



---

# Practicing Presence

AN INVITATION  
TO PRAYER

---

# *Our Worship of God*

*November 8, 2020*

*11:15 am*

---

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

Family of God, we gather today,  
knowing that God hears the cries of our hearts.

**We come today, as our full selves,**  
with our disappointments and hopes,  
**with our tears and anger,**  
with our fear and grief,  
**with our persistent prayer and calls to action.**

Family of faith, God will meet us right where we are.

**Thanks be to God, our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.**

**Opening Song**

You Meet Me Here

*Where can I go from Your presence  
Where can I run from Your Spirit  
You meet me there  
Spirit You meet me there  
Where can I go from Your presence  
Where can I hide from Your Spirit  
You find me there  
Spirit You find me there*

*From the highest highs to the lowest lows  
From the mountain top to the valley below*

*You meet me here Spirit You meet me here  
You go before me Your love surrounds me  
Changing the atmosphere*

*You don't give up even when I do  
You don't walk out when I threaten to  
You are steady when I can't be still  
Your love finds me and it always will*

*From the highest highs to the lowest lows  
From the mountain top to the valley below  
In the darkest night though I try to hide  
Even there Your light  
Shines bright like the morning*

*You meet me here Spirit You meet me here  
Always embracing never rejecting  
Your kindness draws me near*

*You meet me here.*

## **Lighting of the Christ Candle**

*At this time, we invite you to light a candle at your place of worship as a  
reminder of God's presence with us.*

## Scripture Reading

### Luke 18:1-8

Then Jesus told them a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The Gospel of our Lord.  
**Praise Be to Christ.**

## Sharing Our Gifts

### Special Music

Seek Ye First  
Mary Beth Ming, Cheryl Brewer, *vocals*  
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

## Litany for Not Losing Hope (responsive)

God, our faithful Friend:

**We know that you are not like the unjust judge in the parable.**

You are just and merciful and compassionate.

**We often find it difficult to hold suffering in our minds alongside hope.**

Our hearts are often fragile

**And our minds forgetful.**

Help us to be ok with expressing a full range of emotions:

**Lament and joy,**

Anger and affection,

**Gratitude and disgust,**

Excitement and sadness,

**Doubt and empathy.**

Help us to be disciplined, grounded in practices that bring us life:

**Prayer,**

Meditation,

**Fasting,**

Sabbath-rest,

**Worship.**

Grant us a river of hope

**That flows beneath all we do,**

In which we may refresh ourselves

**Whenever we grow weary.**

And help us to be as persistent as the widow:

**Not losing hope,**

Praying without ceasing,

**Seeking and working for justice. Amen.**

## **Practicing Prayer Through Song**

Weep With Me

*Weep with me*

*Lord will You weep with me*

*I don't need answers*

*All I need is to know that You care for me*

*Hear my plea*

*Are You even listening*

*Lord I will wrestle with Your heart*

*But I won't let You go*

*You know I believe*

*Help my unbelief*

*Yet I will praise You yet I will sing of Your name*

*Here in the shadows here I will offer my praise*

*What's true in the light is still true in the dark  
You're good and You're kind  
And You care for this heart  
Lord I believe that You weep with me*

*Part the seas  
Lord make a way for me  
Here in the midst of my lament I have faith  
Yes I still believe  
That You love me  
Your plans are to prosper me  
You're working everything for good  
Even when I can't see*

*Turn my lament into a love song  
From this lament raise up an anthem  
Oh I'll sing it in the darkness  
Turn my lament into a love song  
'Cause I love You Lord  
And from this lament raise up an anthem oh*

*Yet I will praise You yet I will sing of Your name  
Right here in the shadows*

*Right here I will offer my praise  
What's true in the light is still true in the dark  
You're good and You're kind  
And You care for this heart  
Lord I believe that You weep with me  
Yeah You weep with me*

**Message**

Pastor Carol McEntyre

## Hymn of Response

## Like a Pleading Widow

*Like a pleading widow,  
God, you press for right,  
Crying out for justice,  
Calling day and night.  
Screened in flashing image,  
Begging on the street,  
God, you never leave us,  
Ev'ry day we meet.*

*Like a hound of heaven  
You pursue us all.  
Tireless in your seeking,  
Ceaseless in your call.  
Though we draw a circle  
Meant to keep you out,  
You, in love, encompass  
Wayward fear and doubt.*

*“Oh, how long, my people,  
Will you run away?  
When will you do justice?  
Will you still delay?”  
God, we hear you speaking;  
Help us turn around,  
So that when you call us,  
Justice may be found.*

## Life of the Church

## Benediction

## Postlude

Jesu, Jesu Fill Us With Your Love  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Powell

---

# Worship Notes

---

*You Meet Me Here*, CCLI #7127602 | Anabeth Morgan, Casey Corum, Jason Dill, John Haas, and Sam Crabtree

*Litany for Not Losing Hope*, ©2018 Outpost Press. From *Call and Response: Litanies for Congregational Prayer* by Fran Pratt

*Weep With Me* -©Capitol CMG Publishing

*Like a Pleading Widow*, ©1995 The Pilgrim Press. Words: Ruth C. Duck. Music: HOPKINS by Donna Kasbohm, 1996.

**Songs printed in bulletin by permission, CCLI #1515189 & OneLicense.net #A-707314.**

Thank you for worshipping 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, November 8 (today)

5:00 pm Christian Mindfulness Zoom

Session Two

Title: God in the Present

Topic: what's in a moment?

Practice: sitting practice

## Tuesday, November 10

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

## Wednesday, November 11

12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol

6:00 pm Youth on the Front Lawn

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal

## Sunday, November 15

10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study and Small Groups

*Online Zoom Churchwide Bible Study*

10:30 am Student Ministry Group online

11:15 Online Worship Service

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

5:00 pm Christian Mindfulness Zoom

Session Three

Title: Learning Contentment

Topic: judgment & acceptance

Practice: movement practice

---

# Announcements

---

## 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.

## In-Person Worship Update

After much prayer and reflection, the Church Council decided to offer a modified, in-person/online worship opportunity in the Sanctuary beginning Sunday, November 22. Throughout the winter, we will have one Combined Worship service at 11:15, which will be held in the Sanctuary and broadcasted live via webcast. Please understand that this service, like our outdoor service, will look quite a bit different from normal to provide as much safety as possible.

## First Kids Gratitude Café

In November, First Kids is focusing on gratitude. Brittany is hosting Gratitude Café [not as catchy as Blizzards with Brittany, but we're rolling with it].

Families can sign-up for a slot and Brittany will deliver Hot Chocolate (or apple cider) and do a gratitude practice with your family while the beverages cool. Email Brittany ([bnull@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:bnull@fbc-columbia.org)) for the link to register. In the form there is a place to write down times that will work around your family's school schedule!

## Give to One Great Hour of Sharing

This November, Give to American Baptist Churches -One Great Hour of Sharing to help with ongoing disaster relief. The pandemic has changed countless dynamics of our everyday life, but unfortunately for many in our country right now, the damage and displacement caused by wildfires and hurricanes has exponentially compounded this reality. This November, we are proud to support the mission efforts of our American Baptist partners through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering as they work to respond to the needs created by these natural disasters. Through this offering, we are joining with those who are currently working to overcome tragedy and destruction, as well as those who will remain after the relief efforts are finished to continue the good work of the Gospel.

To ensure your donations are correctly recorded, please mail your contributions to the church. Checks should be made out to First Baptist Church with ABC Offering in the memo line. If you wish to give electronically, you may do so by going to the American Baptist Churches USA's website at <http://abc-oghs.org/donate/>. Thank you for your generosity and kindness during these difficult days.

## Christian Mindfulness – Sunday Evenings at 5pm

Dr. Irene Kraegel is going to be with us via Zoom for 4 workshops called *Present to God: Christian Mindfulness Worship*. Grounded in Biblical theology, mindfulness theory, and clinical psychology, this series of four workshops, which Irene Kraegel will present, provides practical mindfulness experience that will equip participants to manage unpleasant emotions effectively and to fully engage with the life God has provided. The workshop is created to be down-to-earth in tone, engaging both the hearts and minds of participants - a great gift to people looking for mental health tools that can be applied within their journey of Christian discipleship. You do not need to register. The link will be sent out each Thursday before a session.

## Sanctuary Open for Prayer

The Sanctuary is now open for prayer and personal reflection on Mondays from 9 am-5 pm. One person or family at a time may sign up for a 30-minute time slot by contacting the church office at [churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org) or phone 573-442-1149.

## 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. Please know that all such requests are confidential. We will get through this together!