

Our Worship of God

February 9, 2020

11:15 am

(**†** Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Greeting Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude Ode to Joy arr. Angerman

Chancel Bells

†Call to Worship (responsive)

What does the Lord require of you?

To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.

What does God command of us?

To love God with all our heart, and all our soul, and all our mind, and all our strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

But to presence, and abundance, and grace in our struggle.

Let us worship the God who believes in us, trusts in us, abides with us, and calls us good.

Let us worship the God who will ask much of us, but will be beside us every step of the way.

†Processional Hymn 108

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

(Please turn and face the cross as it enters)

†Passing the Peace of Christ

†Hymn

Come and Find the Quiet Center Sung to BEACH SPRING

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare! I am God's Beloved. I find my home in God. Blessing resides in me. I am enough.

Scripture Reading

Liz Tidwell

Genesis 4:1-16

Now the man knew his wife Eve, and she conceived and bore Cain, saying, "I have produced a man with the help of the Lord." Next she bore his brother Abel. Now Abel was a keeper of sheep, and Cain a tiller of the ground. In the course of time Cain brought to the Lord an offering of the fruit of the ground, and Abel for his part brought of the firstlings of his flock, their fat portions. And the Lord had regard for Abel and his offering, but for Cain and his offering he had no regard. So Cain was very angry, and his countenance fell. The Lord said to Cain, "Why are you angry, and why has your countenance fallen? If you do well, will you not be accepted? And if you do not do well, sin is lurking at the door; its desire is for you, but you must master it."

Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let us go out to the field." And when they were in the field, Cain rose up against his brother Abel, and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?" He said, "I do not know; am I my brother's keeper?" And the Lord said, "What have you done? Listen; your brother's blood is crying out to me from the ground! And now you are cursed from the ground, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. When you till the ground, it will no longer yield to you its strength; you will be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth." Cain said to the Lord, "My punishment is greater than I can bear! Today you have driven me away from the soil, and I shall be hidden from your face; I shall be a fugitive and a wanderer on the earth, and anyone who meets me may kill me." Then the Lord said to him, "Not so! Whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance." And the Lord put a mark on Cain, so that no one who came upon him would kill him. Then Cain went away from the presence of the Lord, and settled in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Litany for Goodness and Mercy (responsive)

God of goodness and mercy: we admit that we have gotten off-track.

We know we need to do justly,

Love mercy,

Walk humbly.

We are enticed by retribution

And take vengeance for ourselves.

We are enamored by damnation

And forget about goodness.

We are in love with judgement

And disregard mercy.

We need a change of heart.

Christ, have mercy on us.

We need to look into your eyes and have our inner world transformed,

Before we begin work on the world around us.

Transform and renew us now

Into the image of Christ,

Into a peace-making people,

Into a just and merciful people.

May we scatter seeds of goodness and mercy wherever we go,

And live in the light of your presence always. Amen.

Anthem

The Word Was God

arr. Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.
All things were made that have been made.
Nothing was made, He has not made.
All things were made by Him.

Crouching Tigers and Missed Arrows: Rethinking Sin

+Hymn of Commitment 565

Lord of Creation Sung to SLANE

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory Come, Thou Found of Every Blessing

arr. Honore

†Benediction

May the God who fashioned the universe in love move freely among and within us.

May our lives embody the light of Christ and our togetherness bring forth a community of belovedness.

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God who calls us good and proclaims we're enough.

Worship Notes

The sanctuary flowers are given by Kee & Diana Groshong

Bulletin cover design by Brittany McDonald Null.

Call to Worship, ~ written by Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy, Pastor at First Church Congregational, Rochester, NH. She blogs at http://sermonizing.wordpress.com/

Come and Find the Quiet Center ©1992 Hope Publishing Co. Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1989. Music: Traditional American melody; arr. Jack Schrader.

Litany is By Fran Pratt http://www.franpratt.com/litanies/2016/9/14/litany-for-goodness-and-mercy

Songs printed in bulletin by permission, CCLI #1515189 & OneLicense.net #A-707314.

Thank you for worshiping 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

Monday, February 10

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga Parlor

1-3:00 pm Staff Meeting Office Commons 5:30 pm Serving Team (Missions) Meeting Office Commons

Tuesday, February 11

11:45 am-2:00 pm Crafty Critters Conference Room

Wednesday, February 12

4:30 pm Children's Ministry Task Force Parlor

5:30 pm Diaconate Meeting

6:00 pm The Calling
6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Sanctuary

Thursday, February 13

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Friday, February 14

7:00 pm Sweet Treat Bake-Off Parlor

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.

Cooperative Baptist Fellowship's Offering for Global Missions

This year's CBF Offering for Global Missions is especially timely considering our recent affirmation as an Encourager Church for CBF Field Personnel Keith Holmes and Mary Van Rheenen. During February, First Baptist members can support the work of Cooperative Baptist Field Personnel around the world by giving to the CBF Offering for Global Missions. Your support of the Offering for Global Missions will share the Gospel message and provide tangible gifts of God's grace and mercy. 100% of your gifts to the Offering goes to funding the ministry of field personnel. Offering can be placed in one of the Global Missions envelopes in worship or indicated on the memo line of the check. Checks should be made out to First Baptist Church. The church will send one check to CBF following the offering. Thank you for your generosity.

First Baptist Book Club

Introducing the First Baptist Book Club - a gathering for readers every other month to discuss books centered around faith formation and spirituality. To kick things off, in connection with our Lenten theme, *Journey through Lent with Art*, the first book will be *The Return of the Prodigal Son: A Story of Homecoming* by Henri Nouwen. By connecting with Rembrandt's painting with the same name, Nouwen shares his story in a captivating way and captures the themes of homecoming, affirmation, and reconciliation. To register to be a part of this book club, email Brittany, Pastor of Spiritual Formation, at bnull@fbc-columbia.org. A new book will be selected at the end of each meeting.

<u>Sweet Treat Bake Off – February 14</u>

Join us on February 14 at 7 pm in the Parlor for a Sweet Treat Bake Off. All ages can enter! Bring your favorite games to share while we indulge on some delectable treats. Those interested in joining the competition can email Paula Thomas at paulalou52@gmail.com

First Kids Music Begins February 16

First Kids Music begins on February 16 from 4:00-4:45 pm in the Kids Ministry Suite located on the third floor of our church. Kids will begin together in the Kids Ministry Suite before separating Pre-K and Kindergarten-5th grade. First Kids Music will perform on March 1 during 9:15 am Combined Worship as well as one additional time in the spring. Get those singing voices ready as we lift up a joyful noise to God.

Christianity & Transgender Inclusion Event – February 21 & 22

Austen Hartke is a graduate of Luther Seminary's Master of Arts program in Old Testament and Hebrew Bible Studies, and author of *Transforming: The Bible and the Lives of Transgender Christians*. An LGBTQ+ Affirming Worship Service will be held at 6:30 pm on Friday, February 21, after which Hartke will share his coming out story and talk about the biblical stories that give him strength as an adult in a session called *Transgender and Christian: A Coming Out and Coming Home Story*. On Saturday, February 22, at 10:00 am, Hartke will lead *The Bible and Transgender Christian's Seminar* in a session that explores the biblical texts historically used to discriminate against the LGBTQ+ community. Then he will dig into stories of biblical characters who didn't fit the mold when it came to gender expression. Childcare is available upon request.

<u>Ash Wednesday Service – February 26</u>

Lent, the six-week period leading up to Easter begins on Ash Wednesday, February 26. Join us at 6:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall as we begin our journey through Lent together.

<u>Combined Worship – March 1</u>

On March 1, we will gather at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall to begin our Lenten journey with art together. Small groups will follow during the 10:15 am Spiritual Formation hour.

Lenten Series

Our theme for the season is *Journey Through Lent with Art*. The series includes a different work of art, a famous painting or sculpture, for every Sunday of Lent through Easter. Our worship series are often left-brain focused, taking on heavy theological topics, and trying to understand them in a new way. However, this series is about right-brained spirituality: connecting with God on a heart level. If you have ever been moved by a piece of music, a movie, or a theatrical performance, then you know art has a way of communicating beyond where words can take us. This series seeks to provide space to experience our God who is beyond all words.

Lenten Daily Reflection Email Option

During the season of Lent, you have the opportunity to receive daily Gospel reflections produced by the University Notre Dame on a different work of art for every day of Lent through Easter, with a brief meditation on each image. We begin each week's art meditations with an image from Notre Dame's campus and then moved into classical works, all illustrating the scene from the upcoming Sunday Gospel and message. To opt-in to this Lenten experience, email the church office at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.

Faces of Beloved Community Exhibit

The photographs located in the elevator lobby illustrate the work and reach of CBF Global Missions over a period of time. Together, they paint a portrait of the ways CBF seeks to build beloved community over time and around the world.



For Children During Worship:

<u>Birth-Kindergarteners</u> 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:

<u>Birth-Age 3 Childcare</u> 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:

- -Discussion Group (Parlor) has begun an in-depth study of 1 Corinthians. Everyone is welcome to join the conversation.
- -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, 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

Marques J. Ruff, Interim Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian