What does it mean to be a **Progressive Christian?** Reflections on Marcus Borg's book *Convictions* 

# CONVICTIONS

## Our Worship of God

August 1, 2021

11:15 am

(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Andante from Sonata No. 3 Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*  Mendelssohn

**+**Call to Worship (responsive)

God loves us with a steadfast love. Let the redeemed of the Lord say so! God loves us so much that God dwelled with us. Let us rejoice and live with abundant life! God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy. Let us give thanks and receive this grace!

## **+**Opening Hymn 179

God's love made visible! Incomprehensible! He is invincible! His love shall reign! From love so bountiful, blessings uncountable Make death surmountable! His love shall reign! Joyfully pray for peace and goodwill! All of our yearning he will fulfill. Live in a loving way! Praise him for every day! Open your hearts and pray. His love shall reign!

God gave his Son to us to dwell as one of us— His blessing unto us! His love shall reign! To him all honor bring, heaven and earth will sing, Praising our Lord and King! His love shall reign! Open all doors this day of his birth, All of good will inherit the earth. His star will always be guiding humanity Throughout eternity! His love shall reign!

## Lighting of the Christ Candle

#### **Introduction to the Sermon Series**

Carol McEntyre

#### Litany of Proclamation (responsive)

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus as our guide and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. *In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my life, Lord, be glorified today.* 

In my song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In my song, Lord, be glorified today.

In your Church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified. In your Church, Lord, be glorified today.

#### **Scripture Reading**

Christine Chang

#### Mark 14:16, 22-25

So the disciples set out and went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

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

**Sharing of Our Gifts** 

## **Blessed Assurance**

#### +Hymn of Commitment 514

Blessed Assurance, Jesus is mine! O what a foretaste of glory divine! Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight; angels descending, bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

Perfect submission, all is at rest, I in my Savior am happy and blest, Watching and waiting, looking above, Filled with his goodness, lost in his love. This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long; This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.

#### Message

Salvation is More Than the Afterlife

Carol McEntyre

#### **Preparation for Communion**

Let Us Break Bread Together arr. V Mary Beth Ming, *soloist* 

Let us break bread together on our knees, Let us break bread together on our knees. When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees, Let us drink wine together on our knees. When I fall on my knees with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees, Let us praise God together on our knees. When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun, O Lord, have mercy on me.

**Celebration of Holy Communion** 

arr. Walters

#### **+**Hymn 477

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, vast, unmeasured, boundless, free, Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me! Underneath me, all around me, is the current of his love, Leading onward, leading homeward to that glorious rest above.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, spread his praise from shore to shore! He who loves us, ever loves us, changes never, nevermore; He, who died to save his loved ones, intercedes for them above; He, who called them his own people, watches over them in love.

O the deep, deep love of Jesus, love of every love the best, Vast the ocean of his blessing, sweet the haven of his rest! O the deep, deep love of Jesus—for my heaven of heavens is he; This my everlasting glory—Jesus' mighty love for me!

#### Life of the Church

#### **†**Benediction

+Postlude

How Great Thou Art Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*  arr. Zabel

## Worship Notes

God's Love Made Visible, ©1976, St. Francis Music Co. Words: Iola Brubeck, 1975. Music: Dave Brubeck, 1975.

Lord, Be Glorified, ©Bob Kilpatrick Music. Words and Music: Bob Kilpatrick, 1978.

*O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus,* Words: S. Trevor Francis, c. 1890. Music: Thomas J. Williams, 1890.

Blessed Assurance, Words: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873. Music: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873.

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## Week at a Glance

## Sunday, August 1

9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour

Adult, Youth small groups & First Kids Sunday School
11:15 am Traditional Worship in the sanctuary and streamed online
10:15 am, 11:10 am, 12:20 pm Open House at Extra Mile Transition House
4:00 pm First Kids Pool Party

## Tuesday, August 3

1:00 pm -3:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

## Friday, August 6

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

## Sunday, August 8

9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour

Adult, Youth small groups & First Kids Sunday School
 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the sanctuary and streamed online

## 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, you can fill out a visitor card at fbc-columbia.org/guest or use this QR code.

## August Sermon Series

What does it mean to be a Progressive Christian? Reflections on Marcus Borg's book *Convictions* 



Marcus Borg's book, *Convictions: How I learned What Matters Most*, was one of our First Baptist summer One Reads. On his seventieth birthday, the renowned Christian scholar Marcus Borg wrote *Convictions* as the culmination of his theological reflection and faith in Christ Jesus. Borg answers the question "What's the Christian life all about?" He gets at the heart of what it means to be a progressive Christian in our age. Join us as Pastor Carol preaches on some of the themes from the book. She will be talking about how salvation is about more than the afterlife, how the Bible is political and how Christians are called to peacemaking and nonviolence. If you read the book and are interested in joining Pastor Carol for a discussion session about the book, please email her at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

## Calling All Handy Folks

#### **Open House at our Extra Mile Transition House - Today**

We are excited to have the opportunity to invite our congregation to stop by our Extra Mile Transition house following both services and our Small Group hour. For those who would like to walk over, we will gather in the front yard (weather permitting) at 10:15 am, 11:10 am, and again at 12:20 pm to walk to the house, approximately 3 blocks away. If you would like to drive, directions will be given out following the service. At the house, we will take the opportunity to hear how the Extra Mile program is transforming lives, pray for the house and the ministry it represents, as well as offer our congregation ways to volunteer support in the weeks and months ahead.

#### Extra Mile Transition House Workdays - August 15, 27, and 29

Specifically, you will have the opportunity to sign up to help prep and paint inside the house between August 15 and 27 and take part in our day of cleaning after church on August 29. We will also be working to establish our cleaning, maintenance, and hospitality teams to assist with future transition times between residents. We hope you will make plans to join us after worship on August 1 to see this ministry partnership in action.

## First Baptist Fall Kick-off Has Returned for 2021!

Back by popular demand is our Fall Kick-Off. As we look toward the end of summer, we are gearing up for our almost annual Fall Kick-off after Traditional worship on Sunday, August 22. Our theme this year is an old-fashioned Carnival.

The church will provide the meat, beverages and tableware. We ask you to bring a side dish or dessert to share. We ask that everyone wear their mask when not eating; we will be eating outside to help with the risk of COVID-19. We will also set up some extra tables to allow folks to spread out while eating.

You can look forward to a selection of carnival games with prizes such as ring toss, knock-em-down, and ping-pong game, as well as a photo booth. Or, if you'd like, simply sit and talk with old friends and make some new ones too.

## Join us Sunday, August 15 as we seek to Thrive for Racial Justice

As you know, First Baptist is part of the *Thriving for Racial Justice* project, which is a cohort of 27 churches from across the United States and Canada who have made a 5-year commitment to take an honest look at how Christianity has perpetuated racism in our country. *Thriving for Racial Justice* is a project of the Alliance of Baptists, in partnership with the Lilly Endowment and sociologists of Race and Religion. This project will work to shed light on the challenges of racism among white dominant congregations in our country and help churches, like First Baptist, to expand our commitment to racial equity and increase our capacity for confronting racial justice.

On Sunday, August 15 during both worship services, Pastor Carol will be preaching about why she thinks this is so important and during the 10:15 Small Group we will gather in the fellowship hall to learn more about what it means to be a part of the Thrive for Racial Justice cohort. Dr. Kevin Doughtery, one of the sociologists working on the Thrive project will be our guest during the small group hour. Dr. Doughtery is Associate Professor of Sociology at Baylor University in Waco, Texas. His research explores religious affiliation, religious participation, racial diversity in congregations, congregational growth and decline, and the impact of religion on other realms of social life such as community involvement, politics, and work. Specifically, he will be giving us an overview of the Thrive project and explaining the survey, which will be administered to our congregation in September.

You don't want to miss this important Sunday in the life of our church. We hope you will join us for worship and for the small group hour.



<u>Church Staff</u> Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor Michael McEntyre, Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Administration Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist Amy Johns, Music Director-Traditional Worship Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian