



Our Worship of God

September 27, 2026

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

*Today's worship theme is about God's outrageous generosity. 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 of generosity towards someone in your life, the community, or the world.** 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 Kristin McAtee

†Call to Worship (responsive)

Pastor Hayden Dennis

Beloved, some of us came here tired, or carrying grief.

But we are still here.

Some of us came with joy in our bones and rainbows in our spirit.

And we are still here.

In a world that tries to erase queer stories,

We shall not be moved.

In a time when trans and nonbinary lives are targeted,

We shall not be moved.

When fear tells us to be silent,

We shall not be moved.

When shame tries to pull us from the truth of who God made us to be,

We shall not be moved.

We are rooted in love.

We are rooted in justice.

We are rooted in affirmation.

We are rooted in God.

Like trees planted by living water,

We shall not be moved.

Come, let us worship the God who sees the vulnerable, strengthens the weary,
and calls the church into holy courage.

Rooted in love, justice, and affirmation, we worship with joy.

We worship with courage. We worship together.

†Opening Song

Good Day

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Scripture Reading

Ella Pritchett

Matthew 20:1-16

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard.

“Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I’ll pay you whatever is right.’ And they went.

“Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he said to them, ‘Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?’

“‘Because nobody has hired us,’ they replied.

“He responded, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.’ When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ‘These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.’

“But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn’t I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I’m generous?’ So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last.”

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Divine Creator, we come before you with humble hearts,
acknowledging our shortcomings and seeking forgiveness.

**We confess, O God, that we have subjected others
to the kind of rejection and misunderstanding
that you yourself experienced in the form of Jesus.**

We try to control the paths of those we love,
deeming them “out of their minds” or unworthy of acceptance
when they veer from our expectations for how they “should” be
or whom they “should” love.

Meanwhile, in moments of doubt, we have sometimes sought approval
from those who do not understand our truth instead of finding solace
in the chosen family you have blessed us with.

**Have mercy on us, O God, when we have believed what
others say about us rather than what you promise.
Have mercy on us, O God, when we have caused others
to doubt your love.**

Forgive us for the moments we stand in our own way
or in the way of others—dimming a God-given light,
participating in the silencing of God-given voices.

Forgive us, O God, for the times when we have allowed ego
to overshadow our ability to extend solidarity and support
to our most marginalized siblings.

Like Esther, who risked her life to advocate for her people,
help us to use whatever privilege or advantages we possess
to uplift the voices of those who are vulnerable and oppressed.

Grant us the courage to remain in solidarity with our queer and trans siblings,
even when doing so puts us at risk or challenges our comfort.

**In times of fear and uncertainty, may we find solace in your
promises, O God.**

Even if our earthly relationships falter, you remain steadfast
in your love for us.

Strengthen us with the knowledge that you will always
take us in and hold us close,
especially when we feel alone or misunderstood by those we hold dear.

**Help us, O God, to live authentically and boldly
as the children you created us to be.**

Give us courage to trust our belovedness even in a world that sometimes
threatens to snuff out the life that has been breathed into us by God.

Strengthen us to embody your love and courage in all that we do.

Guide us to move humbly, act justly, and extend grace and mercy
to all whom we encounter.

**May our lives be a reflection of your boundless love and embrace.
In your holy name we pray. Amen.**

Assurance of Grace

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

†Song

God's Love is Boundless

Message

Pastor Kristin McAtee

†Song of Response

Reckless Love

Sharing Our Gifts & Life of the Church

Pastor Kristin McAtee

†Benediction

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, (From Open and Affirming Coalition) UCC Coalition (May 15,2026). Open and Affirming Sunday –Jun3 28, 2026 Worship Guide, reading, sermon pathway, children’s moment & more!. Openandaffirming. <https://openandaffirming.org/ona26/>

Good Day, by Flamy Grant

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Prayer of Confession and Assurance of Grace, by Sanctified Art, LLC

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 27

- 9:15 am Combined Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour & Donuts with Grownups
- 11:00 am First Baptist in the MidMo PrideFest Parade
- 5:00 pm College & Young Adults Open Study Session / 7:00 pm Bible Study

Monday, September 28

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting
- 6:00 pm Serving Team

Tuesday, September 29

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, September 30

- 6:00 pm Youth in the 3rd Floor Youth Room
- 6:00 pm Chancel Choir in the Sanctuary
- 7:15 pm Chancel Bells in the Sanctuary

Thursday, October 1

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

Friday, October 2

- 5:30-8:30 pm Parents' Night Out: Lego Night

Sunday, October 4

- 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
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 4:00 pm Blessing of the Animals & Stuffed Animal Prayer Pals on the Front Lawn
- 5:00 pm College & Young Adults Open Study Session / 7:00 pm Bible Study

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



First Stories Blog

We're excited to share another edition of "First Stories," First Baptist Church's blog. Periodically, we'll share stories about the life and impact of our church community. This blog post highlights a personal story from one of our members, Sarah Banks. Keep an eye on our social media accounts for updates on new blog posts, or check our website: <https://fbc-columbia.org/first-stories-blog/>



Parents' Night Out: LEGO Night

October 2 | 5:30–8:30 PM | \$10 per child

We're building more than LEGO creations—we're building connections! Join us for a **LEGO-themed Parents' Night Out** as we celebrate the ways we are connected to God and to one another.

Kids will enjoy an evening filled with fun, friendship, and plenty of building, including:

- Watching *The LEGO Movie*
- A LEGO-building contest
- Fun building games and activities
- Pizza and popcorn



Preschoolers and younger will have their own special space in the nursery, with age-appropriate crafts, games, and activities. For just **\$10 per child**, drop the kids off for an evening of connection, creativity, and fun while you enjoy some time to yourself. We can't wait to build community together! Register by September 27 to guarantee your spot.

Blessing of the Animals & Stuffed Animal Prayer Pals

October 4 | 4:00 PM | Front Lawn

Our animals are an important part of our families and our lives, reminding us of God's love and care for all of creation. Join us on October 4 at 4:00 PM on the front lawn for a short service of blessing for all animals. Bring your furry, feathered, or scaly friends as we give thanks for the joy and companionship they bring us.

Following the service, (or during the service if live animals aren't for you!) kids are invited to visit our Stuffed Animal Prayer Pal booth! Each child can choose a stuffed animal to adopt, make a collar, decorate a little house, and make a commitment to pray with their new prayer pal.



Through this playful practice, children can discover that prayer is one way we stay connected to God, and that our faith is something we practice together. We are connected to God, to one another, and to all of creation. Bring your animal, bring your kids, and come celebrate the wonderful creatures God has entrusted to our care!

Visit with Rick & Lita Sample

Sunday, October 4

On October 4, Rick and Lita Sample will join us for both Awakening and Traditional worship to share about their work with refugees and immigrants. As many of you know, we are an "Encourager" church, which means we financially support their efforts and offer additional encouragement by meeting needs that arise in their community. Mark your calendars and be sure to attend on Sunday, October 4, to hear about their current work in San Francisco. There will also be an opportunity during Spiritual Formation Hour for anyone who would like to speak further with Rick and Lita, ask questions, and offer personal encouragement. We're excited to welcome the Samples into our worship services and ask that you continue to pray for the important work they're doing with refugees and immigrants in San Francisco.

Pause for Prayer

Begins Tuesday, October 6, at 12:30 p.m.

In the midst of busy schedules, constant responsibilities, and the many demands of daily life, we all need moments to pause and reconnect with God's presence.

Beginning on **Tuesday, October 6, at 12:30 p.m.**, we invite you to join us each week, either in person or online, for Pause for Prayer. Together, we will bring our joys, concerns, hopes, and burdens before God while also practicing rhythms of prayer that can sustain us throughout the week.

Whether prayer is a familiar comfort or something you are still exploring, all are welcome. Each gathering will offer space to slow down, listen for God's voice, and be reminded that we are held in God's love and connected to one another. Our hope is that this weekly time of prayer will become a source of encouragement, helping us experience God's presence, hope, peace, and healing amid the rhythms of everyday life.

Zoom ID: 584 859 3678

Passcode: fbc

Youth Six Flags Trip

Sunday, October 18

All youth between the 6th and 12th grade are invited to join us for the afternoon of October 18 at 6 Flags in St. Louis!

Cost is \$30, and registration is now open. All registrations will close on October 11, so register yourself and some friends today and do not miss out on a fun filled afternoon!

Parents and Guardians: any questions can be directed to Pastor Hayden, hdennis@fbc-columbia.org.

Ecumenical Concert: Let Everything That Hath Breath

Sunday, October 25 at 2:00 in the Sanctuary

Join us Sunday, October 25 at 2:00 in the sanctuary for our annual ecumenical concert entitled "Let Everything That Hath Breath!"

In addition to many beautiful and diverse anthems featuring choir, bells, organ, and brass, the centerpiece will be Benjamin Britten's epic cantata "Rejoice in the Lamb," in honor of the 50th anniversary of the composer's passing.

We'll be joined by friends from sister churches and local schools, as well as other special guests. You won't want to miss this concert!



Trunk-or-Treat & Chili Cook-Off

Sunday, October 25 | 5:00 PM | First Baptist

It's time for a little friendly competition, some (not-so) spooky fun, and a whole lot of chili! Join us on **Sunday, October 25 at 5:00 PM** for our annual **Chili Cook-Off and Trunk-or-Treat**.



Get your favorite chili recipe perfected, because the competition around here is steep! We'll enjoy a cozy chili dinner, fun games, and plenty of treats as we gather together for an evening of food, fun, and community. Come dressed in your Halloween best, bring your appetite, and get ready for a fun night together at First Baptist!

Trunk-or-Treat car setup: 4:00–4:45 PM

Trunk-or-Treat and Chili Cook-Off: 5:00 PM



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