



Discernment: Listening for
God's voice

Our Worship of God

September 3, 2017

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

*“Discernment is walking into a
patch of God light.”
(C.S. Lewis)*

Greeting

Brittany McDonald Null

Invitation to Worship

Prelude

A Hymn of Glory Let Us Sing

arr. Manz

Introit

Guide My Feet

Invocation (unison)

God our Father,

You have a plan for each one of us,

You hold out to us a future full of hope.

Give us the wisdom of Your Spirit

So that we can see the shape of Your plan

In the gifts You have given us,

And in the circumstances of our daily lives.

Give us the freedom of Your Spirit,

To seek You with all our hearts,

And to choose Your will above all else.

We make this prayer through Christ Our Lord. Amen.

†Proclamation Hymn 634

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

†Prayer of Discernment (unison)

Creator God, be in my mind and my thoughts.

Lord Jesus Christ, be in my heart and my attitude.

Holy Spirit, be in my actions, my interactions and my understanding.

Amen.

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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 sins, 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 for ever. Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Maizie DuCoulombier

Numbers 22:21-31

So Balaam got up in the morning, saddled his donkey, and went with the officials of Moab.

God's anger was kindled because he was going, and the angel of the Lord took his stand in the road as his adversary. Now he was riding on the donkey, and his two servants were with him. The donkey saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with a drawn sword in his hand; so the donkey turned off the road, and went into the field; and Balaam struck the donkey, to turn it back onto the road. Then the angel of the Lord stood in a narrow path between the vineyards, with a wall on either side. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it scraped against the wall, and scraped Balaam's foot against the wall; so he struck it again. Then the angel of the Lord went ahead, and stood in a narrow place, where there was no way to turn either to the right or to the left. When the donkey saw the angel of the Lord, it lay down under Balaam; and Balaam's anger was kindled, and he struck the donkey with his staff.

Then the Lord opened the mouth of the donkey, and it said to Balaam, “What have I done to you, that you have struck me these three times?” Balaam said to the donkey, “Because you have made a fool of me! I wish I had a sword in my hand! I would kill you right now!” But the donkey said to Balaam, “Am I not your donkey, which you have ridden all your life to this day? Have I been in the habit of treating you this way?” And he said, “No.” Then the Lord opened the eyes of Balaam, and he saw the angel of the Lord standing in the road, with his drawn sword in his hand; and he bowed down, falling on his face.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

†Gospel Acclamation

Re-joyce! and be glad, bless-ed are you, ho-ly are you, re -
joyce! and be glad! Yours is the king-dom of God.

Gospel Reading

Maizie DuCoulombier

John 16:4-16

But I have said these things to you so that when their hour comes you may remember that I told you about them. “I did not say these things to you from the beginning, because I was with you. But now I am going to him who sent me; yet none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your hearts.

Nevertheless I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you. And when he comes, he will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: about sin, because they do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned. “I still have many things to say to you, but

you cannot bear them now. When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth; for he will not speak on his own, but will speak whatever he hears, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. He will glorify me, because he will take what is mine and declare it to you. All that the Father has is mine. For this reason I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

“A little while, and you will no longer see me, and again a little while, and you will see me.”

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

†**Hymn 641**

All the Way

†**Offertory Sentence**

Offertory Anthem

A True Encounter

arr. de Silva

We seek his light, we seek his face. In ev'ry soul, we touch his grace.

We seek his voice, we seek his word: a true encounter with our Lord.

In ev'ry heart, our God abides; we may not see him with our eyes.

His loving presence still is found, for he is there, where love abounds.

We drink the wine, we share the bread; with humble hands, the hungry fed.

The stranger sits as welcome guest, for Christ is here to offer rest.

No heart shall be turned away, no soul shall weep in dread despair.

For ev'ry road the pilgrim walks, there follows, too, our saving Lord.

When in the night our fear would reign, we reach beyond, to heal our pain,

to God the way, the truth, the life, to God, our hope in darkest night.

A true encounter let us seek that we might touch his hands and feet.

When love is shared in bread and word, there we shall meet the risen Lord.

When we have reached the distant shore, we meet the Lord we've come to know.

Our pilgrim way has brought us home to know God's love forevermore.

And ev'ry voice shall sing aloud, for we have walked on holy ground.

And ev'ry tongue proclaim in word our true encounter with the Lord.

Message

What God's Guidance Is Not

Carol McEntyre

Preparation for Communion

God Be In My Head

Observance of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
The Bread Broken, the Cup Shared

†Hymn

Like a Mother with Her Children
Sung to BEACH SPRING

*Like a mother with her children You will comfort us each day,
giving guidance on our journey, as we seek to find our way.
When we walk through fiery trials, You will help us take a stand;
when we pass through troubled waters, You hold out Your tender hand.*

*In Your image You have made us, calling each of us by name,
giving strength for every challenge as our gifts we fully claim.*

*We can hear You gently saying, “Do not worry, do not fear;
for I’ll always go beside you; every moment I am near.”*

*With Your vision You inspire us, giving each a holy call;
we will open doors of freedom by Your power in us all.
Life abundant spreads before us as with eagle’s wings we soar;
joining in Your new creation, we rejoice forevermore.*

†Benediction

Postlude

Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 3

10:15pm Small Groups

Various Classrooms

Monday, September 4

Office Closed for Labor Day

Tuesday, September 5

11:30 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters

E2

Wednesday, September 6

6 pm The Calling for Youth

No rehearsals this week

3rd Floor Youth Suite

Sunday, September 10

10:15pm Small Groups

6-8 pm College/Young Adult Kickoff

Various Classrooms

Lazer Lanes

NOTE: Senior Yoga will return to normal schedule in the parlor on Sept. 11.

Announcements

Sunday Morning Small Groups Back in Session Starting Today

The following Sunday morning small groups are dedicated to studying scripture and building community among the adults of First Baptist. Beginning today, we resume our normal Sunday morning schedule, meeting at 10:15 am. If you haven't participated in a group in the past, this is a great time to join one.

The Faith Forum Class is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day, share information, and ask questions to learn from one another. We try to put the lesson in the context of our personal lives and current events. The class does not have a teacher but all help with the learning. Charles Hunter helps guide the discussion. Anyone is welcome, any Sunday you want to stop in. We meet in E-2 by the elevator on the second floor.

Young(ish) Adult Group is made up of people who are single and married, with kids and without. We meet in the library outside the church offices on the second floor. We spend a lot of time building community, just getting to know each other and sharing life. The facilitator is Sherry Wyatt. Come join us!

The Discussion Class is beginning a study of God's covenants with humans. These lessons challenge us to live as the covenant people we are, reminding us of God's promise: "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you. I will remove your stony heart from your body and replace it with a living one" (Ezekiel 36:26). Join us for the journey. We meet in the Parlor on the second floor!

The Women's Small Group studies and discusses the sermon text for the day; the group is facilitated by Pastor Carol McEntyre. We try to create a space for women to develop deep friendships, share joys and concerns, support one another and study scripture together. Join us in the hospitality room off the Sanctuary.

“Fear Not!”

Homemade ice cream cometh ... and so does Advent. On Sunday, September 17 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall we will be asking your assistance as we prepare for our Advent theme, “And None Shall Be Afraid.” During Advent, our worship spaces will be adorned with thousands of stars, and we need your help to get ready. We’ll have “star making” opportunities for young and young at heart – and to further entice you to join us, there will be homemade ice cream! Childcare will be provided for our preschoolers. Hope you can join us for a treat-filled time.

New Sunday Small Group: The Work of Racial Equality

Join us for a conversation on The Work of Racial Equality, beginning Sunday, September 17 during the Small Group Hour (10:15 am) in the Conference room. The curriculum will challenge us to engage in safe, meaningful and substantive conversations about race. The curriculum is for people of all races and ethnicities, but we will engage in discussions about the ways that being white is an advantage in our daily lives. The conversation is not about guilt or shame, but it is about telling the truth and bringing things to the surface that we don't always see -- things that may be holding us back. If we're open to it, this curriculum is an invitation to wholeness. Julie Walker and Misty Phillips will co-facilitate the conversation. The group is limited to 12 participants. To sign up or for more information contact Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com.

Mid-Week Small Group Opportunity

The Koinonia small group will begin on Thursday, September 7th, at 6 pm and meet on the first and third Thursdays of every month in the Conference Room. Koinonia is a no prep group with a non-linear format. Feel free to come when you are can without worrying about catching up to the rest of the group. We will be watching and discussing the Nooma video series. There will be coffee and sweets; if you can, please bring a dollar or two to help with cost. Child Care will be available. Contact Noah Hartsfield at nhartsfield2010@gmail.com or Abby Hartsfield at arc7cd@gmail.com for more information

The Shack

Join us for a five-week study of The Shack! We will meet in Tuesday nights, September 12th through October 10th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. We will watch the movie together in the first session, and have a panel discussion in the second session. Child care will be available.

The Calling

The Calling is for students in 6th through 12th grades. The group meets throughout the school year each Wednesday from 6:00 – 7:15 pm.

College and Young Adult Ministries

Our weekly college Bible Study resumes on Sunday, Sept. 10th with a kick-off from 6-8 pm at Lazer Lanes.

Worship Notes

The Gospel acclamation Text: David Haas (b.1957), based on Matthew 5:3-12. Music: David Haas.

Like a Mother WORDS: Jann Aldredge-Clanton, 2000. MUSIC: Allison Gilliam, 2007. © Celebrating Grace, Inc.

Maizie DuCoulombier is our scripture reader for today. Maizie just began her 4th year at Columbia College, finishing up her bachelors in Health Care Administration. She has started traveling to explore her next destination post-grad and says, “I’m very excited for all of the opportunities ahead!”

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11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more contemporary worship experience, First Baptist Church offers Awakening Contemporary Worship at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

The flowers are given by Randy & Sherry Wyatt in memory of Sterling's 27th birthday

For Children During Worship:

1st- 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth (grades 6-12) and Adult Combined Small Groups meet in the Parlor on the second floor for a study of the Enneagram.

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Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor
Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions
Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident
Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry
Alex Bennett, Praise Band Director † Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist
Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Director
Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator
Bethany James, Nursery Director † Jason Bell, Custodian