



Our Worship of God

September 17, 2023

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Caleb Cooke, Pastoral Resident

Anthem

Oh, Sing to the Lord a New Song
Chancel Choir

by John Leavitt

†Call to Worship

When the way is difficult and dangerous,
let us still choose what is good and just.
When evil comes to break us down and break us apart,
let us still choose to carry on with each other.
When power from on high strikes fear in our hearts,
let us still choose the courage to persist.
For we know that the love and power of God,
which abides in us, will not be overcome.

†Opening Hymn 558

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Genesis 4:3-10

In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The Lord said to Cain, “Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it.”

Cain said to his **brother** Abel, “Let us go out to the field.” And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his **brother** Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, “Where is your **brother** Abel?” He said, “I do not know; am I my **brother’s** keeper?” And the Lord said, “What have you done? Listen, your **brother’s** blood is crying out to me from the ground!

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Confession

God, in your kindness, protect us from all kinds of evil influence,

Negative thought-patterns,

Falsehood,

Ill-intent,

Malice,

And ego pursuit.

Use your Great Light to illumine every shadow that falls upon us.

Shield us by the power of your awareness.

Set your eye upon us

For we know that you cannot look upon evil,

And where your gaze goes,

No evil may pass.

The forces of this world would have us bound in hopelessness,

Duped into inaction,

Incapacitated by fear,

Undone by despair.

Overwhelmed by toxic onslaught,

Confused by misinformation.

But we place our hope in the one

Who overcame the world

By way of mercy

By way of prayer

By way of service,

by way of forgiveness,

By way of inclusive welcome,

By way of weakness.

So when evil knocks at the door of our consciousness,

May we be found full of the Light of God,

Impenetrable to its shady advance,

Impervious to its influence.

And may God's own angels,

Heaven's messengers and protectors,

Work on our behalf,

Creating a shield around us.

Amen.

Sharing Our Gifts

†Hymn 538

I Need Thee Every Hour

Message

Pastor Carol McEntyre

†Hymn of Response 568

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated

Life of the Church

†Benediction

†Postlude

The Church's One Foundation
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Currie

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, ~ From enfleshed.com

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling, Words: Charles Wesley, 1747. Music: John Zundel, 1870.

Prayer of Confession, adapted from the Litany for Protection Against Evil by Fran Pratt.

I Need Thee Every Hour, Words: Annie S. Hawks. Music Robert Lowry, 1872.

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated, Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874. Music: Henri A César Malan, 1827.

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 17

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour –Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Monday, September 18

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 19

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, September 20

- 6:30-7:30 pm Chancel Bells
- 5:30 *The Calling* Dinner
- 6:00-7:15 *The Calling*

Thursday, September 21

- 10:30 am First Baptist Women's Zoom Book Study
- 7:00-9:00 pm Chancel Choir 200th concert dress rehearsal

Friday, September 22

- 7:00 pm 200th Anniversary Concert

Sunday, September 24

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour –Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 pm College Sunday Night Gathering in the Office Commons

Announcements

Welcome Visitors!

If you are visiting, we are so glad to have you with us! If you would like to receive more information about First Baptist and our ministries, you can fill out a connection card at the welcome table, scan the QR code in the bulletin, or visit our website at fbc-columbia.org/connect



200th Anniversary Concert– September 22

Join us as we celebrate 200 years with a special concert presented by Odyssey! The concert will take place on Friday, September 22nd at 7:00 in the First Baptist sanctuary and will feature wonderful ecumenical choral anthems and handbell selections, as well as works for piano and organ. In addition to musicians from Odyssey, we are honored to welcome choir and handbell choir members from First Presbyterian, First Christian, Broadway Christian, Sacred Heart, MUMC, and Community UMC, as well as former First Baptist scholarship musicians. Admission is FREE! If you have any questions about the concert, please feel free to email Jonathan at jray@fbc-columbia.org, or contact Ayako Tsuruta or Pastor Carol. We hope to see you there!

On-Lawn Worship - October 1

We invite you to join us for On-Lawn worship on Sunday, October 1, at 9:15 or 11:15. We have such a lovely front lawn; it will be a gift to gather for worship under the trees! As a reminder, bring your lawn chair. Adult Small Groups, Youth Ministry, and First Kids Sunday School will meet as usual at 10:15 a.m.

200th Anniversary Celebration:

History Book and Time Capsule Project

We are publishing a formal archival-quality book to preserve and document our history. This book will be approximately 650 pages and will be published early in 2024. Personal copies will be available for \$75 each. A sample copy is on display in the History Room. Please email Ken Hammann if you are interested in purchasing a copy at krhammann@gmail.com.

Another anniversary project is the creation of a time capsule, which will be sealed in the wall of the Church entrance and will not be opened for 50 years. We are asking for suggestions for items, documents, keepsakes, etc., to be enclosed in this capsule. Please submit your suggestions to 200th Anniversary Planning Team members: Ken Hammann (krhammann@gmail.com) or Randy Wyatt (sterlingwyatt@icloud.com) by October 31st.

September Mission Opportunities 2023

The Serving Team is looking forward to a month of mission opportunities for our congregation in September. There are lots of opportunities to help serve your neighbor with kindness and compassion including the Extra Mile House, The Food Bank, and Habitat for Humanity. For more information, see the Spire or talk with Pastor Michael McEntyre.

Guest Speaker, Jemar Tisby – October 14-15

When the 200th Anniversary Team planned our year of celebration, we wanted to host events that highlight our church's values. In the last few years, First Baptist has made a commitment to the work of racial justice, voting to make the Racial Justice and Inclusion Team a permanent part of our team structure and joining the Thriving for Racial Justice cohort with the Alliance of Baptists. So, in planning for the 200th Anniversary Celebration, we wanted to host an event that would emphasize our racial justice work. As such, we are thrilled to have the opportunity to host Dr. Jemar Tisby, a New York Times bestselling author, national speaker, and public historian on a mission to deliver truths from the Black experience with depth and clarity. He will be with us for a weekend of events on October 14-15.

Worship Service of Truth-telling, Lament and Commitment Sunday, October 22, at 11:15 a.m.

When the 200th Anniversary Team began planning our year of celebration, we knew remembering and honoring our history would be part of the festivities. At the same time, we recognized that we could not celebrate the beautiful aspects of our past without giving an honest account of our church's historical connection to slavery. We have acknowledged our past sins from the beginning of our anniversary celebration. The Racial Justice Team and our pastoral staff have crafted a combined worship service of Truth-telling, Lament, and Commitment that will be held on Sunday, October 22, at 11:15 a.m. The purpose of the service is to give an account of the extent of our connection to slavery and recognize the enslaved people who were impacted by our distorted view of the gospel. We are going to read the names of the enslaved persons, lament our church's involvement in this evil practice, and recommit ourselves to the work of seeking racial justice.

How to Fight Racism Discussion

FBC still has a few copies available for purchase. The Columbia library has the book also, and even has a young reader's edition. Both are available as either physical copies or audiobooks. Please consider attending the sessions even if you don't have time to read the book—the greater the participation, the more fruitful the discussion. The first two will be before Dr. Tisby's weekend with our church, and the last will be the following Sunday: October 1, 8, and 22.

Please join us in Fellowship Hall at 2-3:30 pm on October 1, 8, and 22. If you have questions, please contact Julie Walker (jbethwalker58@gmail.com) at or Lynne Lampe (llampe.editor@gmail.com).



Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Michael McEntyre, Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Administration

Rev. Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation

Caleb Cooke, Pastoral Resident

Jonathan Ray, Music Director-Traditional Worship,

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director,

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist,

Noah Hartsfield, Handbell Director

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant,

Brenda Rice, Administrative Assistant for Web, Facilities and Arts,

Mike Ide, Custodian,

Marcy Douglas, Childcare Coordinator