

JESUS, WHY SO MYSTERIOUS?

*Exploring Jesus'
secretive identity
in Mark's Gospel*



Our Worship of God

January 31, 2021

11:15 am

Pre-Service Music

Lovely
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

Welcome

Jon Ludwig

Opening Prayer (responsive)

Our hope is in you, O God,
for power belongs to you.

As we turn our attention to you this day,
renew our trust.

As we pour out our hearts,
our longings and our tiredness,
our losses and our desires,
our desperate hopes and our cautious dreams
remind us that you alone are our refuge, and you will not be shaken.

Where our confidence has been misplaced,
our hopes pinned on one person or one event or one moment,
call us back to your truth:

**you are our hope,
and your steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.**

Opening Song

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 (Yes) (So)*

*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
Yes, 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, So*

*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*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*We invite you to light a candle at your place of worship
as a visual reminder of God's presence with us.*

Gospel Reading

Mark 1:21-28

They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, "What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

The Gospel of our Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

Hymn of Confession

O God We Rage at Hurtful Things
Sung to ST. ANNE

*O God, we rage at hurtful things
Beyond our own control,
Like all the pain that illness brings
To body, mind and soul.*

*There's much we cannot understand;
O Lord, we ask you, "Why?"
And yet in Christ you know firsthand
The tears your people cry.*

*O Christ, your loving, saving touch
Heals children, women, men.
We pray for ones we love so much;
Lord, make them whole again.*

*Now work through those your Spirit sends
To heal, restore and care.
May doctors, nurses, neighbors, friends
Be answers to our prayer.*

*And when the journey seems too rough
And you seem far away,
Remind us, Lord: You are enough
To bring us through each day.*

Pastoral Prayer

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Sharing Our Gifts

Hymn 611

There is a Balm in Gilead

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.*

*Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again.*

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.*

*If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, and say, "He died for all."*

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.*

*Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend;
And if you lack for knowledge he'll ne'er refuse to lend.*

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead to heal the sinsick soul.*

Message

Carol McEntyre

Song of Response

Chain Breaker

*If you've been walking the same old road
For miles and miles
If you've been hearing the same old voice
Tell the same old lies
If you're trying to fill the same old holes inside
There's a better life
There's a better life*

*If you've got pain He's a pain taker
If you feel lost He's a way maker
If you need freedom or saving
He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains He's a chain breaker*

*We've all searched for the light of day
In the dead of night
We've all found ourselves worn out
From the same old fight
We've all run to things we know just ain't right
When there's a better life
There's a better life*

*If you've got pain He's a pain taker
If you feel lost He's a way maker
If you need freedom or saving
He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains He's a chain breaker*

*If you believe it
If you receive it
If you can feel it
Somebody testify
If you've got pain He's a pain taker
If you feel lost He's a way maker
If you need freedom or saving*

*He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains He's a chain breaker*

*Oh if you need freedom or saving
He's a prison shaking Savior
If you got chains well He's a chain breaker*

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

Psalm 117
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Burkhardt

Worship Notes

Opening Prayer ~ by Teri Peterson (based on Psalm 62)

There is a Balm in Gilead, Words and Music: Afro-American Spiritual

Chain Breaker, CCLI Song # 7060031, Jonathan Smith | Mia Fieldes | Zach Williams

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

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, January 31

10:00 am Online Winter Bible Study with Dr. Hulitt Gloer

10:00 am Student Ministry Group online

11:15 am Online Worship Service

Tuesday, February 2

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

Wednesday, February 3

12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol

6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal this week

5:15 pm Psalm Players Zoom

7:45 pm Chancel Choir Zoom

Friday, February 5

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

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.

CBF Offering for Global Missions

During the month of February, First Baptist members will have the opportunity to support the work of Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel around the world, like our very own Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen, by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Your support of the Offering for Global Missions will share the Gospel message and provide tangible gifts of God’s grace and mercy. 100% of your gifts to the Offering goes to funding the ministry of field personnel. You can send in your offering by check (made out to First Baptist Church with CBF missions in the memo line) or beginning February 1, you can choose the missions offering link on our website to give electronically. At the end of February, the church will combine all gifts and send one check to CBF. Thank you for your generosity.

Zoom Game Night – Friday, February 12 at 7 pm

During these cold winter months, we need to have some fun and spend some time together. Join us for Zoom Game Night! We will have two games going at the same time in Break-Out Rooms. You can choose to play Farkel, hosted by Paula Thomas or Scattergories, hosted by Brittany McDonald Null. Farkel is a dice game, and you will need to bring 6 dice to Zoom. Scattergories is a creative-thinking game; you will need a pen and paper. We will be emailing the links for the game night soon!

First Baptist Book Club

2nd Tuesdays every other month – 7pm via Zoom

With the new year starting, the First Baptist Book Club is ready to relaunch and get our noses in books! The book club will meet the second Tuesday of every other month throughout the year. For now, meetings will be held via Zoom at 7 pm. The first virtual gathering will take place on Tuesday, February 9. The group will read *Holy Envy* by Barbara Brown Taylor. In this book, Taylor recounts her moving discoveries of finding the sacred in unexpected places while teaching the world's religions to undergraduates in rural Georgia, revealing how God delights in confounding our expectations. You can purchase the book on your own, and then be ready to discuss beginning February 9! If you would like to sign-up for the book club's email list, contact Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org

Lenten Series

Lent, the six-week period leading up to Easter begins February 17 with Ash Wednesday. Our Lenten Theme this year is *Again & Again*. In Lent, we're reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again.

Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats—every time lives are taken unjustly, every time the powerful choose corruption and violence, every time individuals forget how to love. With exasperation we exclaim, "Again?! How long, O God?" And yet, in the midst of the motion blur chaos of our lives, God offers a sacred refrain: "I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair." Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward.

Drive-Thru Lent Devotional Pick-up

February 14 from 1-3:00 pm

This year, we are offering a Lenten Devotional put together by *Sanctified Art*. Beginning with Ash Wednesday, this weekly devotional follows the Revised Common Lectionary through Easter Sunday. Each week offers: scripture readings, biblical commentary, poetry, visual art, written reflections, and coloring pages. We encourage you to walk through these weekly readings at your own pace throughout the season, following the rhythm that works best for you. First Kids Families can also collect their Lent-at-Home bags at this time.

Lent-at-Home Bags

Lent, the 40 days leading up to Easter is a season of preparation. Traditionally, the three pillars of lent are prayer, fasting, and almsgiving. This year, First Kids is emphasizing prayer. Similar to the Faith at Home Advent Boxes, families can collect a Lent-at-home bag during the drive-thru Lent Devotional pick-up on Sunday, February 14 from 1-3 pm. Boxes will include a family devotional centered on prayer, a daily prayer calendar to countdown the days of Lent, pancake mix, a piece of an easter mural, and a few other surprises. If you are unable to attend the drive-thru event and would like to schedule a different time to collect your box, email Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org

Zoom Pancake Party – Tuesday, February 16 at 6 pm

First Kids Families are invited to a Zoom Pancake Party for Shrove Tuesday! Each family will receive pancake mix in their Lent-at-Home bags along with some syrup. Why pancakes on Shrove Tuesday? Traditionally, the 40 days of Lent leading up to Easter was a time of fasting. Shrove Tuesday was the last opportunity to use up eggs and fats before embarking on the Lenten fast and pancakes are the perfect way of using up these ingredients. This tradition is so popular that Shrove Tuesday is also known as Pancake Day! Our digital gathering will be a time for families to check in, eat pancakes (or whatever dinner works best for your family), hear briefly about our Lenten plans, play a simple Lenten-themed scavenger hunt, and most importantly see one another.

Ash Wednesday – February 17

Lent begins on February 17 with Ash Wednesday. This year, you will have two opportunities to mark the beginning of Lent. From Noon-1:00 pm Pastor Carol McEntyre will be in the church parking lot offering drive-by imposition of ashes. You will get a chance to see Pastor Carol and to receive the imposition of ashes. The marking of ashes in the shape of a cross on the foreheads of believers as a reminder of mortality and belonging and is how Christians begin the forty-day journey of Lent. At 6:30 pm, we will come together for a virtual Zoom worship experience. We will sing, hear scripture readings, and set our intentions for Lent.

Tuesday Evening Visio Divina Bible Study

Visio Divina, Latin for “divine seeing,” is a method of meditation, reflection, and prayer through a process of intentional seeing. Visio Divina extends the 6th century Benedictine practice of Lectio Divina by the use of visual imagery. Traditionally, Visio Divina was accompanied by Benedictine iconography and illuminations, however, different faith traditions have adapted the process over time, utilizing both secular and nonsecular images. During Lent, Pastor Brittany will be leading a Visio Divina Bible Study via Zoom at 7 pm. The meeting will be a blend of visual meditation with group discussion and bible study. Lent begins on February 17 with Ash Wednesday. This year, you will have two opportunities to mark the beginning of Lent.

Stations of the Cross Experience- March 1-17

In addition to the virtual Lenten opportunities, we are also creating an in-person Stations of the Cross Experience, which will be set up in the Sanctuary open March 1-17. The Station of the Cross Experience honors the ancient story of Jesus’ death while recognizing the ways this narrative repeats itself again and again throughout the past and present. It provides multi-sensory ways to engage, confess, and lament, creating a profound and prophetic worship experience. Designed by Rev. T. Denise Anderson, the service features her original artwork and artist statement, *Pietà: “Woman, Behold Your Son; Behold Your Mother—*a sermon project exploring the story of Mamie Till-Mobley (the mother of Emmett Till) and the grief of Mary, mother of Jesus, beholding her son on the cross. You can sign up for a time by going to our website.