

# Reflecting on the Pandemic

A SERVICE OF LAMENT, HEALING, AND RESILIENCE



# *Our Worship of God*

*June 27, 2021*

*11:15 am*

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**Welcome and Setting of Intention**

Pastor Carol McEntyre

**Prelude**

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Zabel

**†Call to Worship (responsive)**

Sustaining God, as we come to this hour,  
We bring with us our own unique experiences and emotions.

**May we bring our whole selves before you.**

Collectively we cry:

**Gather us in to your love, O God.**

We who are weary and we who are hopeful

**we who rejoice and we who mourn**

we who have felt sustained by your hand

and we who are wondering where you are

**we who are anxious and we who are calm**

we who are peaceful and we who are angry

**we who feel nothing and we who feel everything**

we who are certain and we who are filled with doubt

**And we who are everything in between**

May we, who have gathered in spirit and in body,  
bringing all that we are and all that we have experienced,  
feel sustained by your love and this family of faith.

**May we honor this moment as sacred as we bring our doubts, our  
grief, our joys, and our hopes before you and one another in this  
bold act of worship. Amen.**

## †Opening Song

Be Thou My Vision

*Be Thou my vision  
O Lord of my heart  
Naught be all else to me  
Save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought  
By day or by night  
Waking or sleeping  
Thy presence my light*

*Be Thou my wisdom  
Be Thou my true Word  
I ever with Thee  
And Thou with me Lord  
Thou my great Father  
I Thy true son  
Thou in me dwelling  
And I with Thee one*

*High King of heaven  
When vict'ry is won  
May I reach heaven's joys  
O bright heaven's Sun  
Heart of my own heart  
Whatever befall  
Still be my vision  
O Ruler of all*

## Litany for Bearing Witness

Russ Scott

Elizabeth Dexheimer

Khaki Westerfield

Bob Hoell

Listening God,

This has been a tough season for all of us in one way or another.  
We've experienced shifts and griefs in our existing roles  
and have taken on new roles,  
some by choice, but many out of necessity.

**We name these experiences aloud today, O God,  
trusting that you hear, you see, and you love.**

For the single person who struggled with loneliness and the lack of physical touch.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the caregivers who felt inadequate as they tried to manage virtual learning and their kids' wide range of emotions, all while attempting to manage their own complex emotions.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the teachers who hung on by a thread, experiencing burnout as they tried to teach both in-person and online.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the teenagers who felt alone and isolated from their peers.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For those who gave birth, married, graduated, and had other significant milestones without any family or friends to celebrate with them or support them.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the children who were frustrated because they felt they didn't have any control over what was happening in their lives.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the grandparents felt disconnected from their grandkids, watching them grow up on a screen.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For those who grieved the death of a loved one and were unable to safely mourn with friends and family.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For all who felt uneasy and anxious as the world shifted rapidly around them.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For the children of aging parents, who were not able to visit or care for them.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For those who lost their jobs and or whose businesses closed.

**Christ, have mercy.**

For disciples who wondered where God was in all this.

**Christ, have mercy.**

Loving God, we lift these experiences to you, trusting that you see each and every one of us—those named and those not named.

**May we continue the journey in faith,  
knowing that you walk with us. Amen.**

### **Children's Moment**

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

*At this time, children are invited to the front  
to sit on the steps with Pastor Brittany.*

### **Congregational Response (unison)**

**We see you. We hear you. We love you.**

## Scripture Reading

Nancy Clark

### Psalm 6:2-7

Be gracious to me, O Lord, for I am languishing;  
    O Lord, heal me, for my bones are shaking with terror.  
My soul also is struck with terror,  
    while you, O Lord—how long?  
Turn, O Lord, save my life;  
    deliver me for the sake of your steadfast love.  
For in death there is no remembrance of you;  
    in Sheol who can give you praise?  
I am weary with my moaning;  
    every night I flood my bed with tears;  
    I drench my couch with my weeping.  
My eyes waste away because of grief;  
    they grow weak because of all my foes.

**All: May the peace of Christ dwell where the Word of God is spoken.**

## Refrain

O Lord Hear My Prayer

*O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
when I call answer me.  
O Lord, hear my prayer,  
O Lord, hear my prayer;  
come and listen to me.*

## A Time for Lament

Pastor Michael McEntyre

*What have you lost? Where did you feel God's absence?*

## Song of Lament

Lament

*You say you're near to the broken  
You say your peace passes understanding  
You say you're hope for the hurting  
Where are you now*

*So come close I'm on the verge of breaking  
Come close I'm desperate for your presence  
Come close the weight of pain is crushing  
Come close*

*She touched your hem and you healed her  
You opened eyes with the dirt we walk on  
When will I wake from this nightmare  
Where are you now, where are you now*

*So come close I'm on the verge of breaking  
Come close I'm desperate for your presence  
Come close the weight of pain is crushing  
Come close*

*You are good you are good  
I believe you are good  
You are good you are good  
I still believe you are good  
You are good you are good  
I believe you are good  
You are good you are good  
I still believe that you are good  
So come close I'm on the verge of breaking  
Come close I'm desperate for your presence  
Come close the weight of pain is crushing  
Come close*

*If you're not scared of my questions  
Where are you now*

## Grounding in God's Love and Care

Pastor Carol McEntyre

### Hymn of Presence 519

It Is Well

*When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
When sorrows like sea billows roll,  
Whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
“It is well, it is well with my soul.”  
It is well, it is well,  
With my soul, with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
Let this blest assurance control:  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
And has shed his own blood for my soul.  
It is well, it is well,  
With my soul, with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*My sin—O, the bliss of this glorious thought,  
My sin—not in part but the whole,  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more:  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!  
It is well, it is well,  
With my soul, with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,  
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,  
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend:  
“Even so”—it is well with my soul.  
It is well, it is well,  
With my soul, with my soul,  
It is well, it is well with my soul.*

## A Turn Towards Resilience

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

*What was gained? Where did you feel God's presence?*

### Scripture and Song 612

#### Isaiah 43

##### **Isaiah 43:1-4**

But now thus says the Lord,  
    he who created you, O Jacob,  
    he who formed you, O Israel:  
Do not fear, for I have redeemed you;  
    I have called you by name, you are mine.  
When you pass through the waters, I will be with you;  
    and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you;  
when you walk through fire you shall not be burned,  
    and the flame shall not consume you.  
For I am the Lord your God,  
    the Holy One of Israel, your Savior.  
I give Egypt as your ransom,  
    Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.  
Because you are precious in my sight,  
    and honored, and I love you,  
I give people in return for you,  
    nations in exchange for your life.

##### **How Firm a Foundation (verse 1)**

*How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord,  
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word!  
What more can he say than to you he hath said,  
To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?*

## **Isaiah 43:5-7**

Do not fear, for I am with you;  
I will bring your offspring from the east,  
and from the west I will gather you;  
I will say to the north, “Give them up,”  
and to the south, “Do not withhold;  
bring my sons from far away  
and my daughters from the end of the earth—  
everyone who is called by my name,  
whom I created for my glory,  
whom I formed and made.”

## **How Firm a Foundation (verse 2)**

*Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,  
For I am thy God, and will still give thee aid;  
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,  
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.*

## **Isaiah 43:14-17**

Thus says the Lord,  
your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:  
For your sake I will send to Babylon  
and break down all the bars,  
and the shouting of the Chaldeans will be turned to lamentation.  
I am the Lord, your Holy One,  
the Creator of Israel, your King.  
Thus says the Lord,  
who makes a way in the sea,  
a path in the mighty waters,  
who brings out chariot and horse,  
army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise,  
they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:

## **How Firm a Foundation (verse 3)**

*“When through the deep waters I call thee to go,  
The rivers of sorrow shall not overflow;  
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,  
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.”*

### **Isaiah 43:18-19**

Do not remember the former things,  
or consider the things of old.  
I am about to do a new thing;  
now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness  
and rivers in the desert.

## **How Firm a Foundation (verse 4)**

*“When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,  
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply;  
The flame shall not hurt thee, I only design  
Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine.”*

### **Homily**

Carol McEntyre

### **Ritual of Cleansing**

### **Song of Response**

I Have This Hope

*As I walk this great unknown  
Questions come and questions go  
Was there purpose for the pain  
Or did I cry these tears in vain*

*I don't wanna live in fear  
I wanna trust that You are near*

*Trust Your grace can be seen  
In both triumph and tragedy*

*I have this hope  
In the depths of my soul  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go*

*But sometimes my faith feels thin  
Like the night will never end  
Will You catch every tear  
Or will You just leave me here*

*I have this hope  
In the depths of my soul  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go*

*I have this hope  
In the depths of my soul  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go*

*Whatever happens I will not be afraid  
'Cause You are closer than this breath that I take  
You calm the storm when I hear You call my name  
I still believe that one day I'll see Your face*

*I have this hope  
In the depths of my soul  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me*

*I have this hope  
In the depths of my soul  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go*

*In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go  
In the flood or the fire  
You are with me and You won't let go*

## **+Renewal of our Church Covenant (unison)**

Pastor Michael McEntyre

**Because we have responded to Christ's call  
to follow him as disciples  
and because we find this calling  
too difficult and too important to fulfill alone,  
we covenant together to support and to  
pray for one another without ceasing;  
to be candid in our speech, kind in our attitudes,  
and caring in all our dealings with one another;  
to seek the mind and vision of Christ for ourselves  
and our life together,  
mindful that our unity does not require uniformity.**

**Moreover, we covenant to give first priority  
to our times of public worship and learning;  
to sustain our common mission by proportionate giving,  
faithful service and personal witness;  
to live our lives in a manner worthy  
of the gospel we profess and of this family of faith;  
and to seek others' forgiveness  
and God's when we fail to honor this covenant,  
trusting God's Spirit to renew us  
in stronger faith, brighter hope and broader love.**

## **†Benediction (responsive)**

Remember each day that you are chosen by God.

Be open to the spiritual blessings available at all times.

**We are cleansed and free, purified and made whole.**

**Great is our God and greatly to be praised.!**

Dwell in the mystery of God's will for you.

Dare to reach out in love to those who share your world.

**We will seek God's counsel daily.**

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# Worship Notes

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*It is Well*, Words: Horatio G. Spafford, 1873. Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1876.

*How Firm a Foundation*, Words: Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787, from Isaiah 43:1-5. Music: Traditional American melody; Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1832.

*Be Thou My Vision*, CCLI Song # 30639, Eleanor Henrietta Hull | Mary Elizabeth Byrne

*Lament*, CCLI Song # 7107732, Brandon Lake | Garrett Abel | Martin Chalk | Micah Nichols | Nate Davis

*I Have This Hope*, CCLI Song # 7071188, Jason Ingram | Jeff Owen | Mike Donehey

*Benediction*, Commission and Blessing, ©1996 United Church Press. By Lavon Bayler

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# Week at a Glance

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## Sunday, June 27

10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour

– Adult, Youth small groups & First Kids Sunday School

11:15 am In-person Worship in the sanctuary and streamed online

12:15 pm First Baptist Hiking Club meets in church parking lot to carpool to  
Binder Memorial Park in Jefferson City

## Tuesday, June 29

1:00 pm -3:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

## Wednesday, June 30

7:45 pm Chancel Choir

## Friday, July 2

12:15 pm Jesus Calling: Women's Devotional and Prayer Time via Zoom

## Sunday, July 4

9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour

– Adult, Youth small groups & First Kids Sunday School

11:15 am Traditional Worship in the sanctuary and streamed online

## Monday, July 5

Independence Day Holiday – Offices Closed

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# Announcements

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## Visitors and Prayer Requests

If you are visiting with us online, 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 visitor card at [fbc-columbia.org/guest](http://fbc-columbia.org/guest) or use this QR code.



## First Baptist Hiking Club - June 27

The Hiking Club's next hike is taking place today, June 27 at Binder Memorial Park in Jefferson City. To join this next adventure, meet at church to carpool and caravan at 12:15 pm directly after the church service. Be sure to bring a picnic lunch to enjoy! This is a new trail to Misty and Kimberly as well so it will be an adventure to all. The hike is a shorter loop with some elevation changes with lake, woods, and stream views. Contact Misty or Kimberly and visit our Facebook Group "FBC Hiking Group" for more information.

## New Worship Schedule July 4

We are excited to announce that beginning Sunday, July 4, Awakening and Traditional Worship will be meeting inside! We have some work to do on our webcasting system in the Fellowship Hall, but our hope is that both worship services will be hybrid, meaning people can join us, in person or online. For the time being, seating in the Fellowship Hall and Sanctuary will be arranged to allow for social distancing. Masks will be required at all times for attendees, even if vaccinated. We have a lot of children at First Baptist who have not had the opportunity to be vaccinated yet. If everyone is masked, it will make it easier for them to continue to wear their masks.

## Ordination of Jon Ludwig

On Sunday, July 18 at 5:00 pm we invite you to join us in the sanctuary for the ordination of Jon Ludwig. Jon has been part of First Baptist since 2016 and served as our Pastoral Care Intern this spring. In 2014, Jon graduated from Fuller Seminary and since then, has worked in ministry, has been a stay-at-home parent, and a volunteer chaplain at University Hospital. This fall, Jon plans to take the next step in his ministry career as he moves to California for a residency in hospital chaplaincy at Community Regional Hospital in Fresno, CA. Along with this, Jon is going through the process to be endorsed by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship as a chaplain and is seeking ordination at First Baptist as part of that journey. The Church Council affirmed Jon's ordination request and put together an ordination council made up of members of our congregation including Gary Ostercamp, Dave Walker, Stephen Hoell, Kimberly Moeller, Rena Tratchel and Henry Imler.

## Compassion Camp - July 11-15

Compassion Camp is back for another year of fun, worship, and wonder and this time we will get to explore compassion face-to-face! This year's theme is "Changing the World with Lovingkindness." Through Bible stories, play, music, movement, and compassion in action, campers will explore what it means to have compassion for ourselves, others, and the world. This year, there are two separate opportunities for Compassion Campers. By offering two camps, we can increase capacity for both groups while providing a fun and safe environment. Additionally, crafts, games, Bible stories, and time allocated for each activity will be better tailored to each age group.

### **First Kids**

First Kids Camp will take place on July 11-15 from 5:30-7:30 pm and is open for children entering Kindergarten through those who have completed 5th grade. Families can bring dinner and picnic on the front lawn before kids gather in the fellowship hall for opening worship! In addition, the whole family is encouraged to participate in our closing gathering each night at 7:15 pm to worship and celebrate together.

### **Preschool**

Preschool Camp will take place for children 3-years-old through 5-years-old and their families on Friday, July 16 from 5:30-7:00 pm and Saturday, July 17 from 9:00-10:30 am. This abbreviated version of Compassion Camp will explore the themes of love for others and love for ourselves through play, songs, and stories.

Register now at [www.fbc-columbia.org/compassioncamp](http://www.fbc-columbia.org/compassioncamp)

For more information, or to volunteer for Compassion Camp, email Compassion Camp Director, Lillian Hoell at  
[firstkidscamp@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:firstkidscamp@fbc-columbia.org)

*Family kits will be available in July for those unable to participate in Compassion Camp but who would still like to explore the theme as a family!*



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Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Amy Johns, Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian