



Our Worship of God

March 3, 2024

10:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

~ Third Sunday of Lent ~

Welcome

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prelude

Wondrous Love
Colleen Osterkamp, *organ*

arr. Carter

†Call to Worship (responsive)

Inspired by Psalm 19

If you ask the sky who God is,

the sky will tell you of God's reach.

If you ask the day who God is,

the sun will tell you of God's warmth.

If you ask the night who God is,

the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

“The heavens are telling the glory of God” Are you listening?

We are listening!

We will sing of God's glory.

Let us worship our holy God.

†Opening Song

Echo Holy

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Gospel Reading

Ella Pritchett

Matthew 16:13-20

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

†Hymn 21

How Great Thou Art

Call to Confession

Pastor Greg Hunt

Prayer for Confession

Holy God,

Some days, we are quick to declare your goodness.

Like Peter, we see you in our midst and we are confident in our faith.

Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.

Forgive us for losing sight of you.

Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—

trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.

Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.

Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.

We know that fear and doubt are part of the journey of faith.

But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves,

we ask for your tender grace.

Pull us closer toward you.

Remind us of the grounding moments of our faith. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

†Song of Praise

God Is

Sharing Our Gifts

Caleb Cooke, *Pastoral Resident*

Offertory Music

Peace

Doug Clem, *euphonium*
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

Message

Pastor Greg Hunt

†Hymn of Preparation 779

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us

Invitation to the Table

Pastors Caleb and Brittany

Words of Institution

In our story today, Jesus asked the disciples,
“But what about you? Who do you say that I am?”
As we come to the table of grace, we are asked the same question.
Church, what do you say?

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,
the voice of truth spoken over us, and love without walls.
Jesus is justice for the weary, healing for the hurt,
and welcome for the stranger.
Jesus is teacher, way, and friend—
and the love that knows my name.**

Jesus showed us the ways of justice and mercy, turning the norms of society upside down. He welcomed and empowered the outsider and stood in resistance to the powers of oppression. Christ’s choice to live his truth and challenge oppression put him at risk.

And yet, on the night in which death, hatred, and betrayal would seek to have the last and lasting word, Christ remained centered in radical peace and showed us love embodied by washing the feet of his beloved’s and serving them at your table.

At the table he took the bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread saying “take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” Likewise, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks to God and said “drink from this all of you this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

And so, in remembrance of Christ with us, and in the assurance of your Love persistent, we offer our lives, and all that we are as we respond to Jesus’ question, “Who do you say that I am?”

**Like Peter, we say,
“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God.”**

Pour out your Spirit on these gifts so they may serve as a reminder of your love for us. Amen.

Celebration of Holy Communion

†Sung Response 779

Great God, Your Love has Called Us (vs. 4)

Life of the Church

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

†Benediction

†Postlude

Awakening Praise Band

Worship Notes

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:

Who Do You Say That I Am?

by Lauren Wright Pittman

Inspired by Matthew 16:13-20

Digital painting

In this image, I wanted to create a kaleidoscope of perception, imaging the ways Jesus is perceived in the context of this passage, like light broken down into a myriad of shapes and colors. In the gold rays of light Jesus' form is obscured by the metallic shine of God's glory. In the gray and earth-tone rays he is seen in monochrome. Each of the earth-tone rays holds a pattern on Jesus' clothing which represents a misunderstanding of who Jesus is. Starting on the left, honey, locusts, and baptismal waters misidentify him as John the Baptist. Within the next ray to the right, ravens, an empty chair, rain, and fires from the heavens misidentify him as Elijah. On the right, scales of justice and plants being uprooted and planted misidentify him as Jeremiah. Through the middle of the image, there is a ray of light where the image comes into full color that holds this moment of clarity where Jesus and Peter truly see one another. In this ray, Peter's clothing holds symbols of his new identity: a rock upon which the church will be built and keys to the kingdom. Jesus' clothing holds imagery—an oil jar and the light of the sun— representing the way Peter sees him as the Messiah and Son of the living God.

—Rev. Lauren Wright Pittman

Call to Worship and Prayer of Confession by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Communion Liturgy adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org and a liturgy on Enfleshed.com

Echo Holy, CCLI Song # 7162703 Jake Espy | Kory Miller | Mia Fieldes | Ran Jackson

How Great Thou Art, ©1953, Renewed 1981 Manna Music, Inc. Words: Stuart K. Hine, 1949. Music: Swedish folk melody; arr. Stuart K. Hine, 1949.

Great God, Your Love Has Called Us, ©1977 Hope Publishing. Words: Brian Wren, 1973. Music: Arr. from Dimitri Bortniasky, 1825.

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, March 3

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:15 am Combined Worship in the Sanctuary
- 11:15 am Business Meeting in the Fellowship Hall
- 6:00 pm The Gathering in the College Ministry Room

Monday, March 4

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, March 5

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, March 6

- 5:30 pm The Calling Dinner
- 6:00 pm The Calling Meeting
- 6:30-7:30 pm Chancel Bells

Thursday, March 7

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

Sunday, March 10

- 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 in the College Ministry Room

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

As part of our 200th Anniversary Celebration, we have published a hard-bound, archival-quality book to preserve and document our history. The book contains 869 pages, including 26 color photos and the 2018 and 2023 churchwide photos. Personal copies may be purchased for \$85 each. You can order a book using the QR code. A sample copy will be available to look at during the Fellowship time between services. Please email Ken Hammann if you have questions about the book at krhammann@gmail.com.



First Baptist Fellowship Table

Fellowship is at the heart of knowing and caring for ourselves and others. As a way to connect across both services, we are bringing back our “Fellowship Table.” If you are able, please see the sign-up sheet at the table to volunteer to serve (the table can be as simple as coffee and donuts or...as elaborate as you would like it to be). For those who are busy with Sunday morning duties but would still like to contribute to the Fellowship Table, the “Dollars for Donuts” jar is on the Fellowship Table or note checks in the memo line for “Fellowship Table”. Contact Sherry Wyatt for questions: (573) 819-2380 or sherrywyattrn@gmail.com.

First Kids Easter Egg Hunt – Saturday, March 30

Join us Saturday, March 30 at 10 am for our annual Easter Egg Hunt! Kids are invited to gather in the Fellowship Hall for Easter snacks and crafts before our egg hunt takes place at 10:30 am. Kids will be divided into groups for age-specific hunts. Following the egg hunts, families are invited to participate in lawn games and 9 square.



First Baptist Book Club

After a short hiatus, First Baptist Book Club will be returning soon! Led by Pastoral Resident Caleb Cooke, the First Baptist Book Club will seek to gain insight into the Christian experience from a variety of powerful voices. The first book on the docket is *God Is a Black Woman* by Dr. Christena Cleveland. This book recounts Dr. Cleveland's journey to liberate her identity and faith from the "whitemalegod" and to uncover what she calls the "Sacred Black Feminine," i.e., the Black Female God who embodies liberation, healing, and hope. If you are interested, please email Caleb at ccooke@fbc-columbia.org. First Baptist Book Club participants are asked to purchase the book independently.

ForColumbia 2024

First Baptist is excited to announce that we will be partnering with ForColumbia again this year! ForColumbia was founded in 2015 to bring Christians together to freely share the love of God by serving our community, side-by-side. They do this by organizing volunteers from churches throughout mid-Missouri to serve individuals, non-profit organizations, and other public venues in an annual city-wide day of service. ForColumbia will be April 27 from 9am to 2pm. If this is not your first time serving with us, note, there are a couple of changes to this year's ForColumbia. Rather than having two work slots, the day of service will go from 9am to 2pm.

Childcare will be provided the entire time. More information will be coming soon on the projects in which First Baptist will be directly involved. Be sure to mark those calendars!



Ordination of Caleb Cooke
Sunday, March 24
5:00 pm

It is with great excitement that we announce the Ordination of Caleb Cooke. All are invited to the ordination service on Sunday, March 24, at 5 pm. Reception to follow. We encourage those who are unable to attend to send cards to the church with words of affirmation for Caleb.





First Baptist Church
columbia, mo

Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt, Interim Senior Pastor
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