



Southside Baptist Church  
11th Ave. & 19th St. South  
Birmingham, AL 35205



# SOUTHSIDE COLUMNS

October 2015 Vol. 1 No. 6

## "Communion with God; Communion with One Another"

Dear Church,

Last Sunday Southside had the privilege of joining in Christian fellowship with the churches of Five Points to celebrate World Communion Sunday. This annual communion of churches included Baptists, Methodists, Presbyterians, and other Christian denominations, united as one in Christ. Debates concerning the role of clergy, the proper mode of baptism, and the authority of the individual congregation took their rightful place along the periphery, placing the love of God in Christ at the center of this ecumenical fellowship. World Communion Sunday provided an opportunity for the churches of Five Points to showcase that love to the world, as we all came together to remember the One who draws us to Him.

In his book, *Thinking About God: An Introduction to Christian Theology*, Dr. Fisher Humphreys defines the Church as, "a family of people who freely choose God as their God, who receive God's love into their lives, and who want to learn to love God... and their neighbor as themselves." Such a definition makes no mention of creed or doctrine, but prioritizes the love of God as the unifying factor that creates the Christian family. The Church is

composed of those who love God and love others because God has first loved us. How appropriate it is that an ecumenical gathering like World Communion Sunday is centered on the greatest expression of the love, the remembrance of Christ's sacrificial death on the cross for the

In reflecting on this expression of love, I am reminded of Paul's words in his letter to the church at Corinth - "For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes." As we continue to remember the love of God in Christ, not just one Sunday a year, but every day, might we not only look to the past in remembrance, but also to the future with hope and expectation.



In Christ,  
*Kristofer Roberts*  
Kris

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## HAPPENING AT SOUTHSIDE



### Apocrypha Study

This fall Southside will offer a lecture series titled "Hidden Text: An Analysis of the Books of the Apocrypha." To learn more about these ancient texts, join us on Sunday evenings at 5:00 p.m. in room 312.

### Southside Centre for the Arts & Humanities Presents:

"A High Lonesome Bluegrass Mass," featuring the Southside choir and guests, with Three-On-A-String, Shades Mountain Air, and others, takes place in the Sanctuary on Sunday night, Oct. 11, at 7 pm. \$15 per person (students 1/2 price with ID).



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

9:00 a.m. The Gathering,  
in Drennen Hall

9:30 a.m. Sunday School

11:00 a.m. Worship in  
the Sanctuary

### OCTOBER 11

"How much do you want  
Real Christianity?"

Tim Kelley preaching

OT Scripture: Psalm 138

NT Scripture: Mark 10:17-22

7:00 p.m. High Lonesome  
Bluegrass Mass in Sanctuary

### OCTOBER 18

"Way of Wisdom - Psalm 1"

Ken Roxburgh preaching

OT Scripture: Psalm 1

6.00 p.m. Evening  
Communion Service in Foster  
Auditorium

### OCTOBER 25

"Trusting God - Psalm 27"

Ken Roxburgh preaching

OT Scripture: Psalm 27

6.00 p.m. Evening  
Communion Service in Foster  
Auditorium

## Serving the World

### "Christ Has No Body"



Do you give much thought to the privilege we have to engage in God's work as Christians? Through God's mercy and grace, and the indwelling Christ's Spirit, we are invited to participate in a most wonderful and mysterious process: the activity of God caring for all of creation and using some unlikely instruments to do so. It is this process that Teresa of Avila, a 16th century nun and mystic, addressed in her poem "Christ Has No Body."

"Christ Has No Body"

Christ has no body but yours,

No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

Yours are the eyes with which he looks

Compassion on this world,

Yours are the feet with which he walks to do good,

Yours are the hands, with which he blesses all the world.

Yours are the hands, yours are the feet,

Yours are the eyes, you are his body.

Christ has no body now but yours,

No hands, no feet on earth but yours,

- Teresa of Avila (1515-1582)

We have the tremendous opportunity and responsibility to follow in the way of Jesus and "love others as Christ has loved you."



**Timothy Kelley**  
Associate Pastor

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## Worship at Southside

### Singing the Psalms

The book of Psalms has been a source of spiritual reflection for God's people down through the centuries. Martin Luther spoke of it as "a Bible in miniature." It is representative of various literary genres, diverse historical periods and expresses different theological themes. They constitute a profile of biblical theology, with expressions of faith from various parts of the history of God's People.

The Psalms are not generally the voice of God speaking to us, but are rather the voice of human experience and encounter, gathered over a long period of time, and yet with an amazing amount of authenticity and contemporary significance. They help us to see how the life of faith encounters all types of human experiences, enabling us to turn to God for help.

The Cistercian monks at Fountains Abbey in Yorkshire, England, perhaps took it too far when they stated that you had to be able to recite the whole of Psalms in Latin before you could move from being a novitiate to the next level within the Monastery!

The Psalms have been used liturgically in worship. They have been used devotionally and pastorally down through the centuries. Our Lord would have heard the Psalter read in the synagogue and would have sung verses in worship.

Over a five week period, we will explore the significance of the Psalms for various aspects of the life of faith in our morning homilies on Sunday mornings.



**Dr. Ken Roxburgh**

Visiting Preacher

Armstrong Professor of Religion  
Samford University

## WEDNESDAY EVENING SCHEDULE

5:30 - Fellowship Supper in  
Drennen Hall

6:00 - Bible Study in Drennen  
Hall

6:30 - Theology Roundtable at  
O'Henry's Coffee House in  
Brookwood Village

### OCTOBER 14

**Bible Study led by Ken Roxburgh**  
"The Apostle's Creed"

**Roundtable led by Kris Roberts**  
"A Scandalous Freedom"

### OCTOBER 21

**Bible Study led by Ken Roxburgh**  
"The Apostle's Creed"

**Roundtable led by Kris Roberts**  
"Humility"

### OCTOBER 28

**Bible Study led by Ken Roxburgh**  
"The Apostle's Creed"

**Roundtable led by Kris Roberts**  
"Loving Jesus"