

# Worship Preparation

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH of DURHAM

## *What's Special About This Sunday?*

- Dr. Andrew Davis will be preaching a sermon entitled **“Neither Enticed nor Terrified Away from Christ”** based on Hebrews 11:23-26.
- Through our **worship in song**, we will be singing about how it is better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to live for the world and the temporary pleasures of sin.

- **“Salvation Belongs To Our God”**
- **“Better Is One Day”**
- **“By Faith”**
- **“Beautiful Savior”**
- **“Give Me Jesus”**
- **“Now Unto Him”**



## About Sunday's Choir Anthem, “Hallelujah!”

“Hallelujah” is one of a series of 12 hymn texts written over an approximately 12 month period in 1999-2000 by the late Dr. James Montgomery Boice, Senior Pastor of Tenth Presbyterian Church in Philadelphia for 32 years. Though Dr. Boice had written more than 60 books, he had never written hymns until his colleague in music ministry at the church, Dr. Paul Steven Jones, challenged him to use his literary and theological skills to write hymn texts. Jones wrote the hymn tunes and harmonizations as fast as Dr. Boice could create the texts. Completed just before his death from cancer in June 2000, they created a small hymnal, published by the church, called “Hymns for a Modern Reformation.” (Available from the church at [www.tenth.org](http://www.tenth.org))

**Notes from Dr. Jones:** This hymn boldly affirms the doctrine of the perseverance of the saints, and hence the tune is aptly named PERSEVERANCE. It affirms that the love of God is eternal and that threats of natural or supernatural enemies, a list of 17 potential threats, as described in Romans 8:35-39, cannot separate us from that love. The answer to every question raised by the apostle Paul regarding the ability of these powers to separate us from the love of God is the same—“nothing”! There is a certainty, an almost fist-pounding emphasis in the music that requires corporate solidarity and energy in execution.

The key, D-flat major, was selected for its warmth, power and resonance as well as for the five flats, since the doctrine of perseverance is the fifth point of Calvinism. Dr. Boice never sang this particular hymn without raising a fist in the air and emphasizing “Nothing. Hallelujah!” with a smile on his face. The final two verses of this hymn were of great meaning and encouragement to him as his earthly life drew to a close.



Dr. James M. Boice

*Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, for our “God is a consuming fire.”*

**Hebrews 12:28-29**



*Moses refused the sinful privileges of Egypt, including those of being **the son of Pharaoh's daughter** (Ex. 2:10). Instead he identified with God's people (Ex. 2:10-12) and thus sought God's reward (Heb. 10:35; 11:6). **fleeting pleasures of sin**. Contrasted with eternal reward (cf. Ps.16:11). **reproach of Christ**. As Christ (the true Israel, Matt. 2:15) truly suffered on behalf of the people of God, so too Moses, who similarly suffered on behalf of the people, is said to bear Christ's reproach. Hence Moses serves as a model for Christians to endure such reproach (Heb. 10:33; 13:13).*

*-ESV Study Bible*

### Pray for our Leaders:

- ✓ **Preaching:** Andrew Davis
- ✓ **Leading in Prayer:** Andrew Davis, Andy Winn, Bill Austin, Ryan Hutchinson
- ✓ **Leading in Praise:** Worship Ministry Team, Eric Campbell
- ✓ **Reading Scripture:** Sean Condon
- ✓ **Church Life:** Ryan Hutchinson
- ✓ **Translating:** Herbert Rivera

## SUNDAY'S SERMON

### “Neither Enticed nor Terrified Away from Christ”

*The following passage is the Sermon Scripture for Sunday. Read and meditate on God's Word, and **memorize** the verse printed in **bold**, this week's suggested memory verse.*

#### Hebrews 11:23-26 (NIV)

<sup>23</sup> By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

<sup>24</sup> By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

<sup>25</sup> **He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time.**

<sup>26</sup> He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.