



— *the* —  
**HEART**  
*of the matter*  
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# *Our Worship of God*

*April 26, 2020*

*11:15 am*

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## ❧ **The Heart of the Matter** ❧ **Easter Sermon Series**

**Prelude**

The Strife is O'er  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. L. Smith

**Welcome**

Pastor Carol McEntyre

**Centering our Hearts as One (responsive)**

Holy Living God,  
Heartbeat of creation,  
help us to take this time to center on you,  
for you made us,  
you gave us life,  
and you continue to be with us  
every moment,  
every breath,  
every step.

**Be still, O heart, you're not alone.  
The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

*At this time, we invite you to light a candle at your place of worship  
as a reminder that even in our darkest hour, God is with us.*

## Hymn of Assurance

Come and Find the Quiet Center  
Sung to BEACH SPRING

*Come and find the quiet center  
in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter,  
find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter,  
clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter,  
be at peace, and simply be.*

*Silence is a friend who claims us,  
cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us,  
knows our being, touches base,  
lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking,  
finding scope for faith begun.*

*In the Spirit let us travel,  
open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel,  
celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming,  
there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming  
there is always room to spare!*

## A Prayer for Cares and Concerns

*Throughout this series, worshipers are invited to bring a “worry stone” to worship.  
Take a moment while holding your rock to speak your concerns out loud  
and then lay them by the candle as an offering to God.*

Holy One, into your care, we offer  
our worries, fears and strife.

**You are our refuge and strength;  
an ever present help in trouble.**

**Special Music**

**Goodness of God**

*Shelby Myers, voice and guitar*

*I love You Lord  
Oh Your mercy never fails me  
All my days  
I've been held in Your hands  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head  
I will sing of the goodness of God*

*All my life You have been faithful  
All my life You have been so so good  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God*

*I love Your voice  
You have led me through the fire  
In darkest night  
You are close like no other  
I've known You as a father  
I've known You as a friend  
I have lived in the goodness of God*

*Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me  
With my life laid down  
I'm surrendered now  
I give You everything  
Your goodness is running after  
It's running after me*

## Scripture Reading

Pastor Michael McEntyre

### Psalm 23

#### A Psalm of David.

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.  
He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;  
he restores my soul.  
He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;  
for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord  
my whole life long.

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

## Sharing our Gifts

## Song of Hope

Shepherd Me, O God

*Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,  
beyond my fears, from death into life.*

*God is my shepherd, so nothing I shall want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.*

*Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your Name.*

*Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.*

*You have set me a banquet of love in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my pow'r to hold.  
Surely your kindness and mercy follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.*

## Gospel Reading

Lilianna McClanahan-Yelton

### **John 10:11-15**

“I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep.

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise be to Christ.**

**Hymn 522**

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*Savior, like a Shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;  
In thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou has bought us, thine we are;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou has bought us, thine we are.*

*We are thine, do thou befriend us, be the guardian of our way;  
Keep thy flock, from sin defend us, seek us when we go astray:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear, O hear us when we pray.*

*Thou hast promised to receive us, poor and sinful though we be;  
Thou hast mercy to relieve us, grace to cleanse, and power to free:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to thee;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, early let us turn to thee.*

*Early let us seek thy favor, early let us do thy will;  
Blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our bosoms fill:  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.*

**Message**

Carol McEntyre

**Song of Response**

You Satisfy My Soul

*You satisfy my soul  
You satisfy my soul  
You satisfy my soul with Your love*

*You make my heart sing  
You lift me on eagles' wings  
Just when I thought my heart would faint  
You take the darkest night  
And turn it to shining light  
Just when I thought that the night had won*

*Hallelujah You make all things beautiful  
Hallelujah trials and testing proves there's gold  
Hallelujah You turn mourning into joy*

## Affirmation of Faith (unison)

**I believe I need a shepherd.  
Because I am sometimes timid and other times overconfident,  
because I often don't know the best path yet pretend I do,  
because I rush into dead ends or lead others into hazardous places,  
because my brightest ideas are seamed with darkness,  
because the things I crave may not be what is good for me,  
I need a shepherd.**

**I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd;  
his wisdom leads me to the best opportunities,  
his word comforts me when I'm anxious or afraid,  
his arm steadies me when I feel weary and heavy-laden,  
his wounded body displays the cost of my rescue.,  
I believe in Jesus, the best possible shepherd.  
I believe that I do not find him but he finds me,  
that I under his care by virtue of sheer grace,  
the love he gives me is to be shared with others,  
that he treasures my name and prepares a place for me,  
that his fold transfixes earth and heaven.  
I trust Jesus, the good shepherd. Amen.**

## Life of the Church

### Benediction

As we close this time together remember:  
God is always with you. No matter what you face,  
No matter what trials or hardships come your way,  
God, the Comforter, is with you.  
So, acknowledge your fear and worry  
and know it is as true and holy as any feeling,  
Including joy and hope and love.  
Take heart!

**God is our refuge and strength.  
This is the heart of the matter.  
Amen.**

## Postlude

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

arr. Jordan

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## Worship Notes

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*Come and Find the Quiet Center*, Words © 1992, 2005 Hope Publishing Company, 380 S Main Pl, Carol Stream, IL 60188

*This I Believe*, — Copyright © 2002 Bruce D. Prewer. Posted on Bruce Prewer's Home Page.

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*, Words: *Hymns for the Young 1836*, attr. Dorothy A. Thrupp. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1859

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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.

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## Week at a Glance

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### Tuesday, April 28

8:30 am Virtual Coffee Hour with Pastor Brittany

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

4:00 pm First Kids Connect

*Children's Online Zoom call with Pastor Brittany McDonald Null*

### Wednesday, April 29

12:00 pm Zoom at Noon

*Online Zoom call with Pastor Carol McEntyre*

6:00 pm The Calling Online

*Online Zoom meeting with Pastor Michael McEntyre*

6:30 pm Chancel Bells Check-in

*Online Zoom meeting with Noah Hartsfield*

9:00 pm Midweek Sanity Check for Parents

### Sunday, May 3

10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study and Small Groups

*Online Zoom Churchwide Bible Study*

11:15 am Online Worship Service

*Stream the worship service by clicking "Watch Us Live" from link at the top of our website*

2:30 pm Awakening Praise Band Gathering

6:00 pm Young Adult Check-In

Information regarding Zoom meetings  
is available on our website:  
[www.fbc-columbia.org](http://www.fbc-columbia.org)  
Go to: "Get Involved" tab  
and then click "Online Gatherings"

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# Announcements

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## New Zoom Information

During this period of physical distancing, we believe it is important to stay connected as a church family. First Baptist is offering several opportunities to connect throughout the week. More information can be found at <http://fbc-columbia.org/get-involved/online-gatherings/> and an email with all of the links will be sent out this week. Below is a list of the online gatherings being offered this week. If you have any questions about any of the gatherings, contact Brittany, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation.

- Sunday
  - 10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
  - 10:15 am Connections Small Group
  - 10:15 am Discussions Class
  - 10:15 am Youth Small Group
  - 2:30 pm Awakening Praise Band Gathering
  - 6:00 pm Young Adult Check-in
- Tuesday
  - 8:30 am Coffee Hour with Pastor Brittany
  - 1:00 pm Crafty Critters
  - 4:00 pm First Kids Connect
- Wednesday
  - 12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol
  - 6:00 pm The Calling Online
  - 6:30 pm Chancel Bells Weekly Gathering
  - 9:00 pm Midweek Sanity Check for Parents

## Financial Assistance for Those Affected by COVID-19

If you have found yourself in need of financial assistance in this disruptive time of a global pandemic, please reach out to any of our pastors (by phone or email) to notify us of your need. We have a Benevolence Fund, which can respond in times such as these. The Missions Council has also set aside additional funds to provide relief and the church is considering further ways in which we can be of greater assistance. Please know that all such requests are confidential. We will get through this together!

## 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, let us know you are with us today by texting “guest” to 573-326-9490.

If you are in need of prayer, text “prayer” to 573-326-9490 and Brittany, our Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation will connect with you.

## First Baptist Book Club

The next book for the First Baptist Book Club has been selected! Join us in reading *The Sacred Enneagram: Finding Your Unique Path to Spiritual Growth*, by Christopher Heuertz. *The Sacred Enneagram* is a trustworthy, richly insightful guide applying the practical wisdom of the Enneagram for a life transformed. Lies about who we think we are keep us trapped in loops of self-defeat. But this book explores how the enneagram is more than a personality test and offers a bright path to cutting through the internal clutter and finding our way back to God and to our true identity as God created us. The group will have a midpoint check-in on May 12 over Zoom to discuss the first section of the book.

Additionally, FBBC has now launched a Facebook group!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/firstbaptistbookclub> or search First Baptist CoMo Book Club for weekly discussion questions, fun polls, and current information about meetings.

## Attention all Graduates, High School, College, and Beyond!

While we understand that our schools and colleges have had to forego the remainder of their academic year, First Baptist would still like to honor all of our high school and college graduates in a meaningful way. We are asking that all graduates (or parents of graduates) send your graduation information to Michael McEntyre by email ([mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org)) as soon as possible, but no later than Sunday May 3. For high school students, this includes your name, senior photo, school from which you are graduating, and future plans. For our college and post college grads, please include your name, recent photo, parent's names, school from which you are graduating, degree, and future plans.

For all graduates, we are asking that you include a mailing address that can be made available to our congregation to send cards and notes of congratulations. We will feature this information in the Spire and are working on the best way to recognize our graduates during an upcoming webcast.

We do not want to miss celebrating any of our graduates' accomplishments, so please help us honor all the graduates within our congregation by sending in this important information as soon as possible. In a time when we have missed out on so much, we are asking our church to help us properly recognize this important milestone in the lives of our graduates.

## First Baptist Scholarships

First Baptist Church is fortunate to have endowments specifically to help with post-high school education expenses. If you are currently enrolled in a course of study and would like to be considered for support, application forms are on our website under the under the Forms, Policies, and Payments section on the Resources page or by calling the church office. Please email applications to the church office at [churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org) by May 1. Specific scholarships are designated for women in ministry, the helping sciences, and science and engineering, in addition to support for areas outside of those designated.