



WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

And what do I do with it...

Our Worship of God

September 15, 2019

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Greeting

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Celebration

Callahan

†Prayer of Invocation and the Lord's Prayer (responsive)

God of holy 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 –

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.

†Processional Hymn 532

Be Thou My Vision

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

We long for wisdom, O Lord, but prefer that it be our own.

**We turn away from the ideas of others
and ignore the possibility and promise that come
from life together with you.**

Most of all, we drown out your gift of Wisdom
as she seeks to get our attention,
for we believe that we know better
or would prefer to decide where we make her welcome.

(silence for confession)

Forgive us, loving God.

Bring an end to the self-righteousness that ignores you,
and awaken us anew to the Wisdom that comes
only from dwelling with you and on the Scriptures.

**Show us how to walk in your ways
and listen to your promise each and every day.**

Anthem

The Lord is My Shepherd

*The Lord is my shepherd; therefore can I lack nothing.
He shall feed me in a green pasture,
and lead me forth beside the waters of comfort.
He shall convert my soul and bring me forth in the paths of righteousness,
for his Name's sake.
Yea, though I walk thro' the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil;
For thou art with me: Thy rod and thy staff comfort me.
Thou shalt prepare a table for me against them that trouble me:
Thou hast anointed my head with oil and my cup shall be full.
But thy loving kindness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life:
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord, forever, forever.*

Prayer for Illumination (unison)

**O God, may your Spirit awaken
our imagination and devotion,
so that as we read the words of Scripture
the people, events, and teachings may spring to life
and allow us to meet you face to face.**

Hymn

Ancient Words



An-cient words ev-er true, chang-ing me and chang-ing you; we have
come with o - pen hearts, O let the an-cient words im - part.

Proverbs 26:4-5

Do not answer fools according to their folly,
or you will be a fool yourself.
Answer fools according to their folly,
or they will be wise in their own eyes.

Luke 16:1-13

Then Jesus said to the disciples, “There was a rich man who had a manager, and charges were brought to him that this man was squandering his property. So he summoned him and said to him, ‘What is this that I hear about you? Give me an accounting of your management, because you cannot be my manager any longer.’

Then the manager said to himself, ‘What will I do, now that my master is taking the position away from me? I am not strong enough to dig, and I am ashamed to beg. I have decided what to do so that, when I am dismissed as manager, people may welcome me into their homes.’ So, summoning his master’s debtors one by one, he asked the first, ‘How much do you owe my master?’ He answered, ‘A hundred jugs of olive oil.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill, sit down quickly, and make it fifty.’ Then he asked another, ‘And how much do you owe?’ He replied, ‘A hundred containers of wheat.’ He said to him, ‘Take your bill and make it eighty.’ And his master commended the dishonest manager because he had acted shrewdly; for the children of this age are more shrewd in dealing with their own generation than are the children of light.

And I tell you, make friends for yourselves by means of dishonest wealth so that when it is gone, they may welcome you into the eternal homes. “Whoever is faithful in a very little is faithful also in much; and whoever is dishonest in a very little is dishonest also in much. If then you have not been faithful with the dishonest wealth, who will entrust to you the true riches? And if you have not been faithful with what belongs to another, who will give you what is your own? No slave can serve two masters; for a slave will either hate the one and love the other, or be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and wealth.”

**Holy Spirit, as we reflect on these words,
give us the ability to translate them into today’s world
and the courage to live them out in the circumstances of our own lives.**

†Hymn 557

Open My Eyes

Message

Carol McEntyre

The Bible Isn’t as Clear as We Would Like It to Be

†Hymn of Commitment

Light on the Path

1. Light on the path, a lamp a - bout our way,
2. Here may we find what Je - sus did and said,
3. Truth for the seek - er as the seed is sown,
4. Here are the trea - sures of the realms a - bove:

wis - dom to lead us through the long - est day,
see Him in glo - ry, ris - en from the dead;
bread for the hun - gry, strength be - yond our own;
prom - ise of mer - cy, nev - er - fail - ing love,

guid - ing our steps as once the Sav - ior trod:
claim for our - selves His cross and emp - ty grave,
sword of the Spir - it, bid - ding sin de - part:
life more a - bun - dant by the Spir - it given,

here in the Scrip - tures is the Word of God.
shar - ing His life with those He came to save.
here is the Word of life to warm the heart.
Christ our com - pan - ion on the road to heaven.

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Simple Gifts

arr. Held

†Benediction

Worship Notes

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Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 8

10:15 am Summer Book Club Discussion: *Inspired*

Parlor

5:30 pm College & Young Adult Small Group

Student Suite

Monday, September 9

9-10:30 Senior Yoga

Parlor

1-3:00 pm Staff Meeting

Office Commons

Tuesday, September 10

11:45 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters

Conference Room

Wednesday, September 11

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

6-7:15pm The Calling

Student Suite

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Sanctuary

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Announcements

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here

We would love to help you connect with our church. To learn more about First Baptist, fill out an information card during worship and drop it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after worship. You can also stop by the Connections table and pick up our newsletter, *The Spire*. Information about our Children's Ministry and some of our adult small groups can be found on the back of the bulletin.

What is the Bible? Sermon Series - Sept. 8 - Oct. 13

During this sermon series, we are going to take a deep theological dive into the Bible. We will talk about what it is, how this ancient book speaks today, the parts of the Bible that trouble us, and what we do with it.

Summer Book Club Discussion Groups

If you have been reading our summer book club selections about the Bible, we wanted to let you know when the discussions will take place. The groups will meet during the Small Group Hour at 10:15 am in the Parlor on the second floor. We look forward to the conversation!

Inspired by Rachel Held Evans
September 15
10:15 am, Parlor
led by Kim Siegenthaler

The Bible Tells Me So by Peter Enns
October 6 & 13
10:15 am, Parlor
led by Brian Ford

What is the Bible? by Rob Bell
September 22 & 29
10:15 am, Parlor
led by Noah Hartsfield

First Kids Choir Begins September 23

First Kids Choir will begin on Sunday, September 23 at 4:00 pm in the Chancel Choir Room. Children 4 years old to 5th grade are invited to participate in the fun. In order to more fully engage singers of different age groups and abilities, we are going to try something new. All kids will all meet at the same time, but will be divided by age groups and meet in separate spaces - preschool age (ages 4 and 5) in one group and Kindergarten-5th grade in the other. Reinforcement activities will be provided for each group while the other is rehearsing. Adults are invited to stay for the first 15 minutes, if able, so Interim Children's Music Director Julie Walker can share some information and offer a short Q and A. Family members are welcome to stay and watch/participate in rehearsals any time. If you have any questions, you can email Julie at jbethwalker58@gmail.com. Look forward to seeing you 9/23!

Children's Ministry Volunteers Needed

Our Children's Ministry needs volunteers to help with extended session during the 9:15 am worship service. You can sign-up to volunteer following the service or by contacting Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org

The Calling – September Updates

The Calling, our mid-week gathering for Middle and High School students, takes place each Wednesday from 6 -7:15 pm in the Youth Suite. Students and leaders gather together to build relationships, explore their faith, and discuss how the Bible helps shape and guide their lives. Community and connection are central to our time together and, of course, plenty of snacks. The Calling is a great place to invite friends to join us, get to know each other, and have a place where students are heard and encouraged each week. September offers two special events for our students. The first is a scavenger hunt at Shyrock Corn Maze on Wednesday, September 25. Students will work together to decipher the clues and make their way through the maze and back before time runs out. The second is a day of service with the Festival of Sharing on Saturday morning, September 28. Students will meet at the church and travel to Tipton, MO to help organize and pack needed supplies for many of our Mid-Missouri ministries and support agencies. As always, friends are welcome to attend.

College and Young Adult Small Group Begins Tonight

Sunday, September 15, at 5:30 pm, marks the beginning of the College and Young Adult Small Group. The group will be discussing central elements to Christianity including the Bible, church, God, and the cross. Join us on the 3rd floor in the Student Suite for some delicious pasta and great conversation. If you have any questions, contact Brittany McDonald Null at bnull@fbc-columbia.org.

Sheppard Lecture Series – October 19 & 20

Join us on October 19 & 20 for our annual Sheppard Lecture with Jared Byas, co-host of the popular podcast, *The Bible for Normal People*.



For Children During Worship:

Birth-Kindergarteners can be checked in at the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

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

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

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

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

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups are located on the second floor:

-*Inspired Discussion Group* in the Parlor

-*Faith Forum (Elevator Lobby Classroom)* is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day together, share information, and ask questions to learn from one another.

-*Connections Group (office commons)* is made up of younger adults. They spend time building community, sharing life, and often take on heady theological topics.

*The all-gender restroom is located in the Child Development Center Hallway outside the Sanctuary.

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Interim Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Interim Assistant Pastor

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Marques J. Ruff, Interim Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian