



And None
Shall be
Afraid

Our Worship of God

December 17, 2017

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

The Third Sunday of Advent

∞ From Fear to Love ∞

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Call to Worship (unison)

**God of love, our hearts desire the warmth of your love,
and our minds are searching for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ, our Savior,
and give us the strength to grow in love,
that the dawn of his coming
may find us rejoicing in his presence
and welcoming the light of his truth.
We ask this through Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

†Opening Song

Angels We Have Heard on High

Breath Prayer (based on Psalm 118:6)

The Lord is for me; I won't be afraid.

Prayer for Courage (responsive)

Lord Jesus, when we shut our eyes because we are afraid to see,
when we hold on tightly because we are afraid to share,
when we close our doors because we are afraid to get involved,
may we find courage in the company of your people,
learning with them to open our eyes,
our hands,
our home,
and our hearts in the perfect grace of your love.
Amen.

Song of Love

*When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

Lighting the Third Candle of Advent (responsive)

John & Melinda Adams
and Julia Meston

Love. Love nonetheless.

Love despite.

Love regardless.

Love still.

Love where there was no love.

Love amid what threatens love.

Love with those who feed our love.

Love beyond what we had hoped.

Love that draws us past our limits.

Love that defies expectations.

Love that questions what we have known.

Love that makes a way where there is none.

Love that takes us past our fear.

Love that calls us into life.

Love that holds us beyond death.

Love that blesses those to come.

Song of Love

*When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.*

†Passing the Love of Christ

I invite you to pass the love of Christ with your neighbors,
for as we connect with one another, love grows.

Holy Child

Megan Riley

W. Ostercamp

†Song of Praise

You Are Our God

Offertory Prayer

Offering

Mary Did You Know?

Gospel Reading

Caryn McClanahan

Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he

did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Message

From Fear to Love

Carol McEntyre

†Song of Response

He Shall Reign Forevermore

†Benediction (responsive)

God go before you to lead you,
God go behind you to protect you,
God go beneath you to support you,
God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

May the blessing of God the Creator, Son,
and Holy Spirit be upon you.

Go in peace and love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

Week at a Glance

Monday, December 18

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga

Parlor

1-3:30 pm Staff Meeting

Conference Room

Tuesday, December 19

11:45 am–2 pm Crafty Critters

E2

Wednesday, December 20

3-6 pm Staff Open House

McEntyre's House

(Office closed 2:30-5 pm)

6-8 pm Youth Christmas Party

McEntyre's House

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Thursday, December 21

6:30-7:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 24

9:15 am Awakening Worship Service

Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Small Group Hour

Various Classrooms

11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

Sanctuary

11 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service

Sanctuary

Announcements

Dreaming Together in 2018

Sunday, January 7 and 14, 10:15 am: Community Leader Forum: During the Sunday Morning Small Group Hour, we will hear from different community leaders about Columbia from their perspectives. It is an opportunity to learn more about the community we are called to serve!

Sunday, January 28, 9:15 am: Combined Worship & Ministry Review: We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we will move to the fellowship hall for a continental breakfast and a ministry review. This will be an opportunity to learn about all the different ministries and to reflect on them. To ask questions like: what in congregational life is working well? What needs improvement? If we were going to drop something, what would it be?

Saturday, February 3, 9:00 am: Visioning Listening Session: Dr. Chris Gambill will lead us in a time of reflection on our past. This will be opportunity for you to share what the church means to you and when we have been at our best.

Sunday, February 4, 9:15 am: Combined Worship & Visioning Listening Session: We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we will move to the fellowship hall for a continental breakfast and a visioning session led by Dr. Chris Gambill in which we will reflect on the gifts God has given us and how we might use them in unique ways for ministry.

Staff Open House

You are invited to the First Baptist staff open house on Wednesday, December 20 from 3-6 pm at the home of Michael and Carol McEntyre at 1604 Brady Place. As a staff, we feel grateful to serve at First Baptist. This is our way of saying "thank you!" to First Baptist for being so good to us and for making our job easy!

Christmas Eve Worship

Awakening Contemporary worship and Traditional worship services will be held at their regular times on the morning of Christmas Eve. Awakening worship is at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall, and Traditional worship is at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary. At 11 pm, we will gather again in the sanctuary for our Christmas Eve candlelight service. We celebrate the coming of Christ with the singing of carols, the telling of the Christmas story, and the tradition of sharing the light with candles to the strains of "Silent Night." The service is a wonderful "homecoming" for all. It's also the easiest time to invite others to worship with you, so bring family and friends to join us in worship!

Critical Conversations in Troubled Times

Beginning in January, First Baptist will be partnering with Second Missionary Baptist Church and Broadway Christian Church to participate in a conversation about racism and how faith communities can help bring about grassroots change. The kickoff will be a potluck dinner on January 14 at 4:30 at Second Missionary Baptist Church in Columbia. The meat will be provided. You are invited to bring a dish of food to share.

The conversation will revolve around reading and discussing "America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America" by Jim Wallis. We will meet monthly on a Sunday evening to talk about the book and learn from one another. The books are being provided by a grant, which Broadway received. To get your free book and join the conversation, RSVP to Janet Deneke at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

The Calling for Youth

The Youth Christmas Party will be Wednesday, December 20 at the McEntyre's house from 6-8 pm (following the church open house). We will eat and celebrate a great year with our legendary gift exchange. Please bring a gift (\$5-\$10 range) to share. We will have a shocking amount of fun. Your friends are welcome to join us. The Calling will resume regular weekly gatherings on Wednesday, January 10.

Church Business Meeting

A business meeting will be held on January 21 at 10:15 (during the Small Group hour) to discuss and approve the budget and the nomination of church leadership for 2018.

First Kids Music

First Kids Music is on a well-deserved break, and will next meet on Sunday, January 14 at 4 pm to begin preparing to sing in combined worship February 4, and during Easter worship on April 1.

Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University will be offered on Wednesday evenings, January 10 through March 7, 2018 from 6-7:30 pm in the conference room. Amanda Jacobs will facilitate the class, which is based on videos and reading materials by Dave Ramsey. You can save \$20 on registration by visiting <https://fpu.com/1053453>.

Worship Notes

Angels We Have Heard on High, traditional hymn.

The Advent candle lighting reading is adapted from a liturgy by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>.

When God Is a Child WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

You Are Our God, used by permission of Summit Worship.

Mary Did You Know by Buddy Green | Mark Lowry (1515189)

He Shall Reign Forevermore by Chris Tomlin | Matt Maher (7050416)

The Benediction was written by Cornelius “Neal” Plantinga Jr., president emeritus of Calvin Theological Seminary.

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Thank you for worshiping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.



9:15 am Awakening Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more traditional worship experience, First Baptist Church offers Traditional Worship at 11:15 a.m. each Sunday in the Sanctuary.

For Children During Worship:

1st- 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups which dive into various topics (visitors and guests welcomed):

Faith Forum in the second floor classroom, next to the elevator.

Discussion Class in the parlor on the second floor.

Young Adult Small Group in the 2nd floor library.

1112 E. Broadway | 573-442-1149 | www.fbc-columbia.org

Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † *Ed Rollins*, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident

Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Director

Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † *Brenda Rice*, Project Coordinator

Bethany James, Nursery Director † *Jason Bell*, Custodian