



SEEKING  
peace  
together

# *Our Worship of God*

*September 15, 2024*

*9:15 am*

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

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**Welcome**

Rev. Caleb Cooke

## **†Call to Worship (responsive)**

As followers of Jesus, we are called

**to bless those who reject us;**

to rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn;

**to live in harmony with others and not be arrogant.**

As disciples of the Prince of Peace, we are called

**to not repay anyone evil for evil;**

to, as far as possible, live peaceably with all;

**to feed our enemies when they are hungry**

**and offer a drink when they are thirsty.**

Ours is a hard and holy calling, friends. And so we gather.

**We gather for prayer and study.**

We gather for singing and silence.

**We gather for encouragement and support.**

We gather for worship.

## **†Opening Song**

Act Justly, Love Mercy, Walk Humbly

## **†Passing the Peace of Christ**

### **Selections from 1 Samuel 25**

There was a man in Maon whose property was in Carmel. The man was very rich; he had three thousand sheep and a thousand goats. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail. The woman was clever and beautiful, but the man was surly and mean; he was a Calebite. David heard in the wilderness that Nabal was shearing his sheep.

I hear that you have shearers; now your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm, and they missed nothing all the time they were in Carmel. Ask your young men, and they will tell you. Therefore let my young men find favor in your sight, for we have come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.

But Nabal answered David's servants, "Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? There are many servants today who are breaking away from their masters.

So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. David said to his men, "Every man strap on his sword!" And every one of them strapped on his sword; David also strapped on his sword, and about four hundred men went up after David, while two hundred remained with the baggage.

But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, "David sent messengers out of the wilderness to salute our master, and he shouted insults at them.

Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, "Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

When Abigail saw David, she hurried and dismounted from the donkey and fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She fell at his feet and said, “Upon me alone, my lord, be the guilt; please let your servant speak in your ears and hear the words of your servant. My lord, do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow, Nabal, for as his name is, so is he; Nabal is his name, and folly is with him, but I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent.

“Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives and as you yourself live, since the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from taking vengeance with your own hand, now let your enemies and those who seek to do evil to my lord be like Nabal. And now let this present that your servant has brought to my lord be given to the young men who follow my lord.

David said to Abigail, “Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who sent you to meet me today! Blessed be your good sense, and blessed be you, who kept me today from bloodguilt and from avenging myself by my own hand! For as surely as the Lord the God of Israel lives, who has restrained me from hurting you, unless you had hurried and come to meet me, truly by morning there would not have been left to Nabal so much as one male.” Then David received from her hand what she had brought him; he said to her, “Go up to your house in peace; see, I have heeded your voice, and I have granted your petition.”

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**†Song of Peace**

Find Our Way to Love

**Litany for Peace and Justice**

Pastor Greg Hunt

Wherever the pride of a few causes harm to many, gracious God,  
**bring your justice.**

To those who feel resentment of all that is asked of them, gracious God,  
**bring your peace.**

To those who do not receive fair payment and appreciation for their service,  
gracious God,  
**bring your justice.**

In every place where people enact violence against each other, gracious God,  
**bring your peace.**

To every heart that is reluctant to share from the bounty you provide,  
gracious God,  
**bring your justice.**

To those who step out toward conflict despite their fear, gracious God,  
**bring your peace.**

Gracious God, may your justice fuel our world,  
may your peace guard our hearts.

**Amen.**

**Sharing of our Gifts**

Pastor Greg Hunt

**†Song of Praise**

Let Justice Rain

**Message**

Rev. Caleb Cooke

**†Song of Response**

Build Your Kingdom Here

**Life of the Church**

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

## Litany of Farewell and Blessing (responsive)

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

As a church, we give thanks to God for partnering with you, Caleb and Rianna, in your Residency journey. We are also grateful for all the family, friends, teachers, mentors, and churches who have shaped you on your way to us.

**We give thanks for the journey that brought you to us.**

Over the past year, we have sought to follow in the way of Jesus together. Caleb, you have rejoiced with us, wept with us, ministered to us, and accompanied us as a sibling in Christ.

**We give thanks for the time you ministered with us.**

Now we prepare to send you with our blessing as you continue your calling in new ways and in new places.

**We give thanks for all the ways you will share God's abundant love.**

First Baptist, do you release Caleb as our Pastoral Resident?

**With God's help, we release you, Caleb, as our Resident.**

Do you commit to continue to pray for him as he lives into his calling in a new place?

**We promise to pray for you as you live out your calling, as you preach the gospel of love, minister to the sick and hurting, and discern difficult situations.**

As we release Caleb from his ministry at First Baptist, we also want to ask God's blessing on his future.

**We offer our support and encouragement to you, Caleb, as your ministry unfolds in a new setting, and you begin your calling as a Senior Pastor.**

**We pray God's blessings on you and express our gratitude for your ministry among us.**

**Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

**May you find fulfillment in your work, continue to seek the love of God, and help others to do the same.**

Caleb, as you leave First Baptist, do you commit to continuing to embody the values you learned here, to keep asking questions, listening to the Spirit and wise counsel, pursuing excellence, and following the way of love?

*I do, with the help of God. I pray God's blessing on each person here in their spiritual journey, and I pray God's blessing on First Baptist in its continued ministry.*

*I thank you for the love and support you have shown me while I ministered among you.*

*As I leave here, I carry with me all that I have learned here.*

**†Benediction**

Rev. Caleb Cooke

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# Worship Notes

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## Week at a Glance

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### Sunday, September 15

9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

9:15 am Awakening Service in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am First Kids Sunday School

**10:15 am Farewell Sendoff for Caleb & Rianna in the Fellowship Hall**

11:15 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

### Monday, September 16

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

### Tuesday, September 17

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

### Wednesday, September 18

6:00 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Chancel Bells

### Thursday, September 19

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

### Sunday, September 22

9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

9:15 am Awakening Service in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour –Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School

11:15 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

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# Announcements

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## 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](http://fbc-columbia.org/connect).



## Farewell Sendoff for Caleb and Rianna – Today at 10:15 am

Please join us to say goodbye to FBC Pastoral Resident Caleb Cooke and his wife Rianna as they leave First Baptist to pursue Caleb's call to be Senior Pastor at Village Baptist Church in Bowie, Maryland. We will gather between services (10:15-11:10 am) in the Fellowship Hall on Sunday, September 15 to say goodbye. Refreshments and snacks will be provided. In their year at FBC they have touched our hearts with their love and friendship and brightened our congregation and community through their sincere desire to learn, serve, preach, and live the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Please join us to show your gratitude and support as they go forward to build God's Kingdom in Maryland!

## First Baptist Pride Shirts

First Baptist is re-ordering shirts in time for MidMo PrideFest on September 28, 2024. Whether you plan to represent First Baptist at Pride or want an awesome shirt proclaiming God's inclusive love, this shirt is for you! The cost is \$15/shirt and we will only be purchasing what is ordered. The deadline to purchase a shirt is September 16th so order soon!



## Fall Book Study - *Baptizing America*

### **Tuesdays in October**

As we approach a major, upcoming election, increased attention has been given to the rise of Christian nationalism, an unholy marriage of religion and political power. To learn more about this and consider how best to respond, we will be doing an October book study. *Baptizing America: How Mainline Protestants Helped Build Christian Nationalism*, provides a compelling narrative about how mainline Protestantism promoted Christian nationalism's growing influence in American life. It also offers insights into what might be done about it.

Note that instead of Thursdays, we will meet on **Tuesdays at 6pm on October 1, 15, 22, and 29 (no meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup>)** for discussions facilitated by interim pastor Greg Hunt. If you are interested, please email Greg at [ghunt@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:ghunt@fbc-columbia.org). Participants are asked to purchase the book independently. If you are needing childcare, please email Pastor Brittany at [bnull@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:bnull@fbc-columbia.org).

## Save the Date! Parenting and Faith Workshop - October 12

Save the date for a Parenting and Faith Workshop led by Meredith Miller, author of *Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kids Don't Have to Heal From*. She will lead us in conversations centered around faith formation for our children and how to help our kids have a strong and adaptable faith. More details coming soon!

## October 27 - Trunk-or-Treat and Chili Cook-Off

If you have been here for a bit, this year's Halloween-themed church activity is going to look a little different! This year, we are staying close to home and joining our trunk-or-treat with our much-requested CHILI COOK-OFF!!!

Join us on Sunday, October 27 at 5 pm at First Baptist for a Chili Cook-Off and Trunk-or-Treat. Get your favorite chili recipe perfected because the competition around here is steep. Enjoy a cozy chili dinner paired with some fun games and trunk-or-treating. We are still fine-tuning all the details, but we know it will be a blast!



**First Baptist Church**  
columbia, mo

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*Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt*, Interim Senior Pastor  
*Rev. Brittany McDonald Null*, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation  
*Rev. 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