



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 29, 2021

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken
Colleen Ostercamp & Becki Jones, *piano*

arr. Kraus

†Call to Worship (responsive)

We gather to worship God,

Who creates us and loves us;

Who gifts us with diversity and makes us for community;

Who gives Jesus Christ to show us how to live;

Who inspires children, youth, young adults, and people of all ages,

To seek justice, share power,

and live together in love and equality;

Who invites us to join the struggle for wholeness and wellbeing for all,

and whose presence, grace, and love

sustain us in our living.

We gather to worship God.

To God be all glory, honor, and praise!

†Opening Hymn 2

Holy, Holy, Holy

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Pastoral Prayer

Amos 5:21-24

I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Hymn

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

*Let justice flow like streams of sparkling water pure,
enabling growth, refreshing life, abundant, cleansing, sure.*

*Let righteousness roll on as others' cares we heed,
an everflowing stream of faith translated into deed.*

*So may God's plumb line, straight, define our measure true,
and justice, right, and peace pervade this world our whole life through.*

Litany for Love in Action

God, we know that if we say we love you

And neglect to love our neighbors,

Our words are empty

And our faith is practically useless.

We know that there are many in need of care,

In need of help and uplifting,

Many unjust systems in need of dismantling;

So we set ourselves to the work of Love -

Not just in our words, or in virtue-signaling or performance,

But in truth and action.

Make of us a people unafraid to tackle hard problems,

Unperturbed by setbacks,

Unswayed by resistance,

Committed to the work of peace and justice,

Committed to caring for the people you know and love

Our siblings, our fellow sojourners on this earth.

We belong to a family of Beloveds,

Beloved by you,

Beloved by Christ,

Beloved by one another.

If anything or anyone seeks to condemn us,

You are always reassuring our hearts.

If we get tired or discouraged,

You restore our souls

If we find ourselves in need,

You provide out of your abundance.

So let us not waste one moment here,

Nor fail to leave the world better than we found it;

So that everyone we meet will understand

That Divine Love abides in us.

We serve Love

And we are Love.

Sharing of Our Gifts

Special Music

It Is Well With My Soul
Noah Hartsfield, *handbell solo*
Colleen Ostercamp, *flute*
Becki Jones, *piano*

arr. Jason Krug

Message

Carol McEntyre

†Hymn of Commitment 429

Let Your Heart Be Broken

Life of the Church

†Benediction (responsive)

Now, go forth from this place with renewed inspiration
to do the work of God.
Seek good, not evil, love goodness, and establish justice.
This the greatest offering we can make;
letting justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever flowing stream.
We will go in peace, with love for our neighbors.

†Postlude

Symphony in Bb
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

Le Bègue/arr. Larson

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, from the 13th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, posted on the Presbyterian Church USA website.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Words: Reginald Heber, 1826, alt. Music: John B. Dykes, 1861.

Let Justice Flow Like Streams, Text © 1984 Jane Parker Huber, admin. Westminster John Knox Press

Litany for Love in Action, by Fran Pratt.

Let Your Heart Be Broken, ©1975 The Evangelical Covenant Church. Words: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1975. Music: James Mountain, 1876.

Benediction~written by Phyllis Tenney, a former BVS volunteer. Posted on the Church of the Brethren website. <http://www.brethren.org/resources/>

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, August 29

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 31

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, September 1

6:00 pm Youth Semester Kick-Off at the Chang's

6:30 pm Chancel Bells

7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, September 3

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

Sunday, September 5

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

Monday, September 6

Labor Day Holiday – Offices Closed

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.



Youth Semester Kick-Off for the Calling at the Chang's House

Wednesday, September 1 at 6:00pm

The Calling, our mid-week gathering for 6-12 grade students, kicks off at the Chang's house on Wednesday night, Sept 1, for dinner from the grill and games on the lawn (including Pickle Ball!). We will meet from 6:00-7:30pm. We will start our regular Wednesday gatherings for the semester the following week in the Youth Suite at the church from 6:00-7:15pm with a series entitled *Faith in an Anxious World*. For more information or questions, contact Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org

Convictions Book Discussion Sunday, Sept. 12 at 5:00 pm

If you took part in our Summer One Read and read Marcus Borg's book *Convictions: How I Learned What Matters Most*, you are invited to gather via Zoom on Sunday, September 12 at 5:00 pm for a discussion of the book with Pastor Carol McEntyre. If you plan to participate, please email Pastor Carol for the Zoom link.

New Sermon Series - September 12

The Psalms: Pursuing God in Mountains and Valleys

This fall, we will get the chance to explore the Psalms together. Beginning September 12, Pastor Carol will preach on the Psalms, and we will engage with them in worship through prayer experiences and music. In addition, we are excited that Dr. Nancy deClaissé-Walford will be our Sheppard Lecture speaker and will lead us in a Bible study on the Psalms during the adult small group hour at 10:15 am on Sundays. Dr. deClaissé-Walford is an author and professor of Old Testament at the McAfee School of Theology at Mercer University in Atlanta, GA, where she has taught for 22 years.

Titles of Psalms Bible Studies with Dr. deClaissé-Walford

9/12 - Hearing the Voices of Humanity in the Psalter—exploring the various kinds of psalms

9/19 - It's Not a Miscellaneous Collection—the “story” of the hymnbook of ancient Israel

9/26 - Bringing Our Hurting Selves to God—lamenting with the Psalter: It's okay to not be okay.

10/3 - The Wonder of Joy and Celebration—singing praises with the Psalter

10/10 - Reading the Psalter Again for the First Time—new understandings of the psalms

Titles of the Psalms Series Sermons by Pastor Carol McEntyre

9/12 - Psalm 30 Thanksgiving!

9/19 - Psalm 55 A Container for Anger

9/26 - Psalm 84 Sacred Space

10/3 - Psalm 121 Never Alone

10/10 - Psalm 150 Praise, *Praise*, **Praise!**

Parents' Night Out – September 10 from 5:30-7:30 pm

Parents' Night Out is back and while the grownups are away, First Kids are having a Tie-Dye Party! Caregivers are invited to step away for a few hours, while First Kids (4+) have a blast and make some crafts. Pizza will be provided as well as a T-shirt to tie-dye. Nursery care will also be available for those under 4. **RSVP is required by September 5** in order to ensure that we have enough adult supervision and shirts. If there are any dietary restrictions, please let Brittany know upon registration.

Racial Justice Team Monthly Discussions

The First Baptist Racial Justice Team extends an invitation to anyone (High school age youth and adult) who wishes to participate in our monthly discussions as we actively pursue what it means to be an anti-racist. Our next monthly gathering will take place Sunday September 12, from 1:00-2:30 p.m. in the 2nd Floor Conference Room. If you would like to receive a discussion outline prior to the meeting, remote Zoom access, or if you have any questions, please email team member, Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com

Combined On-Lawn Worship - September 19, 11:15 am

At First Baptist, one of the gifts of the pandemic was On-Lawn Worship! We enjoyed worshipping outdoors on our beautiful front lawn and want to continue that practice from time to time. As such, we invite you to join us for Combined Outdoor Worship on the front lawn of the church on Sunday, September 19 at 11:15 am. This will be our only worship service for the day. As a reminder, bring your lawn chair.

College and Young Adult Fellowship Begins September 12

We are excited to welcome back our college students! On the second Sunday of every month, First Baptist will be hosting Second Sunday Fellowship, an evening of fun and fellowship just for our college and young adults. On Sunday September 12, young adults are invited to the student ministry suite (on the 3rd floor of the church). We will have a host of games to choose from and brainstorm other fellowship activities we want to do this semester. Contact Pastor Brittany for any questions.

First Baptist Women's Zoom

A year ago a group of First Baptist Women began meeting over Zoom each week to share time, devotions and prayers. This is an open invitation to all First Baptist women and friends to consider joining us for year two! The Zoom time is changing to Thursdays from 10:30 am - 11:30 am. The following three books have been selected for upcoming conversation: *Soul Feast* by Marjorie Thompson, *After Amen* by Max Lucado and *Love is the Way* by Bishop Michael Curry.

We will begin on September 9 with *Soul Feast* by Marjorie Thompson. It is a beautifully written work which examines Christian spiritual disciplines. The author invites us to sample, examine and immerse in practices that nurture our Christian experience and our individual spiritual journeys with God. We will work through this book together for a while, not rushing the process. More information about the other two books, *After Amen* by Max Lucado and *Love is the Way* by Bishop Michael Curry, will follow as we near their start dates.

First Baptist has partnered with our local bookstore, Skylark Bookshop, to purchase *Soul Feast* and copies will be available for purchase in the church office in September. Books are \$14.00. To reserve your copy or to join the small group's email list, email Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org Feel free to Zoom in any or all Thursdays.



First Baptist Church

columbia, mo

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