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# Practicing Presence

AN INVITATION  
TO PRAYER

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# *Our Worship of God*

*November 15, 2020*

*11:15 am*

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**Welcome**

Pastor Carol McEntyre

## **Opening Prayer (responsive)**

In the presence of the Holy  
whose word has called the universe into being,  
**we stand in awe.**

In the presence of the Spirit's wind  
that stirs within us  
and causes our hearts to thirst for love,  
**we stand in need.**

In your presence, Giver of life,  
**we come to worship,  
open to truth and love and wholeness.**

## **Opening Hymn 353**

For the Beauty of the Earth

*For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale, and tree, and flower,  
Sun and moon and stars of light,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight,  
For the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth and friends above,  
For all gentle thoughts and mild,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For the Church that evermore lifteth holy hands above,  
Offering up on every shore, her pure sacrifice of love,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

*For thyself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given;  
For that great, great love of thine,  
Peace on earth and joy in heaven,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

## **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

### 1 Kings 19:11-13

He said, “Go out and stand on the mountain before the Lord, for the Lord is about to pass by.” Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the Lord, but the Lord was not in the wind; and after the wind an earthquake, but the Lord was not in the earthquake; and after the earthquake a fire, but the Lord was not in the fire; and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, “What are you doing here, Elijah?”

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

## Song of Praise

## Holy Ground

*Here as we wait seek Your face  
Come and make Your throne upon our praise  
Here in this place have Your way  
The moment that we see You we are changed*

*Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
In wonder and surrender we fall down  
Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
Let ev'ry burning heart be holy ground  
Holy ground*

*Here not by pow'r not by might  
But only by the cross we come alive  
Here we're undone overcome  
By Heaven's love revealed before our eyes*

*Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
In wonder and surrender we fall down  
Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
Let ev'ry burning heart be holy ground*

*Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
In wonder and surrender we fall down  
Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
Let ev'ry burning heart be holy ground*

*Chains fall fear bow  
Here now  
Jesus You change ev'rything  
Lives healed hope found  
Here now  
Jesus You change ev'rything*

*Chains fall fear bow  
Here now  
Jesus You change ev'rything  
Lives healed hope found  
Here now  
Jesus You change ev'rything*

*Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
In wonder and surrender we fall down  
Show us Your glory  
Show us Your glory  
Let ev'ry burning heart be holy ground*

## Prayer Litany: God's Glory (responsive)

Pastor Michael McEntyre

God, you are the Alpha and Omega.  
You were here before anything else existed  
and you will be here when everything and everyone has come to an end.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

Creating God, you spoke and the entire universe came into existence.  
You know the secrets of stars and dark holes and far flung galaxies.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

Lord of the Whole Creation,  
you are aware of each tiny creature on each planet.  
You pay attention to insects and birds and even us.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

God of History, you call us to be your people.  
You appointed us to take care of this planet Earth.  
You gave us rules for living well together.  
You call us to great things.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

Loving God, you created each one of us.  
You know us by name and watch over us.  
You are with us when everything is wonderful.  
And, you walk with us through our worst days.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory forever.**

God of Mercy,  
You know everything we do, the good and the bad.  
And, still you do not give up on us.  
When we mess up, you call us back to yourself  
and you forgive us when we don't deserve it.  
**Thine is the Kingdom and power and the glory forever.**

You are greater than we can understand,  
vaster than we can imagine,  
more amazing than we can put into words.  
So with awe and deep gratitude we pray...

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sin, as we forgive those who sin against us, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

## Sharing Our Gifts

### Hymn of Awe 21

### How Great Thou Art

*O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
Thy power throughout the universe displayed.*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

*When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,  
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze.*

*Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

*When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
And there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art."  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art, how great thou art!*

**Message**

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

**Practicing Presence: Awe**

**Song of Response**

Walk With Me

*Author of the world walk with me  
Ruler of the earth walk with me  
Calmer of the storm walk with me  
Healer of my heart walk with me*

*How I need You how I need You  
Oh Jesus walk with me*

*Light for every step walk with me  
Giver of each breath walk with me*

*How I love You how I love You  
Oh Jesus walk with me*

*How I love You how I love You  
Oh Jesus walk with me*

*In Your presence Lord  
There is peace there is rest  
In Your presence Lord  
There is life that never ends  
In Your presence Lord*



*There is joy there is joy  
In Your presence Lord  
There is life that never ends*

*How I love You how I love You  
Oh Jesus walk with me*

*How I love You how I love You  
Oh Jesus walk with me*

## **Life of the Church**

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

Celebration  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Callahan

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# Worship Notes

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*Opening Prayer*, — from Sonya Dyer's Prayerbook, posted on the Seekers Church website.

*Holy Ground*, CCLI Song # 7078152

*Brett Younker* | *Jimi Cravity* | *Melodie Malone* | *Mia Fieldes*

*Practicing Presence: Awe* — Carolyn Brown, on her [Worshipping with Children](#) website.

*How Great Thou Art*, ©1953 Manna Music, Inc. Words: Stuart K. Hine. Music: Swedish folk melody, arr. Stuart K. Hine, 1949.

*Walk With Me*, CCLI Song # 5933631 *Jason Ingram* | *Jon Thatcher* | *Paul Mabury* | *Stuart Garrard*

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# Week at a Glance

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## Sunday, November 15 (today)

5:00 pm Christian Mindfulness Zoom

### Session Three

Title: Learning Contentment

Topic: judgment & acceptance

Practice: movement practice

## Tuesday, November 17

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

## Wednesday, November 18

12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol

6:00 pm Youth on the Front Lawn

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal

## Sunday, November 22

10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study and Small Groups

*Online Zoom Churchwide Bible Study*

10:30 am Student Ministry Group online

11:15 Hybrid In-Person Worship Service

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

3:00- 4:00 pm Drive-Thru Advent Devotional and Family Boxes Pick-up

5:00 pm Christian Mindfulness Zoom

### Session Four (last session)

Title: Clothed in Compassion

Topic: compassion for self & others

Practice: lovingkindness/ blessing practice

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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, 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.

## Pledge Drive

This week, you should receive your 2021 commitment card in the mail. On Sunday, November 22 at 3:00 pm we invite you to drive through the church parking lot and drop off your card. It is a pledge drive (Get it. Ha ha!) While you are here, you can also pick up your Advent devotional.

2020 has been a challenging year on so many fronts, yet our church has continued to find ways to work, love, and minister throughout the difficulties we have faced. You have found new ways to engage in community, share in our faith, gather for worship, and give abundantly. As we look towards our annual time of pledging, we recognize all the beautiful pieces that make up the incredible picture that is First Baptist. Your pledge is a way of showing your support for the life and work of First Baptist. By taking the time to fill out your pledge card and send it in, you let us know that this community is an important part of your life and you commit to support the ministry of the church in the coming year.

## 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!

## 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.

## First Kids Faith @ Home Advent Boxes

Before the hustle and bustle of the Christmas season, drive-by for a Family Advent Blessing on Sunday, November 22 from 3-4 pm in the First Baptist parking lot. Your family will be given a Faith @ Home Advent Box, containing electric candles to make your own simple advent wreath, some hot chocolate for your own gratitude party, a sticker nativity, and Traci Smith's book *Faithful Families for Advent & Christmas: 100 Ways to Make the Season Sacred*. Don't let "100 Ways" scare you! This is not a to-do list to add to your busy lives. It is simply a resource of options for simple, sweet, profound connections and memory-making. You are encouraged to pick a few practices that resonate with your family and repeat them organically as time and space allow. Take some time to set an Advent intention for yourself and your family. How will you focus on hope, peace, love, and joy this Advent? Where will you create holy space in your home and life? What new traditions will 2021 bring?

## Worship Bags for Kids

As we look towards a hybrid in-person service in the sanctuary, I know there may be a few (or a lot) of questions that center around children in worship. In order to accommodate both the Awakening Praise Band and the Handbells, we have temporarily removed the playground tables from the sanctuary. Instead, each child will have their own worship bag that can be housed at the church. The bag will belong to each individual worshipper (age 2 - 5th grade). The bag will contain colors, a few pipe cleaners, a worship bulletin, coloring pages, and any materials pertaining to Sunday's message. Each child's bag will be marked and only that child, their family, and a gloved volunteer will have access to their bag.

## Drive-Through Advent Devotional Pick-up

November 22 from 3-4 pm,  
or November 23 from 5-6 pm

This year, we are offering an Advent daily devotional, put together by *Sanctified Art*. The devotional follows the Revised Common Lectionary from the beginning of Advent, Sunday, November 29, all the way through Epiphany! Each day offers something new: commentary, poetry, visual art, written reflections, coloring pages, journaling, and Sabbath prompts. The devotional features biblical commentary by contributors, Dr. Marcia Y. Riggs.

Marcia Y. Riggs is an American author, the J. Erskine Love Professor of Christian Ethics, and the Director of ThM Program at Columbia Theological Seminary, a womanist theologian, and a recognized authority on the black woman's club movement of the nineteenth century.

You can pick up your personal devotional following the service on Sunday, November 22, in our drive-thru pick-up later that day from 3-4 pm, or in our drive-thru pick-up on Monday, November 23 from 5-6 pm.

## 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.

## VAC Holiday Program

For many years First Baptist has partnered with Voluntary Action Center during the holiday season to help with Christmas presents for those in need. This year we plan to continue that tradition, however, because of the pandemic, VAC's efforts will look a bit different. Beginning November 22, First Baptist will be collecting donations to purchase gift cards for VAC partner families. We will collect funds through December 9 at the church (checks need to be made to First Baptist Church with VAC Holiday Program in the memo line), and then purchase the needed gift cards as instructed by VAC. While we will miss the joy of picking out the perfect toy or gift to be sent in, we are grateful to VAC for continuing this work and look forward to the opportunity to bless those in our community this season.

## Blue Christmas Service - Friday, December 18, 6:30-7:30 pm

In a normal year, Christmas can be a painful time. The anguish of broken relationships, the first Christmas without a loved one or the weariness of ill health can make us feel alone in the midst of celebration. This year, we have the added grief of 240,000 Americans and 1.7 million people worldwide who have died from COVID-19. Due to the Pandemic, we may not celebrate with extended family in the same way. Though the Christmas season is often marked with expressions of excitement and joy, we want to recognize that for many, this season evokes a lot of pain and grieving, particularly this year. We need space and time to acknowledge our sadness and grief; we need to know and see that we are not alone and hold space for healing and hope. For these reasons, we are offering a special Blue Christmas service on Friday, December 18 at 6:30pm via Zoom. Join us in sharing prayers, scripture, and music that acknowledges God's presence is with those who mourn, now and always.

## 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!