

AGAIN & AGAIN WE ARE CALLED TO LISTEN



Our Worship of God

February 28, 2021

11:15 am

~ Second Week of Lent ~

Prelude

Andantino
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

by Fauré, arr. Hopson

Welcome

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Call to Worship

Today in worship, we will be reminded that again and again, we are called to listen. This is part of our invitation as people of faith—to not only speak, pray, and sing, but to listen.

And I will be the first to say, listening is hard. From our toddler years on up, we struggle to listen, particularly when we don't know what we're listening for or we don't agree with what we're hearing.

So for just a moment, as we gather ourselves for worship, I want to invite you to join me in a kinesthetic call to worship by embodying our prayer as I prompt you. Let us listen, let us pray:

Family of faith, I invite you to close your eyes.

Rest your feet on the floor beneath you.

Release any tension you are holding—

*In your jaw, your neck, your shoulders, your hands,
your legs, your feet.*

Take a deep breath in and slowly let it out.

*The Hebrew word for breath (ruach) is the same word for Spirit.
So as you breathe, imagine that it is God who is filling up your lungs
with energy and love. Trust that God is as close as your very breath.
Now I invite you to still your mind. Imagine your mind as a river.
Thoughts will drift into view; they always do.
However, instead of holding onto those thoughts,
allow yourself to let them float by.
And listen. Listen deep. Listen far. Listen wide. Listen.
The sound of your breath is like the sound of the Divine.
This is a holy space.
Let us worship God.*

Opening Song

Great Are You Lord

*You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord*

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

*You give life You are love
You bring light to the darkness
You give hope You restore ev'ry heart that is broken
And great are You Lord*

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only
And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord
And all the earth will shout Your praise
Our hearts will cry these bones will sing
Great are You Lord*

*It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise
We pour out our praise
It's Your breath in our lungs
So we pour out our praise to You only*

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.*

Mark 8:27-33

Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi; and on the way he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that I am?” And they answered him, “John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets.” He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Messiah.” And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.

Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Children’s Sermon

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Hymn 574

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

*Lord, speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let me seek your wandering children, lost, alone.*

*O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the stumbling and the straying feet;
And feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungry ones with manna sweet.*

*O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things which you impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many-a heart.*

*O fill me with your fullness, Lord, until my heart shall overflow
In kindling thought and glowing word, your love to tell, your praise to show.*

Call to Confession

Pastor Michael McEntyre

Often the first step to change is listening.
We have to listen to those we've hurt.
We have to listen to creation as she cries.
We have to listen to the voice of the oppressed,

if we ever hope to make things right.

So today as we begin our prayer of confession,
We will start with a moment of silence—
A moment to listen.
And then we will pray together trusting that God is
always listening to us, And that God's ears listen with love.

So let us confess, silently and then together.

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Pause for silent confession.

One: Listening God,

**All: Take what is closed in us and open it. Take what is distracted
in us and settle it. Take what is hurting in us and hold it.
Take any and all parts of us that create distance from you.
For we are like Peter, O God.
We argue what we don't know. We fear what we cannot see.
And we almost always speak sooner than we listen.
So open us, settle us, hold us, and forgive us.
We long to hear you more clearly.
We long to know you more fully.
With hope we pray,
And with gratitude we confess. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness (responsive)

One: Siblings in Christ,

We confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us. No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand.

So rest in this good news:

All: God invites us in.

God meets us where we are. God hears our prayers.

God forgives us.

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Hymn 532

Be Thou My Vision

*Be thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art—
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.*

*Be thou my Wisdom, and thou my true Word,
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
Thou and thou only, first in my heart,
High King of heaven, my Treasure thou art.*

*High King of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all.*

Sharing of Our Gifts

Message

Again and Again We Are Called to Listen

Carol McEntyre

Song of Response

I'm Listening

*When You speak confusion fades
Just a word and suddenly I'm not afraid
'Cause You speak and freedom reigns
There is hope in every single word You say*

*I don't wanna miss one word You speak
'Cause everything You say is life to me
I don't wanna miss one word You speak
Quiet my heart I'm listening*

*When sorrows roll and troubles rage
You whisper peace when I don't have the words to say
I won't lose hope when storms won't break
You keep Your word
And Your promises will keep me safe*

*I don't wanna miss one word You speak
'Cause everything You say is life to me
I don't wanna miss one word You speak
Quiet my heart I'm listening*

*Your ways are higher
You know just what I need
I trust You Jesus
You see what I cannot see*

*Your ways are higher
You know just what I need
I trust You Jesus
You see what I cannot see*

*Your ways are higher
You know just what I need
I trust You Jesus
You see what I cannot see*

*I don't wanna miss one word You speak
'Cause everything You say is life to me
I don't wanna miss one word You speak
Quiet my heart I'm listening*

*I don't wanna miss one word You speak
'Cause everything You say is life to me
I don't wanna miss one word You speak
Quiet my heart I'm listening*

Life of the Church

Benediction

As you go,
May your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm—
Again and again and again,
Until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.
Amen.

Postlude

The Lord's My Shepherd
Nate Roberts, *cello* Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Burton

Worship Notes

Great Are You Lord, CCLI Song # 6460220, David Leonard | Jason Ingram | Leslie Jordan

I'm Listening, CCLI Song # 7107534, Benji Cowart | Chris McClarney | Josh Bronleewe

Be Thou My Vision, Words: Traditional Irish hymn, c. 8th C.; tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912. Music: Traditional Irish melody; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1973.

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak, Words: Rances R. Havergal, 1872, alt. Music: Robert A. Schumann, 1839.

Liturgy by Rev. Sarah Are | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 28

- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Online Winter Bible Study with Dr. Hulitt Gloer
- 11:15 am Online Worship Service

Tuesday, March 2

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call
- 7:00 pm Visio Divina Bible Study via Zoom with Pastor Brittany

Wednesday, March 3

- 12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol
- 6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal
- 7:45 pm Chancel Choir Zoom

Friday, March 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.

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 non-secular 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.

CBF Offering for Global Missions

By giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions this month, you 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. 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 you can choose the missions offering link on our website to give electronically. Thank you for your generosity.

Lenten Series

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 exacerbation 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.

Stations of the Cross Experience- March 1-17

Stations of the Cross is an in-person experience, which will be set up in the Sanctuary open March 1-17. The 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.

Churches that THRIVE for Racial Justice

We are thrilled to announce First Baptist has been selected as one of the 25 churches across 18 states chosen for the Alliance of Baptists' THRIVE for Racial Justice cohort! The Alliance received a Lilly Endowment grant to form a cohort of churches who will participate in a five-year project dedicated to the work of racial justice. Both the leaders of the Alliance and the scholars partnering with them agree that the definition of a thriving church cannot be assessed solely in terms of larger attendance or growing budgets. Rather, thriving congregations recognize their changing social and cultural contexts, exhibit clarity of values and mission, and cultivate Christian practices in line with those values as they address and seek to overcome racial injustice. We believe being part of the THRIVE for Racial Justice cohort will provide us with accountability and structure for our racial justice work as a church. To help lead our efforts, we are reforming our Racial Justice Team. The Racial Justice Team will hold its first organizational Zoom meeting Sunday, March 14, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The purpose and function of this group is to grow in our individual and collective understandings, and to advocate for racial justice in partnership with an alliance of 24 other Thriving Baptist Church congregations who will be taking this journey with us. If you think you might like to become a part of this team or have any questions, please email Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com.

Special Zoom at Noon with Brian Kaylor

On Wednesday, March 24, Brian Kaylor will be our special guest for Zoom at Noon. Last August, Brian who is editor & president of Word&Way, associate director of Churchnet, and author of four books on religion, politics, and communication, joined us for a conversation about Christian Nationalism. As a reminder, Christian Nationalism is an ideology, which seeks to merge Christian and American identities and in doing so, distorts both the Christian faith and America's constitutional democracy. On January 6, when the assault on the capitol happened our conversation with Brian felt prophetic. Join us for Zoom at Noon as we discuss the assault on the Capitol and how it intersects with the disturbing movement known as Christian Nationalism.