



Discernment: Listening for
God's voice

Our Worship of God

September 17, 2017

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

“When the choice has been made, the person who has made it ought with great diligence to go to prayer before God our Lord, to offer him that choice and to beg his Divine Majesty to receive and confirm it provided it is to his greater service and praise.”

Ignatius of Loyola

Greeting

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Invitation to Worship

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.

Prelude

Jesus Shall Reign

arr. Kim

Call to Worship (responsive)

Throughout the ages, disciples have said,

“I will follow you wherever you go.”

Lord, give us the freedom to follow you

in the ways of love.

We come from busy homes, filled with little time
to consider Christ in our lives.

Lord, give us the strength to follow you in the ways of peace.

In times of struggle, we look to God for help.

**Lord, give us the opportunity to follow you
in the ways of kindness.**

Today, we celebrate the Holy Spirit,
who shows us the joy of following God.

**Lord, give us the patience to follow you
in the ways of faith. Amen.**

†Processional Hymn

God, You Have Led Us

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)



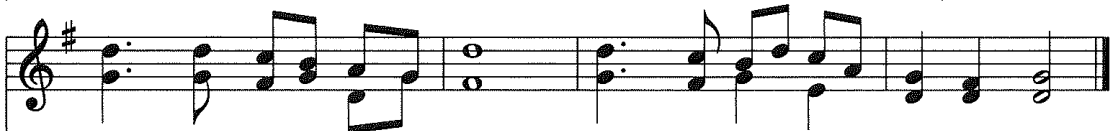
1. God, our Fa - ther, You have led us to this mo - ment in this place.
2. God, our Fa - ther, Your Son taught us our lives lost for Him are gain.
3. God, our Fa - ther, ev - er lead us from this mo - ment in this place.



Fo - cused here, with - in and 'round us, dreams and hopes u -
Help us, then, re - joice in chal - lenge 'til our lives Your
Help us see Di - vine po - ten - tial in each chal - lenge,



nite with grace. God, our Fa - ther, You have led us.
goals at - tain. God, our Fa - ther, Your Son taught us.
in each face. God, our Fa - ther, You have led us.



Through Your Spir - it lead us still. Through Your Spir - it lead us still.
Through Your Spir - it teach us still. Through Your Spir - it teach us still.
Through Your Spir - it lead us still. Through Your Spir - it lead us still.

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

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.

Anthem

If You Will Only Let God Guide You

Cherwien

*If you but trust in God to guide you, with hopeful heart through all your ways,
You will find strength, with God beside you, to bear the worst of evil days;
For those who trust God's changeless love
Build on the rock that will not move.*

*What gain is there in futile weeping, in helpless anger and distress?
If you are in God's care and keeping, in sorrow will God love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross
Will bring you safe through ev'ry loss.*

*Be still, be still, and wait God's pleasure in cheerful hope, with heart content,
Trusting that grace which knows no measure will by unbounded Love be sent;
Nor doubt our inmost want are clear
To One who holds us always near.*

*Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving; offer your service faithfully,
And trust God's word, though undeserving, there find the truth to set you free.
God will not fail to guide and bless
Those who embrace God's faithfulness.*

Old Testament Reading

Richard Hayden

Deuteronomy 30:11-20

Surely, this commandment that I am commanding you today is not too hard for you, nor is it too far away. It is not in heaven, that you should say, "Who will go up to heaven for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?"

Neither is it beyond the sea, that you should say, “Who will cross to the other side of the sea for us, and get it for us so that we may hear it and observe it?” No, the word is very near to you; it is in your mouth and in your heart for you to observe.

See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and adversity. If you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I am commanding you today, by loving the Lord your God, walking in his ways, and observing his commandments, decrees, and ordinances, then you shall live and become numerous, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you do not hear, but are led astray to bow down to other gods and serve them, I declare to you today that you shall perish; you shall not live long in the land that you are crossing the Jordan to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth to witness against you today that I have set before you life and death, blessings and curses. Choose life so that you and your descendants may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying him, and holding fast to him; for that means life to you and length of days, so that you may live in the land that the Lord swore to give to your ancestors, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Discernment Practice of Consolation and Desolation

Is this decision moving us toward, God [consolation] or away from him [desolation]? Here are some of the main symptoms of desolation and the most commonly experienced blessings of consolation:

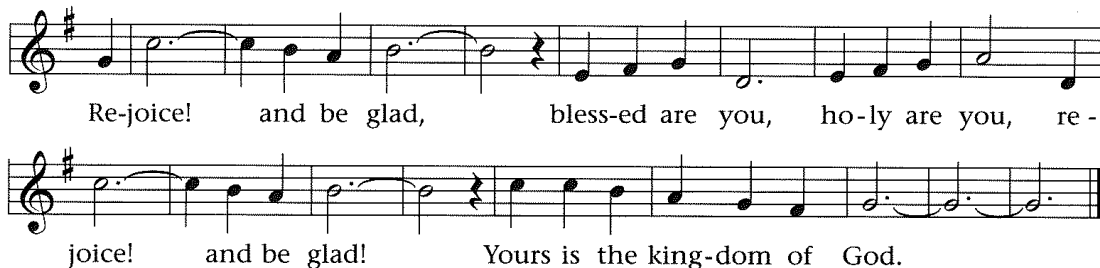
Desolation

- turns us in on ourselves
- drives us down the spiral ever deeper into our own negative feelings
- cuts us off from community
- makes us want to give up on things that used to be important to us
- takes over our whole consciousness and crowds out our distant vision
- covers up all our landmarks
- drains us of energy

Consolation

- directs our focus outside and beyond ourselves
- lifts our hearts so that we can see the joys and sorrows of other people
- connects us with others
- restores balance and refreshes our inner vision
- shows us where God is active in our lives and where God is leading us
- is energizing

†Gospel Acclamation



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

†Gospel Reading

Richard Hayden

John 10:1-10

“Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.” Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, “Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

†Hymn 641

All the Way

Message

Seeking Confirmation

Carol McEntyre

†Hymn of Commitment 635

He Leadeth Me

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Royal Oak

Bennett

†Benediction

God Be in My Head
Chancel Bells and Choir

arr. McChesney

Postlude

Prelude in G Minor
Jordan Kausler, Organ

Bach

Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 17

10:15 am Small Groups	<i>Various Classrooms</i>
4 pm Children's Music Meeting	<i>Conference Room</i>
5 pm Ice Cream and Advent Stars	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>
5:30-7 pm College/Young Bible Study	<i>Youth Suite</i>

Monday, September 18

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga	<i>Parlor</i>
1-3:30 pm Staff Meeting	<i>Conference Room</i>

Tuesday, September 19

11:30 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters	<i>E2</i>
6 pm – Faith & Film: The Shack	<i>Fellowship Hall</i>

Wednesday, September 20

6-7:15 pm The Calling for 6 th -12 th Grade	<i>3rd Floor Youth Suite</i>
5:30 pm Psalm Players Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>
6:30 pm Chancel Bells Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>
7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal	<i>Sanctuary</i>

Saturday, September 23

11 am Memorial Service for Marjorie Bay	<i>Sanctuary</i>
3 pm Senior Girls Recital	<i>Sanctuary</i>

Sunday, September 24

10:15 am Small Groups	<i>Various Classrooms</i>
5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Bible Study	<i>Youth Suite</i>

Announcements

New Sunday Small Group: The Work of Racial Equality

A conversation on The Work of Racial Equality begins this morning during the Small Group Hour (10:15 am) in the Conference Room. The curriculum challenges participants to engage in safe, meaningful and substantive conversations about race. Julie Walker and Misty Phillips are co-facilitators. If you are interested, contact Julie Walker at jbethwalker58@gmail.com.

The Shack

Join us for a five-week study of The Shack! We meet on Tuesday nights through October 10 at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall. On October 19th there will be a panel discussion about the movie; the remaining sessions will include a discussion about portions of The Shack.

Homemade ice cream cometh ... and so does Advent.

Today at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall we will begin preparing 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. This evening 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.

Pastoral Resident to Preach

Brittany McDonald Null, our Pastoral Resident, will be preaching next Sunday, September 24. We look forward to her first opportunity to minister in this way!

Reception in Honor of Alex Bennett

Alex Bennett, our Praise Band Director, is stepping down after many years of service. We are grateful for his ministry. Come express your gratitude and join us for a reception in his honor next Sunday, September 24, following the Awakening Worship Service.

First Baptist 101

If you sense that God is drawing you to the community at First Baptist, we celebrate that and we want you to have a chance to get to know our church! First Baptist 101 is a class for adults who are new members or who are interested in learning more about First Baptist. We will address questions like, *“What does it mean to be a member of First Baptist?”* and *“What does it mean to be Baptist?”*

First Baptist 101 will meet for an hour on three consecutive Sundays beginning October 1 at 4 pm in the Parlor, located on the 2nd floor across from the church offices. Here is an overview of each week:

- Sunday, October 1 – Baptist History and Polity taught by Rev. Bob Russell
- Sunday, October 8 – Understanding First Baptist leadership structure, the church staff, committees, goals and vision of the church taught by Pastor Carol McEntyre
- Sunday, October 15 – Overview of First Baptist ministries, opportunities to serve, and a building tour

For more information or to sign up for child care, contact Pastor Carol McEntyre at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or 573-442-1149

Afternoon at the Farm

Save the date! Our annual Afternoon at the Farm is Sunday, October 22 at 3 p.m., with hayrides, trunk-or-treat, and dinner. More details will be published soon.

Sheppard Lecture

You don't want to miss our Fall Sheppard Lecture, October 28-29, featuring Amanda Tyler, Executive Director of the Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty (BJC). Primarily an education and advocacy organization, the BJC is a leading voice in Washington, D.C., fighting to uphold the historic Baptist principles of freedom and separation of church and state. The BJC is the only faith-based agency devoted solely to religious liberty and church-state separation. The topic of the lecture series is “Liberty & Justice for some? Understanding Our Baptist Identity.”

Worship Notes

God, Our Father, You Have Led Us: WORDS: Terry W. York, 1984. MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907.
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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 Jim & Verna Rhodes in celebration of their 67th wedding anniversary (9/17/1950) and the recent birthdays of three of their four great granddaughters: Reagan, Rhyan, and Raleigh Roberts (ages 4, 9, & 11)

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.

1112 E. Broadway | 573-442-1149 | www.fbc-columbia.org

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