

AGAIN & AGAIN WE DRAW ON COURAGE



Our Worship of God

March 28, 2021

11:15 am

~ Palm Sunday ~

Preservice Music

In the Cross of Christ I Glory
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Carter

Welcome

Pastor Michael McEntyre

Call to Worship (responsive)

One: The story of faith is a story of courage.

All: It took courage for John the Baptist to prepare the way.

One: It took courage for Mary to say, "Here I am. Work through me."

All: It took courage for the disciples to drop their nets and follow Jesus.

One: It took courage for the paralyzed man's friends
to lower him through the roof.

All: It took courage for Peter to walk on water.

One: It took courage for Zacchaeus to give half of his possessions to the poor.

All: It took courage for Jesus to enter Jerusalem on a donkey.

One: Faith has never been easy. It is a journey of courage.

All: Again and again, God, show us the way.

One: Let us worship our brave and courageous God.

Opening Song

Hosanna

*I see the King of glory
Coming on the clouds with fire
The whole earth shakes
The whole earth shakes yeah*

*I see His love and mercy
Washing over all our sin
The people sing
The people sing*

*Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

*I see a generation
Rising up to take their place
With selfless faith
With selfless faith*

*I see a near revival
Stirring as we pray and seek
We're on our knees
We're on our knees*

*Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

*Heal my heart and make it clean
Open up my eyes to the things unseen
Show me how to love like You have loved me
Break my heart for what breaks Yours
Everything I am for Your Kingdom's cause
As I walk from earth into eternity*

*Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest*

*Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna hosanna
Hosanna in the highest
Hosanna in the highest*

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.*

Scripture Reading

Mike Brewer

John 12:12-19

The next day the great crowd that had come to the festival heard that Jesus was coming to Jerusalem. So they took branches of palm trees and went out to meet him, shouting,

“Hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord—
the King of Israel!”

Jesus found a young donkey and sat on it; as it is written:

“Do not be afraid, daughter of Zion.

Look, your king is coming,
sitting on a donkey's colt!”

His disciples did not understand these things at first; but when Jesus was glorified, then they remembered that these things had been written of him and had been done to him. So the crowd that had been with him when he called Lazarus out of the tomb and raised him from the dead continued to testify. It was also because they heard that he had performed this sign that the crowd went to meet him. The Pharisees then said to one another, “You see, you can do nothing. Look, the world has gone after him!”

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Children's Message

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

*Dear God, thank you for the courage to do hard things.
Help me to be brave even when I am scared. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

Hymn

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

*All glory; laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King,
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
You are a child of Israel, Great David's greater son;
You ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, blessed one!*

*The company of angels are praising you on high,
And we with all creation in chorus make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;
Our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.*

*To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;
To you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.*

Call to Confession

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prayer of Confession (unison)

**God of palm branches and hallelujahs:
We confess—we love a good Palm Sunday celebration.
We love the sound of a joyful parade.
We love shouting, “hallelujah!”
We love that Palm Sunday means Easter is
just around the corner.
We love good news.**

**However, if we slow down and pay attention,
We know that Palm Sunday was not a walk in the park for you.
There was risk.
There was fear.
There was the threat of violence.
You were leading a peaceful protest against an unjust empire,
And the whole world knew it.
Forgive us for glossing over the courage this day took.
Remind us that the story of faith is a story of courage,
And even we can do hard things.
With hope we pray. Amen.**

Words of Forgiveness (responsive)

One: Family of faith,
Even when we gloss over the truth,
Even when our courage fails us,
Even when we doubt that we can do hard things,
God believes in us.
God loves us.
God forgives us.
Hear and believe this truth:
**All: We are known.
We are loved.
We are forgiven.
Again and again and again. Amen.**

Sharing Our Gifts

Hymn 73

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

*God moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform;
He plants his footsteps in the sea, and rides upon the storm.*

*Deep in unfathomable mines of never failing skill,
He treasures up his bright designs and works his sovereign will.*

*You fearful saints, fresh courage take; the clouds you so much dread
Are big with mercy and shall break in blessings on your head.*

*His purposes will ripen fast, unfolding every hour;
The bud may have a bitter taste, but sweet will be the flower.*

*Blind unbelief is sure to err and scan his work in vain:
God is his own interpreter, and he will make it plain.*

Message

Again and Again, We Draw on Courage

Carol McEntyre

Song of Response

You Make Me Brave

*I stand before You now
The greatness of Your renown
I have heard of the majesty and wonder of You
King of Heaven in humility I bow*

*As (to) Your love in wave after wave
Crashes over me crashes over me
For You are for us You are not against us
Champion of Heaven
You made a way for all to enter in (to Your love)*

*I have heard You calling my name
I have heard the song of love that You sing
So I will let You draw me out beyond the shore
Into Your grace*

*As (to) Your love in wave after wave
Crashes over me crashes over me
For You are for us You are not against us
Champion of Heaven
You made a way for all to enter in (to Your love)*

*You make me brave
You make me brave*

*You call me out beyond the shore into the waves
You make me brave
You make me brave
No fear can hinder now the Love that made a way*

*You make me brave
You make me brave
You call me out beyond the shore into the waves
You make me brave
You make me brave
No fear can hinder now the promises You've made*

*Because of love in wave after wave
Crashes over me crashes over me
For You are for us You are not against us
Champion of Heaven You made a way*

*Champion of Heaven
You made a way for all to enter in.*

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

What Wondrous Love is This?
John Adams, *soloist*

Worship Notes

🌀 **Flowers are placed in the sanctuary** 🌀
by Kris Lane and her son Blaine Chandler
in memory and honor of
her father and his grandfather,
Dr. Mark Dallman.

Hosanna, CCLI Song # 4403076, Jesse Reeves | Laura Story

God Moves in a Mysterious Way, Words: William Cowper, 1774, alt. Music: Scottish Psalter, 1615; harm. Thomas Ravenscroft, 1621, alt.

You Make Me Brave, CCLI Song # 7003306, Amanda Cook.

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 28

- 9:00 am Downtown Palm Sunday Service
- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Sunday Morning Small Groups/Bible Study
- 11:15 am Online Worship Service

Tuesday, March 30

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

Wednesday, March 31

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

Friday, April 2

- 12:15 pm Jesus Calling: Women's Devotional and Prayer Time via Zoom
- 6:00 pm Good Friday Service on the Lawn

Saturday, April 3

- 10:00 am First Kids Easter Egg Hunt

Sunday, April 4

- 9:15 am Easter Online Worship Service
- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Sunday Morning Small Groups/Bible Study
- 11:15 am Easter Worship Service on the front lawn

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.

Downtown Palm Sunday Service -March 28, 9:00 am

Sunday, March 28 is Palm Sunday and the beginning of Holy Week. We are thrilled to announce the Ecumenical Downtown Palm Sunday Service will take place this year at 9:00 am at the Boone County Courthouse Amphitheater. In years past, we have gathered on Broadway, however the pastors of the participating congregations chose to change the location to allow the crowd to have more room to social distance. We will have palms and worship bulletins available in the First Baptist parking lot. For the Palm Sunday Gathering, we ask you to wear your mask (even if you are fully vaccinated), maintain physical distance (6’), and avoid physical contact such as handshakes, fist bumps, and elbow taps.

Good Friday - April 2 at 6:00 pm On-lawn

Good Friday, the Friday before Easter, is the day on which Christians annually observe the commemoration of the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ. We invite you to join us for a service of remembrance on the front lawn of the church at 6:00 pm. Please bring your lawn chair and wear your mask.

Two Worship Service Options Beginning on Easter, April 4 Online at 9:15 am, On-lawn at 11:15 am

We are excited to announce that beginning Easter Sunday, April 4, at 11:15 am, First Baptist will begin hosting in-person worship services on the front lawn of the church building again! We will also continue to offer online worship, which will be webcast at 9:15 am. For Easter, both online and on-lawn worship services will have musical leadership from the Awakening Praise Band and the Traditional Worship Team. The Sunday following Easter, we will begin rotating the music leadership of the services every few weeks to allow for a variety of musical styles to be experienced in-person on the lawn.

Throughout the pandemic, the Church Council has prioritized the safety and well-being of our congregation, our church staff, and our community. We know you are longing to resume worship inside our building and with the vaccine rolling out and Columbia's case numbers falling, we hope that day is coming soon, but we want to remain vigilant in our efforts to protect people and will continue to take it slow. Returning to on-lawn worship is currently the safest option. To set us up for success, we must all continue to wear our masks, maintain social distancing, and remain home when feeling unwell.

The Calling Resumes April 7

We are excited to announce that our Student Ministry plans to start back with our on-lawn Wednesday night gatherings for the Calling on April 7 from 6:00-7:15pm. There will be food and fun galore as we come together IN-PERSON to share life and faith in the front yard. We hope all our students will mark their calendars and make plans to join us on April 7. Just like last fall, we are asking that students wear masks to our gatherings, and we will continue to practice social distancing when possible during our time together. We look forward to seeing everyone soon!

First Kids Easter Egg Hunt- Saturday, April 3 from 10 am – Noon

First Kids is delighted to host our Easter Egg hunt again this year on the First Baptist Front Lawn from 10am - 12pm. We are working diligently to implement best practices for COVID and ask that all families RSVP to Pastor Brittany as soon as possible by email to bnull@fbccolumbia.org. Egg Hunts will take place in smaller groups and other low-touch activities will be available while families are waiting for their group to hunt eggs. We ask that all participants 2 years old and up wear a mask to the best of their ability, regardless of vaccination status. We look forward to some safe Easter fun with our families!

The Good Life: Practices for Abundant Living

New Sermon Series Beginning April 11

What makes for a good life? Grappling with questions about what makes a good life is part of being human; this past year has led many of us to evaluate this question even further. In the coming months, as more people get vaccinated and we move toward our new normal, this sermon series *The Good Life: Practices for Abundant Living*, invites us to think about and reflect on how we want to live going forward in light of our Christian values. Instead of simply longing for what was, our hope is to discern how God is calling us to live now, and consciously make choices to follow in Christ's footsteps. Without this space for reflection, chances are the inevitable tide of busyness will wash away any opportunity for reflection. This series is built on the wisdom of Christian theology and the ways in which authentic Christian practices bring about true and lasting life satisfaction. We look forward to sharing in this series beginning April 11.

First Baptist Book Club - April 13

The First Baptist Book Club is excited to announce their next read: *Love is the Way: Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times* by Michael Curry. As the descendant of slaves and the son of a civil rights activist, Bishop Michael Curry's life illustrates massive changes in our times. Through the prism of his faith, ancestry, and personal journey, *Love Is the Way* shows us how America came this far and, more importantly, how to go a whole lot further. You can purchase the book on your own to read before our next discussion on April 13.

Church Business Meeting

Sunday, April 18 at 1:00 pm via Zoom

On Sunday, April 18 at 1:00 pm, First Baptist will gather for a special called Business Meeting via Zoom. Thanks to the hard work of our Finance Committee, the Stepping Toward 200 Taskforce (a team created by the Church Council in 2019), and our Church Council, a motion is being presented to the church to pay off the remaining building debt from our Building Tomorrow Today campaign. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and recent gifts to our Legacy Giving funds, we have the opportunity to retire our approximate remaining debt of \$375,000. This will save us roughly \$50,000 per year in debt services. The Business Meeting will lay out the path on how this will be accomplished and ask the church to vote to approve the retirement of this loan. We hope all our members will take part in this good work.

Afternoon of Lawn Games

Sunday, April 25 from 2-4 pm

On Sunday, April 25 from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm we will gather on the front lawn of the church building for an afternoon of fun and games! With the weather warming up, people are longing for safe, enjoyable ways to gather. We will play some lawn games like ladder ball, volleyball, corn hole toss, and other such amusements.

Please bring a lawn chair and wear your mask. Remember, no handshakes, hugs, elbow bumps, or any form of physical touching, but laughter, conversation, and fun are encouraged.

ForColumbia 2021

ForColumbia is back and gearing up to serve our city on June 5, 2021. Project planning is currently underway as we work with ministry partners in our community to identify needs. Referrals for projects to be considered can also be made at <https://www.forcolumbia.com/referral/>. First Baptist is already planning on work at the new Extra Mile house as well as another project at Benton Elementary. More details to come. Signups for ForColumbia begin April 18.