gifts Ruth Szucs

Gospel Reading, Matthew 23:1-12 *(Pew Bible NT page 31)* Ruth Szucs
Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *"All Things New"* Elaine Hagenberg
Adult Choir

Light after darkness, gain after loss,
Strength after weakness, crown after cross;
Sweet after bitter, hope after fears,
Home after wand'ring, praise after tears.

Alpha and Omega, beginning and the end,
He is making all things new,
Springs of living water shall wash away each tear.
He is making all things new.

Sight after myst'ry, sun after rain,
Joy after sorrow, peace after pain,
Near after distant, gleam after gloom,
Love after loneliness, life after tomb.

Sermon The Best Seats in God's House Scott Spencer

The Celebration of Communion

Communion Duet *"Be Still, My Soul"* arr. Lopez and Whitcomb
Stephanie Kim and Chris Ertell, flute

Hymn No. 467, *"We Are One in Christ"* THAXTED

The Life of the Community Allison Collier

Benediction Allison Collier

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.

Organ Postlude *"Fugue on the name ALAIN"* Maurice Duruflé

This morning we welcome Scott Spencer as our guest preacher. The pulpit supply team has invited him to preach November-January. He will follow the Revised Common Lectionary readings. Visit ***lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/*** to view the weekly readings.

F. Scott Spencer (PhD, University of Durham, England) is the New Testament General Editor for The SBL Study Bible and author of several articles and books, including commentaries on Song of Songs, Mark, Luke, and Acts, and recent volumes on Passions of the Christ, Seven Challenges that Shaped the New Testament, Vote Jesus Christ. As well as The Secret of Life: Paul's Christ-Centered Philosophy in Philippians which many of our Bible study classes are reading.

He has been a tenured professor at Wingate University and Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond. He regularly teaches and preaches in area churches and has served several interim pastorates. He has acted in university, seminary, and community theater productions, including lead roles in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Shadowlands, God's Favorite*, and *Godspell*, and enjoys playing the guitar and singing country and folk-rock tunes. (If the Eagles ever need a fill-in, Scott's ready to go.)

The flowers today are given to the glory of God and in memory of
Bertha R. and Oscar D. Pitts and Kaye Pitts Long by the Pettigrew and Pusser families
Virginia and Tom Sanders and June and Herb Quade by Tom and Eileen Sanders

The 11 a.m. worship service is streamed on Sundays at fbcrichmond.online.church
and on YouTube at 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 Chapel sign at the upper and lower piano-side doors.
After Children's Chapel 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
Rev. John Ng'ang'a, Pastoral Resident

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
Rev. 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

Join us for this LIVE concert at First Baptist

November 29 | 7-9 p.m.

$65 General Admission

Scan the QR code to register.

• **First Sunday Fellowship | TODAY** | Next Sunday, visit the Gathering Spaces after the 11 a.m. service for cookies, lemonade and time to fellowship with friends!

•**Hope After Loss - Grief Support | Meets First Sundays | Next meeting is TODAY |** We are here for you in life's hardest moments. Join a group and find support! There are many other support groups: Visit ***fbcrichmond.org/support*** for the full list!

•**Youth Fall Retreat | November 20—22 | New Life Camp | TODAY is the last chance to register |** Students are invited to a weekend together in Raleigh, NC. We'll spend the weekend building friendships, worshiping together, having fun, enjoying God's incredible creation, and growing in our faith. For more details visit ***fbcrichmond.org/connect/youth/events/*** or contact Hope Cumbia at ***HCumbia@fbcrichmond.org*** with questions.

• **"Advent Art" with Rev. Anna C. Miller of Wild Compass Creatives | November 4 & 11 |** Find your creative side and be prepared for the upcoming season of Advent through 2 all new offerings! Cost is $10 total and covers both weeks. Space is limited to 16 seats in the room. ***Register Now!***

• **Upward Basketball Registration Open! |** Every year, RFBC hosts Upward Basketball (Boys and Girls, rising 1st-rising 6th grade) and Cheerleading (Girls, K5- rising 6th grade). Visit ***fbcrichmond.org/recreation*** for more information and sign up. ***Register by November 7.***

• **Praying the Psalms: Learning the Language of the Soul | November 21 | 8:30 a.m. -3:30 p.m. | Flamming Hall |** Come for a time of rest, renewal, honest reflection, and connection while discovering the connections of ancient prayers to our modern lives. Lacey Wondree will guide us through the Psalms.

• **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.*** You can also sign up on the FBCNow! app.

• **Canadian Brass Concert | November 29 | 7-9 p.m. | Sanctuary |** We are thrilled to welcome Canadian Brass on Sunday, November 29. Widely regarded as "the world's most famous brass group," the ensemble has performed everywhere from Carnegie Hall to television specials and international tours spanning North America, Europe, Asia, and beyond. They'll be in Richmond for one night only and you don't want to miss it! Tickets are $65 for General Admission and $50 for students (please call the church at 804-355-8637 for the Student code). ***Register Now*** and invite a friend!

• **Spread a little Christmas Joy! |** Again this year RFBC members will have an opportunity to provide gifts for the South Richmond Baptist Center's Christmas Store. Contact Kim Wicks, ***wicks@fbcrichmond.org*** or 804-358-5458, ext. 122, **by TODAY**, and tell her how many children you'd like to shop for. You'll receive a wish list for your child. Each shopper will purchase one article of clothing and two toys. You can deliver your gifts to the South Richmond Baptist Center on December 1. Or, if you prefer a WMU member will deliver them on your behalf.

Thanksgiving Dinner & Worship

Tuesday, November 24

Dinner at 5 p.m. Worship at 6:30 p.m.

rsvp at fbcrichmond.org or on the app

For a full list of upcoming events, visit ***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*** to subscribe!