

Our Worship of God

February 18, 2024

9:15 am

(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

~ First Sunday of Lent ~

Welcome

Caleb Cooke, Pastoral Resident

+Call to Worship (responsive)

Come in. Feel your feet on the floor. Settle your worries. Take a deep breath. Dust the cobwebs from your ears. Relax the tension in your jaw, **for Christ is here. God never stops seeking us.** We have been found. **Let us find God in return.** Let us worship the God of deep waters. Amen.

+Opening Song

Come Thou Fount

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Luke 5:1-11

Once while Jesus was standing beside the Lake of Gennesaret and the crowd was pressing in on him to hear the word of God, he saw two boats there at the shore of the lake; the fishermen had gotten out of them and were washing their nets. He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little way from the shore. Then he sat down and taught the crowds from the boat. When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch." Simon answered, "Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets." When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to burst. So they signaled their partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both boats, so that they began to sink. But when Simon Peter saw it, he fell down at Jesus's knees, saying, "Go away from me, Lord, for I am a sinful man!" For he and all who were with him were astounded at the catch of fish that they had taken, and so also were James and John, sons of Zebedee, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, "Do not be afraid; from now on you will be catching people." When they had brought their boats to shore, they left everything and followed him.

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise be to Christ.**

†Song of Praise

Follow You Anywhere

Call to Confession

Prayer for Confession (unison)

Loving God, You call us by name. You join us in the deep waters of life. You invite us to drop our nets and follow you, and yet, more often than we'd like to admit, we are like Peter.

Over and over again, we stand slack-jawed and surprised to find you in our midst.

Forgive us for drowning out your voice with our own. Forgive us for assuming that we can tackle deep waters by ourselves. Forgive us for forgetting that you will never stop climbing into our boat.

Turn our hearts, our minds, and our spirits toward you, for you are the Lord our God, and it is in your name that we pray. Amen.

Words of Forgiveness+Song of GraceReckless LoveSharing Our GiftsThe Plans+Song of FaithThe PlansMessageJesus Sought MePastor Brittany McDonald Null

Affirmation of Faith (responsive)

We believe in a God of abundance—
a God who sees possibilities where we cannot, and who holds onto hope when we are at the end of our ropes.
We believe in a God who comforts—
a God who says, "Do not be afraid;"
a God who joins us in life's deep waters.
We believe in a God who invites—
a God who says, "Follow me," and, "You will be fishers of people."
We believe in a God who seeks after us relentlessly and persistently—
a God of second chances and boundless mercy;
a God who calls us by name.

We believe. Help our unbelief. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

†Song of Response

Called Me Higher

Life of the Church

+Benediction

Worship Notes

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:

River of Grace

by Lisle Gwynn Garrity Inspired by Luke 5:1-11 Acrylic painting on canvas with digital drawing

In this image, the bursting nets transform into a river of grace meandering through the composition of Peter's life. The river pours into Peter's hands, but he can't quite grasp the fullness of this gift and calling quite yet, and so most of it rushes right by. As you will see in my other pieces for this series, this river of grace will wander alongside Peter throughout his life. The river represents how his journey with Christ begins and ends: with an abundant catch of fish. He is forever tethered to the overflowing love of God. The river is a symbol of Peter's gifts, as God uses what Peter knows how to do well (being a fisher of fish) and invites him to apply his skills to a new calling (being a fisher of people). It's a visible reminder of the ways God's grace bends and turns and rushes to find each of our wandering hearts.

Despite Peter's resistance, grace seeks him out. His right thumb gets caught in the net. He can't escape the fact that God's goodness and mercy will pursue him all the days of his life (Psalm 23:6). The river rushes in. The question for Peter—and for each of us—is will he follow where it leads?

-Rev. Lisle Gwynn Garrity

Come Thou Fount, CCLI Song # 108389 John Wyeth | Robert Robinson

Follow You Anywhere, CCLI Song # 7123196 Brett Younker | Jason Ingram | Kristian Stanfill | Phil Wickham

Reckless Love, CCLI Song # 7089641 Caleb Culver | Cory Asbury | Ran Jackson

The Plans, CCLI Song # 7232386 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash

Called Me Higher, CCLI Song # 5887880 Leslie Jordan

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Sunday, February 18

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour -Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
 - 6:00 pm The Gathering Place in the College Ministry Room

Monday, February 19

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 20

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, February 21

5:30 pm The Calling Dinner6:00 pm The Calling Meeting6:30-7:30 pm Chancel Bells

Thursday, February 22

10:30 am First Baptist Women's Zoom Book Study

Friday, February 23

6:00 pm First Baptist Board Game Night in the Parlor

Sunday, February 25

9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour –Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Announcements

Visitors

If you are visiting, 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 connection card at the welcome table, scan the QR code in the bulletin, or visit our website at fbc-columbia.org/connect.

200th Anniversary Celebration History Book

We are publishing a hard-bound, archival-quality book to preserve and document our history. This book is 869 pages, including 26 color photos and the 2018 and 2023 churchwide photos. The book will be published early in 2024. Personal copies are available for \$85 each. You can order a book using the QR code. A sample copy is on display in the History Room. Please email Ken Hammann if you have questions about the book at <u>krhammann@gmail.com</u>.

First Baptist Game Nights Start February 23

Calling all board game enthusiasts! Join us for the last Friday of each month at 6:00 pm in the parlor for our Board Games Night. Whether you're a strategic mastermind or a casual player, this event is for you! Come and indulge in an evening filled with laughter, friendly competition, and memorable moments. Grab your favorite board game and challenge your friends to a thrilling match. From classic favorites to modern gems, there will be a wide variety of games available for all tastes and skill levels.

Welcome Greg Hunt, Interim Senior Pastor

We are excited to welcome Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt as our Interim Senior Pastor. Greg will be preaching in both services next Sunday, February 25. We hope you will join us in offering a warm welcome to him has he begins his time at First Baptist.





Senior Pastor Search Committee Selection - March 3

On January 16, 2024 the church council selected the following individuals to represent our seven teams; Congregational Care Team – Dolores Shearon, Teaching Team – Beth Marchbanks, Worship Team – Kimberly Moeller, Mission Team – Jonathan Ludwig, Telling Team –Noah Hartsfield, Racial Justice and Inclusion Team – Mychel Varner, Administrative Team – Charles Hunter. On March 3 the congregation will gather for combined worship in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Following worship we will move to the Fellowship Hall for the called business meeting to vote for the 7 at-large members to serve on the search committee. Our bylaws state that only church members may serve on the considered for the committee. To join the church, please talk to Pastor Brittany. You may nominate individuals in the church or you may nominate yourself by February 25, 2024. Nominations may be given to Pastor Brittany, placed in the offering plate or emailed to <u>churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org</u> by February 25, 2024.



Rev. Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation Caleb Cooke, Pastoral Resident Jonathan Ray, Music Director-Traditional Worship Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist Noah Hartsfield, Handbell Director Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant Brenda Rice, Administrative Assistant for Web, Facilities, and Arts Mike Ide, Custodian Nellene Martin, Childcare Director