

WORSHIP GUIDE for OCTOBER 24, 2021

SETTING YOUR SPACE

Hi, Friends! I hope you'll join FBC for worship this Sunday. The trees in the courtyard are brilliantly-colored and the cranes hanging from on high move just the tiniest bit in the air, so those coming in person will be treated to that beauty; but you're also more than welcome to join online if that works better for you! This week we'll hear a special piece that Muriel & Jesse have been working up, we'll tell a story from scripture that I honestly can't remember ever hearing before, and we'll learn some about each other, too. It'd be wonderful if you could be part of it.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude: Devotion by Guilmant - Muriel Dresser, organist

Welcome - Rev. Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor

Gathering Song: Joyful, Joyful (NC Hymnal #4)

**- Jesse Cromer, Director of Music Ministries, Dave King,
Heidi Reinker, Muriel Dresser**

**Gathering Prayer & Communal Prayer from Central Congregational
United Church of Christ, Atlanta, Georgia**

- Russell Mark

Our Mother and Father, our Beloved Parent, in whom we move and breathe and have our being, the hallowing of your name shines forth in the diversity of your children. May your peace and love, justice and equality, inclusion and belonging reign here on earth as in heaven. Grant that all might have their daily needs met - that all might find gainful employment without discrimination; that all might have access to medical care without fear; that all might have their rights and lives protected, and find a loving community to

belong to and call their own. Forgive us for the ways that we have fallen short and failed each other. Forgive us of the times we turned away, or did not care; for the times we laughed or judged others' unique expression of your image; for the times we have misspoken, asked too much, or failed to hear – as we forgive those who might have failed us. Lead us away from the temptation to be complacent in the face of injustice. But give us courage to stand up and stand with your beloved children. For your love and justice is to be made manifest, now and forever. Amen.

Children's Time – Sean P. Williams, Children's & Youth Minister

Scripture: Matthew 17:24-27

When they entered Capernaum, the collectors of the Temple tax approached Peter and asked, "Doesn't your Teacher pay the Temple tax?"

Peter responded, "Of course he does."

When Peter came into the house, Jesus spoke to him first: "Simon, what is your opinion? Do the rulers of the world collect taxes or levies from their own children, or from foreigners?"

Simon replied, "From foreigners."

Jesus observed, "Then their children are exempt. But so we don't offend these people, go to the lake and cast a line, and catch the first fish that bites. Open its mouth and you will find a coin worth twice the Temple tax. Take it and give it to them for both you and me."

Sermon: "Playing with the Powers" – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Response Song: Called as Partners in Christ's Service (NC Hymnal #495)

– Jesse Cromer, Dave King, Heidi Reinker, Muriel Dresser

Pastoral Prayer – Rev. Erika Marksbury

The Reach of Our Gifts: Stewardship – Russell Mark

Special Music: La Procession by Cesar Franck
- Jesse Cromer & Muriel Dresser

Closing Words

Going Forth Song: *You Are Salt for the Earth* (NC Hymnal #181)
- Jesse Cromer, Dave King, Heidi Reinker, Muriel Dresser

Benediction - Rev. Erika Marksbury
One: Friends, ... may the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

Postlude: Majestic March by Avery - Muriel Dresser

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To register your worship attendance: fill out the card in the pew and leave it in the offering plate as you exit, or fill out this form:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScSYNSIsEMffKhtUe8faeI-Gi9HTjRRgugCjIXooMIcZGNPkw/viewform>.

Thank you.