

THE WORSHIP OF FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH SIOUX FALLS, SD

Worship is opening and offering ourselves to God in response to God's greatness and mercy. Through worship we come into the presence of God, we listen to him and pour out our hearts to him, and we receive power to go out and do God's work in the world. Worship touches all of life, and every moment, but is especially significant as the body of Christ gathers corporately. As our sacred and holy encounter with God, worship cannot be adequately explained; it must be experienced.



At First Baptist Church, we are one people, the body of Christ that meets at the corner of 22nd and Covell, honoring God in word and deed.

OUR PURPOSE OF WORSHIP

To honor God by providing weekly worship services that:

- engage believers in authentic experiences of God which fortify them in faith and equip them to serve him all week long, and,
- engage future believers in experiences of God through his Word and his community so they will embrace the truth of Jesus Christ and begin new life with him.

OUR PHILOSOPHY OF WORSHIP

We believe that worship is the congregation's living encounter with God. Worship is about God and for God.

We believe that worship leaders serve not as performers for an audience, but as coaches (encouragers) for the congregation actively engaged as worshipers. Worship is the work of the people.

We seek to provide quality leadership from week to week. We believe God has provided gifted leaders to guide our worship.

We believe that multiple worship styles minister appropriately to different groups. All worship is contemporary – regardless of its style. Worship touches life. We aim to be culturally sensitive and aware of the variety of people being reached.

Last revision: September 17, 2009

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We believe that the congregation should experience the joy of the gospel in worship and go out energized to serve.

We believe in careful advance planning. In each worship service, we seek to communicate, as best we can, the meaning of the day's biblical text for our lives.

We believe there should be variety within a consistent format for worship. We want to be consistent enough that worshipers will be at ease rather than disoriented, yet varied enough within the pattern to keep things fresh.

We want our worship services to be understandable and empowering.

OUR VISION FOR WORSHIP

The Word of God is central to worship. The Bible is read, preached, and honored. A biblical text provides the theme for the day.

At First Baptist Church, worship is led in two styles under the titles *Sanctuary* and *Family Life Worship*. Each has its unique appearance (more formal, less formal), location (Sanctuary or Family Life Center), and sound (highlighting acoustic instruments, highlighting a rhythm section).

OUR PROCESS FOR WORSHIP PLANNING

The "Worship Ministry Team" is composed of those individuals who provide leadership for the two worship services along with selected others who are invited to be a part of the team.

The entire worship ministry team meets quarterly to consider the broader scope regarding the church's worship and to look in advance at coming worship themes and begin creative planning.

Teams for the worship services meet at times of their own choosing for more specific planning.

Staff worship leaders meet weekly for detailed preparation.

OUR CORE VALUES IN WORSHIP

We aim to be God-centered, Bible-based, outreach-oriented, disciple-making, and Kingdom-building.

Our worship leaders commit to maintaining servant attitudes, a united team spirit, sincere worshipping hearts, and a commitment to excellence in leadership.