



In Times of Harmony (Au temps d'harmonie), 1895–96.
Paul Signac. The Art Institute of Chicago

Our Worship of God

August 16, 2026

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Today's worship theme is God Includes, highlighting God's radical welcome of those we tend to reject or exclude. At some point in the service today, we invite you to take a piece of paper and fill it with a prayer that is on your heart, or a prayer for a part of God's world or your life that is in need of the wide welcome of God's love. This prayer could look like sentences, one word, a picture, or a combination of them all – let your heart and the Spirit guide you!

Welcome

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

†Call to Worship (responsive)

It is so, so good

when we sing and pray and learn together.

It is so, so good

when we remember our connectedness.

It is so, so good

when the church doors open wide in welcome.

†Opening Songs

Midst

No Matter Where the Altar Is

Visio Divina

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prayers of the People

Pastor Hayden Dennis

God, in your love...

Hear our prayers.

†Song

All Belong Here

Genesis 45:1-15

Joseph could no longer control himself in front of all his attendants, so he declared, “Everyone, leave now!” So no one stayed with him when he revealed his identity to his brothers. He wept so loudly that the Egyptians and Pharaoh’s household heard him. Joseph said to his brothers, “I’m Joseph! Is my father really still alive?” His brothers couldn’t respond because they were terrified before him.

Joseph said to his brothers, “Come closer to me,” and they moved closer. He said, “I’m your brother Joseph! The one you sold to Egypt. Now, don’t be upset and don’t be angry with yourselves that you sold me here. Actually, God sent me before you to save lives. We’ve already had two years of famine in the land, and there are five years left without planting or harvesting. God sent me before you to make sure you’d survive and to rescue your lives in this amazing way. You didn’t send me here; it was God who made me a father to Pharaoh, master of his entire household, and ruler of the whole land of Egypt.” “Hurry! Go back to your father. Tell him this is what your son Joseph says: ‘God has made me master of all of Egypt. Come down to me. Don’t delay. You may live in the land of Goshen, so you will be near me, your children, your grandchildren, your flocks, your herds, and everyone with you. I will support you there, so you, your household, and everyone with you won’t starve, since the famine will still last five years.’ You and my brother Benjamin have seen with your own eyes that I’m speaking to you. Tell my father about my power in Egypt and about everything you’ve seen. Hurry and bring my father down here.” He threw his arms around his brother Benjamin’s neck and wept, and Benjamin wept on his shoulder. He kissed all of his brothers and wept, embracing them. After that, his brothers were finally able to talk to him.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

†Song

Where the Living is Deep

Message

Pastor Kristin McAtee

†Song of Response

True Belonging

Sharing Our Gifts & Life of the Church

Pastor Kristin McAtee

†Benediction

Pastor Kristin McAtee

Beloveds of God,
as you leave this place,
go knowing that you are called by God.
Go loving God with all that you are,
and go loving your neighbor as yourself.

Worship Notes

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, August 16

- 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
- 10:15 am *Together on the Way: A Family Sunday School Experience*
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 12:30-2:00 pm Faith Formation Leader Training

Monday, August 17

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, August 18

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, August 19

- 5:30 pm Preschool Playdate in the Children's Ministry Suite
- 6:30 pm Intergenerational Handbell Ringing

Thursday, August 20

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

Sunday, August 23

Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

- 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
- 10:15 am *Together on the Way: A Family Sunday School Experience*
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

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



A Note from Pastor Kristin

During the heavy rains earlier this summer, it became apparent that the flat roof over part of the sanctuary was in need of replacement. The Trustees promptly obtained bids for the work and selected the contractor they believed would best meet the church's needs. We contracted with Nailed It Roofing and were placed on their schedule. Then we received nearly five inches of rain in a single day.

Although the roof replacement is scheduled for next week, the storm caused significant water intrusion. We are deeply grateful to our staff, as well as Mike Giovanini and Pete Walter, who quickly responded by vacuuming water, mopping floors, and moving items out of harm's way.

Since then, we have discovered mold growth in the old choir room and several storage areas around the sanctuary due to the warm, damp conditions. At this time, there is no evidence of mold in the sanctuary itself. Once the new roof is installed, we will begin the remediation process.

As we gather for Traditional Worship this Sunday, we encourage everyone to consider their individual health needs. Those with allergies, respiratory concerns, or heightened sensitivities may wish to attend the 9:15 a.m. Awakening Service, worship remotely, wear a mask during Traditional Worship, or choose another option that feels appropriate. Masks will be available, and doors to the affected areas will remain closed to minimize exposure.

Thank you for your understanding, patience, and prayers as we work through this situation and care for our church facilities.

-Pastor Kristin

Faith Formation Leader Training – Today, Sunday, August 16

All children, youth, and adult faith formation leaders are asked to attend our **required Leader Training** today, **Sunday, August 16, from 12:30–2:00 p.m.** Lunch will be provided.

This training will lay the foundation for the year ahead as we:

- Review the essentials of our Child Protection Policy
- Share practical tips for leading engaging and meaningful small groups
- Build connections across our children's, youth, and adult ministry teams
- Preview what each age group will be exploring this semester

We hope everyone can be there as we prepare to learn, grow, and serve together. If you are unable to attend, you will need to schedule a one-on-one meeting with one of the pastors to complete the required training before serving as a teacher or leader this semester. For any questions, or to reserve childcare, please contact Pastor Brittany.

Join Pastor Kristin for a Spiritual Retreat – September 18-19

“To share our stories is not only a worthwhile endeavor for the storyteller, but for those who hear our stories and feel less alone because of it.” — Joyce Maynard

I had the joy of meeting Sandra Dorsainvil a few years ago. Together, we led a retreat for CBF student summer interns. Through the summer, we continued to mentor them. Sandra's spirit of peace and renewal was a gift to me. We have remained in contact, and I often join her monthly retreats online.

I've invited Sandra to come lead us for a short retreat at the Lay Center in Louisiana, MO. Together we chose a topic that leads us all into deeper self-awareness of how God creates us as beloved. It also gives opportunity for building community, welcoming one another's true selves. You will experience multiple contemplative practices as we do the sacred work of sharing and receiving our stories. The retreat begins at 4pm on September 18th and concludes at 4pm on September 19th. This beautiful location is peaceful and contemplative. The cost is \$45 per person which covers your room and meals.

-Pastor Kristin

Register for the retreat by August 30th by contacting Pastor Kristin or the church office.

Preschool Playdate: You Belong Here! – August 19

Families with preschoolers are invited to a special Preschool Playdate on Wednesday, August 19, from 5:30–6:30 PM in the Children's Ministry Suite (3rd Floor).

Come play, connect, and discover that **you belong here!** We'll enjoy storytime, hands-on play stations, and a fun adventure through the Children's Ministry Suite as children collect stamps in their Adventure Passport. Along the way, they'll meet friends, explore their Sunday School space, and experience the joy of being part of our First Kids community. While children play, parents and caregivers will have the opportunity to connect with one another and build community, too.

This playdate is especially helpful for children who will be promoting to our preschool Sunday School class this fall (children who turn 4 by December 31 and are potty trained). It's a fun way to become familiar with their new classroom before Promotion Sunday on August 23.

Whether this is your first time visiting or your family has been here for years, you are welcome here. Invite a friend and join us for an evening of fun, friendship, and belonging!

Promotion Sunday - August 23

On August 23, First Kids and Youth will be celebrating Promotion Sunday! This Sunday marks the transition to new classes. Children turning 4 by December 31 and are potty-trained are invited to move upstairs to First Kids, and our new 6th graders will join the youth group for the first time. Adults of First Kids are encouraged to join for donuts, meet the teachers, and complete the 2026-2027 registration.

Blessing of the Backpacks - August 23

As we gear up for a new school year, we want to send our students, teachers, and school staff back with more than just sharpened pencils and packed lunches, we want to send them with *kindness* and *courage*. On August 23, during worship, we'll offer a special **Blessing of the Backpacks**, reminding our students and educators that they go into the school year surrounded by a community that is cheering for them and praying with them. So, bring your backpack, your lunchbox, your briefcase or just yourself, as we welcome the new school year with a blessing.

Youth Begins August 26

Wednesday Night Youth starts August 26 from 6:00-7:15, 3rd floor Youth Room. Our Youth Ministry is for all students in 6th-12th grade.

All incoming 6th graders and families and existing Youth are invited to join the Youth Ministry at Hexagon Alley on August 19 from 6:00-8:00.

Fall Kick Off – August 30– Front Lawn at 12:30 pm

As summer winds down, we're getting ready for our annual Fall Kick-Off! This fun event is a great opportunity to connect with others, enjoy good food, and play lawn games together.

The church will provide the main dish, beverages, and tableware. You're invited to bring a side dish or dessert to share. In addition to great conversation and food, we will have our favorite games like 9-square, gaga ball, cornhole, and a bounce house. We can't wait to welcome a new season with you!

New to the Pew Blessing - August 30

With the beginning of the new school year, we are excited to welcome our newest worshippers to the pews and seats. On Sunday, August 30, during both worship services, we will be presenting a Bible to our first graders and offering a blessing to them and their families. As a church community, we want to celebrate this milestone and commit to accompanying our kids in their faith.

New Church Directory Survey

Our church is growing and we have a bunch of new faces attending on Sunday mornings. We'd love your input to help us create a new Church Directory. Our last one was created in 2019, and we have gone through changes since then. When you get a chance, please stop by the Worship Guide Table and fill out the survey. Your feedback is important—it helps us build something that truly serves our church and everyone who is a part of First Baptist Church.

-Pastor Hayden Dennis

Notes

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1112 East Broadway, Columbia, MO 65201

Rev. Kristin McAtee, Senior Pastor

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

Rev. Hayden Dennis, Pastor of Youth & Community

Jonathan Ray, Director of Music

Shelby Pride, Director of Music & Worship Technology

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist & Organist

Susan Goudie, Office Coordinator

Brenda Rice, Fine Arts & Community Liaison

Mike Ide, Custodian

Nellene Martin, Childcare Director