



What does it mean to be a  
**Progressive Christian?**

Reflections on  
Marcus Borg's book *Convictions*

CONVICTIONS

HOW I LEARNED WHAT MATTERS MOST

# Our Worship of God

August 8, 2021

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

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Welcome

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Meditation on “Deep River”  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Raney

## †Opening Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer (responsive)

God of wisdom,  
we are seekers on the way to a deeper wisdom and a wider vision.  
Our lives are full of information and opinions,  
but in the midst of it all we long to hear the voice of wisdom –

**Your wisdom, God,  
is cutting through the noise and teaching us how to live.**

God, we have come here this morning to learn wisdom from your Word,  
from your Holy Spirit,  
and from one another.

**We have come so that wisdom may call us out of the darkness  
and into the light.**

**We have come to have the deeper, richer, wisdom-filled life  
that you have promised to each of us.**

O God, make us ready to hear the Words spoken to our hearts this morning.

**Call us to hear your wisdom  
and grant us the courage to respond.**

Together we pray as you taught your disciples to 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.**

## †Opening Hymn 17

Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him

*Praise the Lord! O heavens, adore him;  
Praise him, angels in the height;  
Sun and moon, bow down before him;  
Praise him, shining stars of light.  
Praise the Lord, for he hath spoken;  
Worlds his mighty voice obeyed;  
Laws which never shall be broken  
For their guidance he has made.*

*Praise the Lord, for he is gracious;  
Never shall his promise fail;  
God has made his saints victorious;  
Sin and death shall not prevail.  
Praise the God of our salvation;  
Hosts on high, his power proclaim;  
Heaven and earth, and all creation,  
Laud and magnify his name.*

## Lighting of the Christ Candle

**John 1:1-5, 14**

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

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

**†Hymn of Praise 310**

O Word of God Incarnate

*O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,  
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:  
We praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,  
A lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.*

*The Church from you, dear Master, received the gift divine,  
And still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.  
It is the chart and compass that, all life's voyage through,  
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to you.*

*O, make your Church, dear Savior, a lamp of burnished gold  
To bear before the nations your true light, as of old;  
O, teach your wandering pilgrims by this their path to trace,  
Till, clouds and darkness ended, they see you face to face.*

## **Moment of Reflection**

*Spend some time reading these disturbing passages of scripture.  
How do you respond when you read Bible passages like these?*

### **1 Samuel 15:1-5**

Samuel said to Saul, “The Lord sent me to anoint you king over his people Israel; now therefore listen to the words of the Lord. Thus says the Lord of hosts, ‘I will punish the Amalekites for what they did in opposing the Israelites when they came up out of Egypt. Now go and attack Amalek, and utterly destroy all that they have; do not spare them, but kill both man and woman, child and infant, ox and sheep, camel and donkey.’”

So Saul summoned the people, and numbered them in Telaim, two hundred thousand foot soldiers, and ten thousand soldiers of Judah. Saul came to the city of the Amalekites and lay in wait in the valley.

### **Colossians 3:22**

Slaves, obey your earthly masters in everything, not only while being watched and in order to please them, but wholeheartedly, fearing the Lord.

## **Affirmation of Faith (Unison)**

**We believe the Bible is unique.**

**God breathes life into the Scriptures and through it,  
into our community of faith and our very souls.**

**We believe the Bible has a unique role in our community,  
challenging, and guiding us in ways that no other text can.**

**It teaches, reproves, corrects, trains and equips us  
for love and good works.**

**We confess the Bible is sometimes confusing,  
at times it can be disturbing**

**and we do not pretend to understand everything about it.**

**Yet, we commit to meditate on the Bible,  
to study the words within and to wrestle with our questions and doubts,  
believing that when we do, God will bless us richly.**

## Sharing of Our Gifts

### Hymn 309

### Wonderful Words of Life

*Sing them over again to me, wonderful words of life;  
Let me more of their beauty see, wonderful words of life.  
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

*Christ, the blessed One, gives to all wonderful words of life;  
Sinner, list to the loving call, wonderful words of life.  
All so freely given, wooing us to heaven:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

*Sweetly echo the gospel call, wonderful words of life;  
Offer pardon and peace to all, wonderful words of life.  
Jesus only Savior, sanctify forever:  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.  
Beautiful words, wonderful words, wonderful words of life.*

### Message

### Jesus is the Norm of the Bible

Carol McEntyre

### †Hymn of Commitment 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.*

## **Life of the Church**

### **†Benediction**

### **†Postlude**

Largo  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

by Elgar

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## Worship Notes

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*Praise the Lord! O Heavens, Adore Him*, Words: The Foundling Hospital Collection, London, 1796, alt.: para. of Psalm 148. Music: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797.

*O Word of God Incarnate*, Words: William W. How, 1867, alt. Music: Neuvermehrtes Gesangbuch, Meiningen, 1683.

*Wonderful Words of Life*, Words and Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1874.

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

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# Week at a Glance

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## 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

## Tuesday, August 10

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

## Friday, August 13

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

## Sunday, August 15

9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour

– Dr. Kevin Dougherty speaks about the *Thriving for Racial Justice Project* in the Fellowship Hall

11:15 am Traditional Worship in the sanctuary and streamed online



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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, you can fill out a visitor card at [fbc-columbia.org/guest](http://fbc-columbia.org/guest) or use this QR code.



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

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 Dougherty, one of the sociologists working on the Thrive project will be our guest during the small group hour. Dr. Dougherty 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.

## Extra Mile Transition House Workdays

Thanks to all who came through our tours on Sunday to pray for the ministry and work of the Extra Mile program. We have much to do before September 1 to prepare for our next resident. To join our efforts, click the Volunteer rotator on the church webpage at [www.fbc-columbia.org](http://www.fbc-columbia.org), and sign up to help with immediate projects (painting, deep cleaning, light maintenance) or sign up for one of our ongoing ministry teams (Hospitality, Cleaning, Maintenance, and Grounds). You can find out more about these individual teams on the sign up page. Work is beginning this week and we hope to start and finish all the painting between August 15-27 in preparation for our final cleaning and finishing touches to be done after church on August 29. You can also email Michael McEntyre at [mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) if you have any questions or want to pick a specific time to serve. Thanks for helping to make this ministry a success.

## First Baptist Fall Kick-off Fall Carnival

Our Fall Kick-off theme this year is an old-fashioned Carnival. Instead of having a potluck for Fall Kick-off, we are serving barbeque sandwiches and hot dogs, with chips and baked beans. We will let you know the per person cost, those who are able can pay full price and others are invited to pay what they can. We will be eating outside and will 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 and photo opportunities. Or, if you'd like, simply sit and talk with old friends and make some new ones too.

## The Wardrobe Celebrates 50 years of Ministry

The Wardrobe, supported by volunteers and donors from First Baptist Church for many years, hit a major milestone in 2020 as it enjoyed its 50th year of operation. COVID-19 interrupted a planned celebration last year and to get back on track a 51st Anniversary will be celebrated on August 18th, 2021. Guests and volunteers are invited for refreshments during normal operation hours of 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. The Wardrobe provides clothing at no charge to disadvantaged clients and also sells to the public. Income from sales is used to help provide shoes for low-income school children each year.

## Blessing of the Backpacks

Join us on August 22 during both worship services for our annual blessing of the backpacks and the new school year. Participants will have the opportunity to share about their feelings for returning to school, receive a backpack tag, and be reminded that God is with us all the time. Whether starting school for the first time, moving to a new school, staying at the same school, or returning to school in person after learning virtually, children, teens, and adults are invited to bring their backpacks and receive a blessing.

## New to the Pew Blessing for 1st and 2nd Graders

With the beginning of the school year, we are excited to welcome our newest worshippers to the pews. On Sunday August 22, during both worship services we will be presenting Bibles to our first and second graders and offering a blessing over them and their families. As a church family, we want to celebrate this milestone and commit to talking alongside our kids in their faith.

## Join Chancel Bells

### *Wednesday Night Rehearsals Begin August 25*

Are you looking to join an amazing group of people? Do you have a desire to make beautiful music? Do you want to hit metal things with mallets to de-stress? Come and join the Chancel Bells where all of these things and more can be a reality! Handbells are a great way to express yourself musically and grow your musical talents. Don't know how to ring or even how to read music? Never fear, handbells are easy to learn and a great avenue for learning to read music.

Chancel Bells rehearse on Wednesday nights from 6:30 pm to 7:30 pm in the sanctuary. We will begin rehearsals on Wednesday, August 25. Nursery care is available for those who need it. If you are interested in joining us or have any questions, please contact Handbell Director Noah Hartsfield at [nhartsfield2010@gmail.com](mailto:nhartsfield2010@gmail.com).



**First Baptist Church**  
columbia, mo

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Church Staff

*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*