

An aerial photograph of the ocean showing complex, swirling patterns of water in various shades of blue and green, representing ocean currents. The text is overlaid on the upper half of the image.

SACRED CURRENTS

changing tides

Our Worship of God

September 7, 2025

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Pastor Kristin McAtee

†Call to Worship (responsive)

God calls us into community and blesses us with abundant life.

Yet we often chose easier paths, rather than listening to God's call.

Draw us back again, O God.

Open our hearts to hear your healing words of love.

Let us be the people of your creation,

that we may grow in faithfulness and work together in peace.

Let us worship our God in spirit and truth.

Yes, let us worship our God together.

†Opening Song

Faithfulness

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Deuteronomy 30:15-20

Look here! Today I've set before you life and what's good versus death and what's wrong. If you obey the Lord your God's commandments that I'm commanding you right now by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments, his regulations, and his case laws, then you will live and thrive, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land you are entering to possess. But if your heart turns away and you refuse to listen, and so are misled, worshipping other gods and serving them, I'm telling you right now that you will definitely die. You will not prolong your life on the fertile land that you are crossing the Jordan River to enter and possess. I call heaven and earth as my witnesses against you right now: I have set life and death, blessing and curse before you. Now choose life—so that you and your descendants will live— by loving the Lord your God, by obeying his voice, and by clinging to him. That's how you will survive and live long on the fertile land the Lord swore to give to your ancestors: to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

†Song

Endless Ocean

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Pastor Kristin

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.

Silence

†Song

Love is Greater Than Fear

Message

Pastor Kristin McAtee

Communion

†Song of Response

Follow You Anywhere

Life of the Church & Sharing Our Gifts

Pastor Kristin McAtee

Blessing of Pastor Brittany for Sabbatical (responsive)

On the seventh day God rested and celebrated all of creation. God surveyed all that God had made and said, "It is good."

Pastor Brittany, we work together in ministry here at First Baptist, and have much to celebrate. We celebrate your encouragement, faithfulness, and leadership in our work together as God's people in this place. Of this ministry together we say with confidence, "It is good."

We send you now on this Sabbatical journey confident that God will bless your every step, refresh your spirit, renew your mind, strengthen your body, and return you to us empowered for our continued task of ministry in Columbia and in the world.

We will miss you, even as we faithfully carry out with joy and hope the ministry to which we are called. As you attend to your Sabbatical, please know that our prayers will be with you, that we support you in every way, and that we look forward with joy to your return.

I, too, look forward to that day when I will return and share in our ministry together. I will miss you as well, and I will pray for you whenever you come to mind. Thank you for creating this opportunity for a time of Sabbath rest in my ministry.

Go, now, with our blessing, and with the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer. Amen.

Worship Notes

Faithfulness, Jacob Sooter, Matt Maher, Stephen McWhirter CCLI Song #7071170 © Be Essential Songs; Hipgnosis Songs Essential; I Am A Pilgrim Songs; Iron Bell Music; So Essential Tunes; Vertical Church Band Publishing.

Endless Ocean, Jonathan David Helser CCLI Song #6494928 © 2009 Quiltmaker Music; Bethel Music Publishing.

Love is Greater Than Fear, Hannah Rand, Lenora Rand CCLI Song #7140931 © 2019 Plural Guild Music

Follow You Anywhere, Brett Younker, Jason Ingram, Kristian Stanfill, Phil Wickham CCLI Song #7123196 © 2019 KPS 1.0; sixsteps Music; worshiptogether.com songs; Fellow Ships Music; So Essential Tunes; Phil Wickham Music; Simply Global Songs; Sing My Songs

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 7

9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary - *All are welcome!*

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

Monday, September 8

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

6:00 pm *Serving Team Meeting*

Tuesday, September 9

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, September 10

6:00 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Chancel Bells in the Sanctuary

Thursday, September 11

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

6:00 pm Crafter Hours

Sunday, September 14

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

2:00 pm *Racial Justice and Inclusion Team Meeting - online*

Announcements

Welcome 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 from the pew back, scan the QR code in the bulletin, or visit our website at fbc-columbia.org/connect



The Bible: Mining Many Messy Meanings (Bible, MMMM.)

Join Henry Imler for six weeks of (hopefully) honest wrestling with questions many Baptists wonder about but might not always discuss openly. What makes a text "sacred"? Who decided what went in the Bible and what is the difference between translations anyway? Can it be sacred without being perfect? What all is in there? We'll explore how our shared sacred text pushes back against empire, deals with translation problems, and what it might mean to stay in a tense relationship with a text that sometimes troubles us. The first session will be held Sunday, September 7, in the Conference Room on the second floor.

Nominating Committee Update

As we look ahead to next year and pursue our vision of co-creating a restorative community of fully inclusive followers of Jesus, we are inviting individuals to serve on our Ministry Teams. The Nominating Committee will soon begin reaching out to current team members to confirm their interest in continuing to serve. We'll also be contacting potential new members to join the teams. If you have someone in mind who would be a great addition to a Ministry Team, please share your recommendation with Pastor Kristin.

Trustee Recommendation Approved by Church Council

The Trustees have requested a group be formed to examine the current and future ministry needs of our congregation and how the interior spaces of our church can better serve those needs. It is time again to undertake a thoughtful and prayerful assessment of how our spaces align with our ministry goals. The Trustees recommend assembling a group that brings together a mix of voices — including ministry leaders, facilities experts, and congregational representatives — to evaluate how our interior spaces are currently used, what is needed to support effective ministry, and what options we might consider to address the condition and functionality of our buildings. This is an opportunity not only to address urgent facility concerns but also to imagine how our buildings might better support the ministry of this congregation in the years ahead. This team will take into account the good work done in years past to seek solutions as they consider both ongoing and new building issues. Pastor Kristin will work with the Trustees to assemble a team of people for this process.

Third Pastor Candidate Announced!

The Third Pastor Search Committee is pleased to present Joseph (Joey) Fuson as the Pastor for Youth and Community Ministries Candidate. Joey holds an MDiv from Wake Forest School of Divinity and comes to us with extensive experience in youth ministry. He recently completed a year's training in Clinical Pastoral Education, giving him a wider experience in ministry. Joey visited with staff, youth, parents, youth leaders, and members of the Serving Team last weekend. Our goal was to discern if Joey would fit into our church and for Joey to discern his calling to be here. After this discernment process, we are pleased to say that we have offered the position to Joey, contingent upon the approval of the church.

A business meeting will be held on September 14 at 10:15 am in the Sanctuary for the purpose of voting on Joseph Fuson as our new Pastor for Youth and Community Ministries. All children, youth, and teachers are participating in the business meeting. Nursery care will be provided. At the conclusion of the meeting, Bible study classes may resume, time permitting.

Joey comes to us from Greenville, SC. He was born in Jacksonville and brought his fandom of the Jaguars with him to Greenville, where he spent the bulk of his life. He double majored in Religion and Political Science, which along with several meaningful extracurricular activities led him to a call to ministry. His interests include spending time at his local board game store, hiking, and spending time with his dog, Jenny.

The committee was most interested in Joey's experience with youth. Through multiple internships and full-time youth ministry, he has worked in a variety of settings, from inner-city to rural. His theology is very progressive, and he identifies strongly with the Alliance of Baptists. His references speak highly of his people skills and his outgoing personality. His former pastor told us if he were looking for a youth pastor, Joey would be one of his top candidates. Joey is an experienced preacher, teacher, and minister. We believe that he will grow with us and help us to grow as well.

We asked Joey to send greetings. He says:



Hello First Baptist!

This sports loving nerd is over the moon to bring his senior beagle to help serve the people of Columbia and this church. I have been in a lot of churches and have always had a soft spot for Alliance of Baptist congregations. Whether it's through worship or missions, this particular church has demonstrated a commitment to the marginalized that makes my heart sing. Even more exciting is the chance to be a part of a congregation where my sister and niece would be not only welcomed but affirmed for who they are, and to have the chance to share that acceptance with the members of this community is something that really attracted me to this place. I look forward to getting to know and serve you, watching baseball, and learning to love Mizzou.

Please direct any questions to members of our Search Team.

Gratefully,

Cindy Giovanini
Kristin McAtee

Charles Hunter
Jack Stubbs

Lexie Kieffer



1112 East Broadway, Columbia, MO 65201

Rev. Kristin McAtee, Senior Pastor

Rev. Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation

Jonathan Ray, Music Director-Traditional Worship

Shelby Pride, Awakenings Worship Praise Band Director

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Noah Hartsfield, Handbell Director

Susan Goudie, Office Coordinator

Brenda Rice, Administrative Assistant for Web, Facilities, and Arts

Mike Ide, Custodian

Nellene Martin, Childcare Director