

Our Worship of God

January 26, 2020

11:15 am

(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Greeting

Michael McEntyre

Prelude

Christ for the World We Sing!

arr. Lani Smith

+Call to Worship (responsive)

In the beginning God created all things, and God saw that they were good. At our beginning, God created us unique and irreplaceable, loved and wanted by God. In all our new beginnings, God creates something new, so we will seek God in the freshness of this morning, in the laughter of friends, in the colors of creation, and in this beautiful place. Creator and Sustainer of all, open our eyes to see your presence, our souls to sense your presence, and our hearts to love your presence, ever here in your creation, and ever proclaiming we're enough. **+**Processional Hymn 52

I Sing the Mighty Power of God (Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

+Passing the Peace of Christ

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Encourager Church

Jeff Langford

Covenant with Mary Van Rheenen and Keith Holmes

God calls us to the grand and lowly task of servant work; and God calls us each to the particular task toward which we have been equipped and inspired.

We have heard the voice that commissions us all. We give thanks to the God who makes us co-laborers.

Today we celebrate the ministry of CBF Field Personnel Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen, and we as a congregation join with them by becoming their Encourager Church. What shall be said to them?

We recognize and affirm your ministry. We thank God for your obedience. We charge you to hold fast to your calling, to root yourself firmly in the Spirit and the Word of God. Bear your witness bravely and tenderly, preach and teach with tolerance and gentleness and discipline. Pray without ceasing and pray for us. Allow us to walk alongside you, and you continue your ministry to the Romany people. Communicate with us regularly so we can celebrate with you and weep with you, knowing we are embarking on a mutual journey of transformation.

Field Personnel: We commit ourselves to the calling of our God. We promise to enlighten you on the work of the Spirit in our lives and in the lives of those with whom we minister. We convent to serve as advocates for First Baptist, praying for you, as you pray for us. With thanksgiving, we ask you to encourage us, support us, strengthen us, and pray for us.

These things we will do.

Let us uphold one another in fervent love that we may be faithful to our Lord. Let us covenant together, along with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, to encourage one another, to support one another, to deepen our relationships, and to bear a consistent witness to Christ.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

Prayer of Blessing for Keith and Mary

Mark Thomas

†Song of Praise

Awakening Praise Band

Follow You Anywhere

Grounded in Blessing

Pastor Carol McEntyre

I am God's Beloved. I find my home in God. Blessing resides in me. I am enough.

Scripture Reading

Genesis 3:1-13

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden; but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die." But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die; for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate; and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man, and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked; and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Prayer of Confession

We long for wisdom, O God, but prefer that it be our own. We turn away from the ideas of others and ignore the possibility and promise that come from life together with you. We drown out your gift of Wisdom as she seeks to get our attention, for we believe that we know better or would prefer to decide where we make her welcome. **Forgive us, loving God.**

Bring an end to the self-righteousness that ignores you, and awaken us anew to the Wisdom that comes only from you.

Show us how to walk in your ways and listen to your promise each and every day.

Words of Assurance

Even as Adam and Eve faced the consequences of their disobedience, our God prepared a way for them still to be connected to the earth and to the living presence of God. So it is with all of us: in Christ's life, ministry, death, and resurrection, we are made able to persist, upright and strong, for our sins are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

+Hymn 62

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

Message

Revisitng the Garden

Carol McEntyre

+Song of Response

Awakening Praise Band

God I Look to You

+Offertory Sentence

Offertory

We Are Singing, for the Lord is our Light Chancel Choir Hal H. Hopson

Refrain:

We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing, for the lord is our light. We are singing, for the Lord is our light, we are singing for the Lord is our light.

+Benediction

May the God who fashioned the universe in love move freely among and within us.

May our lives embody the light of Christ and our togetherness bring forth a community of belovedness.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God who calls us good and proclaims we're enough.

Bios of our CBF Field Personnel

Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen were commissioned by the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship in 1996. They serve as resource coordinators to the Romany ministry group.

Keith Holmes is from Baton Rouge, Louisiana, but has lived in the Netherlands since 1996. He earned his M.A. in anthropology, minor in linguistics, from Louisiana State in 1987, where he met his future wife, Mary Van Rheenen. Mary is also an anthropologist, focusing on cultural identity. Keith did his linguistic fieldwork among the Garifuna (Black Carib) of Belize, Central America, and also worked in Korea for two years. Keith's main task is to provide and distribute culturally appropriate media resources for Romany Christians and others working to evangelize and disciple Romany. Additionally, Keith serves as a recording specialist for Faith Comes By Hearing and records the New Testament in European languages as well as Romany languages.

Mary was born in Michigan, grew up in Illinois, and received her BA from Northwestern College in Iowa. She served two years with the Mennonite Central Committee in Louisiana, worked with marketing folk arts in Louisiana and Illinois, and taught three years at Northwestern, the last year together with Keith. Since being commissioned by CBF, Mary has focused on Romany education and Romany-related projects in the Republic of Moldova. The Holmes/Van Rheenens have two grown daughters, Ellen and Rebecca, both of whom live in the Netherlands.

Worship Notes

Bulletin cover design by Brittany McDonald Null.

Call to Worship, ~ Adapted from Liturgy of Creation. Posted on Third Space blog.

Follow You Anywhere, Brett Younker, Kristian Stanfill, Jason Ingram, and Phil Wickham, CCLI #7123196

Prayer of Confession, written by Rev. Andy James, New York. Posted on LiturgyLink.

Assurance of Pardon, from *Tempting! Service Prayers for the First Sunday of Lent*, written by the Rev. Elizabeth Dilley. Posted on the United Church of Christ's **Worship Ways** website.

God I Look To You, Jenn Johnson, CCLI# 5858163

Benediction, written by Danielle Shroyer as a complement to her book, *original Blessing: Putting sin in its rightful place*.

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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.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, January 26

11:15 am Combined Worship12:15 pm Annual Business Meeting6:00 pm College & Young Adult Kick-Off

Monday, January 27

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga 1-3:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, January 28

11:45 am-2:00 pm Crafty Critters

Wednesday, January 29

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal6:00 pm The Calling6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary Fellowship Hall Level Up

Parlor Office Commons

Conference Room

Fellowship Hall Student Suite Sanctuary Sanctuary

Announcements

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here

We would love to help you connect with our church. To learn more about First Baptist, fill out an information card during worship and drop it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after worship. You can also stop by the Connections table and pick up our newsletter, *The Spire*. Information about our Children's Ministry and some of our adult small groups can be found on the back of the bulletin.

Annual Business Meeting – Today Following Worship

Our Annual Business Meeting will be held in the Fellowship Hall following worship. We will pause to look back at the highlights of the last year and celebrate all that God has done in and through us. We will talk about ministry plans for 2020, vote on the Nominating Committee report and the 2020 budget. Lunch will be provided for a suggested donation of \$6.00. The nursery will be open from 10:15 am through the business meeting, and children 3-years-old through 5th grade are invited to the third floor for pizza, games, and activities following usual 11:15 am activities.

College & Young Adult Kick-off – Tonight

On January 26, at 6:00 pm we will be having our College & Young Adult Kick-off at Level Up Entertainment, located at the mall. Our group will begin with a game of Bowling and will conclude with a game of laser tag in their brand-new course!

New Small Group Opportunity - The Color of Compromise

Beginning February 2 during the 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour, there will be a new small group focused on various forms of privilege and how we move forward. The group, led by Misty Phillips, Dave Walker, Julie Walker, and Lynne Lampe, will meet in the conference room and use the book *The Color of Compromise* by Jamar Tisby as the basis for the discussions. This book about the history of racial oppression in our country and the church's complicity. Each week, the group will focus on one chapter from the book. Books are \$15 each. To register, email the church office at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

Chancel Bells Seeking New Ringers

Are you interested in joining an amazing group of church folk in making music for the praise and glory of God? The Chancel Bells are looking for new members! You don't need experience with bells to try them out, just a desire to lift a song to God. The ensemble rehearses on Wednesdays from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary. If you are interested or want to know more, please contact Noah Hartsfield, Interim Handbell Director, at nhartsfield2010@gmail.com.

Sweet Treat Bake Off – February 14

Join us on February 14 at 7 pm in the Parlor for a Sweet Treat Bake Off. All ages can enter! Bring your favorite games to share while we indulge on some delectable treats. Those interested in joining the competition can email Paula Thomas at paulalou52@gmail.com

Christianity & Transgender Inclusion Event – February 21 & 22

Join us for an ecumenical event focused on Christianity and Transgender Inclusion. Our guest speaker, transgender theologian, Austen Hartke, will be leading us for this two-day event. Austen is a graduate of Luther Seminary's Master of Arts program in Old Testament and Hebrew Bible Studies, and author of *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians*. An LGBTQ+ Affirming Worship Service will be held at 6:30 pm on Friday, February 21, after which Hartke will share his coming out story and talk about the biblical stories that give him strength as an adult in a session called *Transgender and Christian: A Coming Out and Coming Home Story*. On Saturday, February 22, at 10:00 am, Hartke will lead *The Bible and Transgender Christian's Seminar* in a session that explores the biblical texts historically used to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community. Then he will dig into stories of biblical characters who didn't fit the mold when it came to gender expression. Childcare is available upon request.

Ash Wednesday Service – February 26

Lent, the six-week period leading up to Easter begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. Join us at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall as we begin our journey through Lent together.



For Children During Worship:

<u>Birth-Kindergarteners</u> can be checked in at the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

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

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

<u>Birth-Age 3 Childcare</u> is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, which is located next to the sanctuary.

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

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

Adult Small Groups are located on the second floor:

-Discussion Group (Parlor) has begun an in-depth study of 1 Corinthians.

Everyone is welcome to join the conversation.

-Faith Forum (Elevator Lobby Classroom) is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day together, share information, and ask questions to learn from one another.

-Connections Group (office commons) is made up of younger adults. They spend time building community, sharing life, and often take on heady theological topics.

*The all-gender restroom is located in the Child Development Center Hallway outside the Sanctuary.

<u>Church Staff</u>

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Interim Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Interim Assistant Pastor

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

Marques J. Ruff, Interim Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian