



How does a  
weary world  
rejoice?

We trust our  
belovedness

# *Our Worship of God*

*January 7, 2024*

*10:15 am*

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

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## *~ The Baptism of the Lord ~*

**Welcome**

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

### **Call to Worship (responsive)**

There are some days when I need the reminder that I belong to God.

Do you ever feel that way?

**Yes. We do.**

**The world can be a harsh place;  
we often need that reminder.**

Well then, let us care for one another.

Let us speak the truth we each need to hear.

Church, you belong to God.

You are God's beloved.

**Friend, you belong to God.**

**You are God's beloved.**

Let us worship the God who knows our names.

**Let us worship the God who calls us beloved.**

**Amen.**

**†Opening Song**

Child of Love

**†Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Prayer for Illumination**

Caleb Cooke, *Pastoral Resident*

**Scripture Reading**

Gary Ostercamp

**Luke 3:21-22**

Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

The Gospel of our Lord.


**Praise be to Christ.**

# †Hymn 290

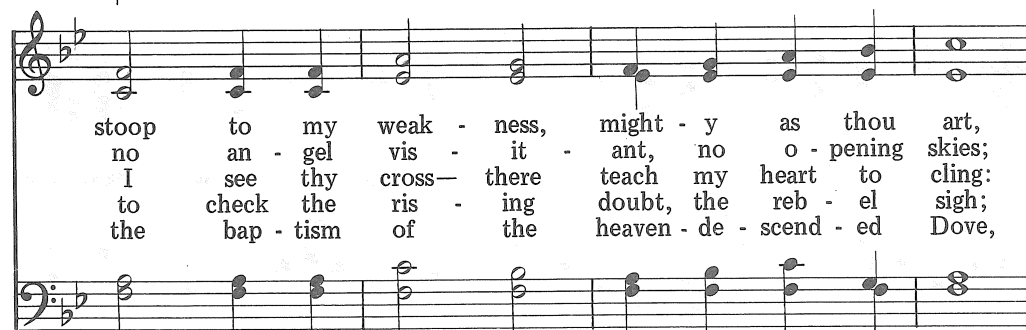
## Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart



1. Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;  
 2. I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,  
 3. Hast thou not bid us love thee, God and King,  
 4. Teach me to feel that thou art al - ways nigh;  
 5. Teach me to love thee as thine an - gels love,



wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;  
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,  
 all, all thine own, soul, heart and strength and mind?  
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,  
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;



stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as thou art,  
 no an - gel vis - it - ant, no o - pening skies;  
 I see thy cross—there teach my heart to cling:  
 to check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;  
 the bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed Dove,



and make me love thee as I ought to love.  
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.  
 O let me seek thee, and O let me find.  
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.  
 my heart an al - tar, and thy love the flame.

# Sharing Our Gifts

## Offertory

## Come Thou Fount *Chancel Bells*

## Message

*Be Loved!*

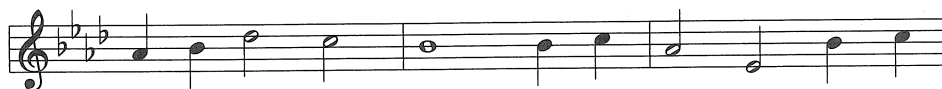
Caleb Cooke

## †Song of Preparation

As We Gather



1. As we gath - er at your ta - ble, as we  
2. Turn our wor - ship in - to wit - ness in the  
3. Gra - cious Spir - it, help us sum - mon oth - er



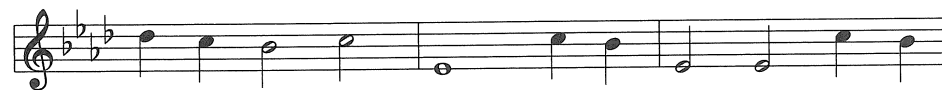
lis - ten to your word, help us know, O God, your  
sac - ra - ment of life; send us forth to love and  
guests to share that feast where tri - um - phant Love will



pres - ence; let our hearts and minds be  
serve you, bring - ing peace where there is  
wel - come those who had been last and



stirred. Nour-ish us with sa - cred sto - ry till we  
strife. Give us, Christ, your great com - pas - sion to for -  
least. There no more will en - vy blind us nor will



claim it as our own; teach us through this ho - ly  
give as you for - gave; may we still be - hold your  
pride our peace de - stroy, as we join with saints and



ban - quet how to make Love's vic - tory known.  
im - age in the world you died to save.  
an - gels to re - peat the sound - ing joy.

**Prayer of Confession (unison)**

**Loving God,**

**From the very beginning, you breathed life into us and called us good. However, somewhere along the way we replaced “good” with “not enough.” Somewhere along the way we turned the volume up on that phrase and began to doubt our own self-worth. Forgive us, for this is not what you have taught us. For when the world tells us we are not enough, you call us beloved. Show us how to return to that truth. Show us how to let go of our weariness and rest in that good news. Amen.**

**Words of Forgiveness**

Family of faith, God’s grace and understanding is deeper and wider than we could possibly imagine. On the night when Christ’s love was fully on display he gathered around the table with his friends, and shared a meal. Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.” In the same way, he took the cup after supper and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this in remembrance of me.” For whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim Christ’s love for us.

**Our story begins with belovedness.**

**Even when we lose our way,**

**even if we stumble and fall,**

**God never stops breaking through the clouds to claim us.**

**We are known. We are forgiven. We are loved.**

**As we eat the bread and drink the cup, we trust our belovedness.**

**Amen.**

## **Celebration of Communion**

### **†Song of Praise**

I Am Loved

### **Life of the Church**

### **†Benediction**

Caleb Cooke

Family of faith,  
as you leave this place,  
you go into a weary world—  
so speak tenderly.  
Do the good that is yours to do.  
Choose connection.  
Hold onto hope.  
And remember that Christ  
took on flesh for you.  
You are God's beloved.  
So go rejoicing.  
The world needs it.  
Amen.

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# Worship Notes

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*Child of Love*, CCLI Song # 7153977 Andrew Bergthold | Ed Cash | Franni Cash | Martin Cash | Scott Cash

*Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart*, Words: George Croly, 1867. Music: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870.

*Come, Share the Lord*, ©1984 Fred Bock Music Company. Words & Music: Bryan Jeffery Leech, 1984.

*I Am Loved*, CCLI Song # 7127174 Jason Ingram | Jonathan Smith | Mack Brock

*Words for Worship*, by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed, Sanctified Art, LLC.

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## Week at a Glance

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### Sunday, January 7

10:15 am Combined worship in the Fellowship Hall followed by a Churchwide conversation

2:00 pm Zoom Option for Self-Study Table Talk

### Monday, January 8

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

### Tuesday, January 9

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

### Wednesday, January 10

6:30-7:30 pm Chancel Bells

### Thursday, January 11

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

### Sunday, January 14

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

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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)



## Churchwide Conversation After Worship Today

Following worship, we will have a church-wide conversation regarding our church's vision and values. Youth are encouraged to participate and childcare for kids birth-5<sup>th</sup> grade will be provided. There will also be light refreshments to enjoy while we converse. This is an important step in our pastor search process so plan on attending!

## Zoom Option for January 7 Self-Study Table Talk

**Sunday January 7, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.**

If you are unable to attend the in-person Table Talk session on January 7 the Self-Study committee is making available a Zoom option at 2:00 p.m.

The Zoom code is 818 666 04564. The link is in the bulletin email. The Table Talk will last one hour. If you have technical questions, please call Charles at 573-864-2050. The Self-Study committee encourages everyone to join us for these important discussions about our church. The Self-Study Committee is comprised of Lynne Lampe, Kimberly Moeller, Julie Scroggs, Ronda Wahl and Charles Hunter.

## Annual Business Meeting - Sunday, January 21

**10:15 am - Fellowship Hall**

Join us Sunday, January 21 at 10:15 am in the Fellowship Hall for our Annual Business Meeting. We will vote on the Nominating Committee report and elect our leadership for 2023. Then, we will hear a report from the finance committee and vote on the 2023 budget.

## 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 [krhammann@gmail.com](mailto:krhammann@gmail.com).



## 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade Youth Updates

Starting this month, most communication about Sunday morning and Wednesday evening dates and activities for our 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade youth will be included in our new monthly newsletter! If you have a student in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades you should have received the newsletter this week. If you did not and would like to be included, please contact Brittany at [bnull@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:bnull@fbc-columbia.org) or Lillian at [Lillian.hoell@gmail.com](mailto:Lillian.hoell@gmail.com)



*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*

*Marcy Douglas, Childcare Coordinator*

*Ella Pritchett, Student Intern*