



Our Worship of God

February 25, 2024

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

~ Second Sunday of Lent ~

Welcome

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prelude

When Morning Gilds the Skies
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Metzger

†Call to Worship (responsive)

God welcomes the dreamers and the doubters,
the courageous and the fearful,
the hungry and the hopeful,
the impatient and the reserved.

God welcomes the young and the old,
the poets and the prophets,
the faithful and the tired,
the curious and the convicted.

Wherever you are on your journey, wherever your boat is at sea,
there is room for all to gather here.

God is with us.

Let us worship the one whom even the seas obey.

†Opening Hymn 612

How Firm a Foundation

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Bible Reading

Psalm 22:23-31

You who fear the Lord, praise him!

All you offspring of Jacob, glorify him;
stand in awe of him, all you offspring of Israel!

For he did not despise or abhor
the affliction of the afflicted;
he did not hide his face from me
but heard when I cried to him.

From you comes my praise in the great congregation;
my vows I will pay before those who fear him.

The poor shall eat and be satisfied;
those who seek him shall praise the Lord.

May your hearts live forever!

All the ends of the earth shall remember
and turn to the Lord,
and all the families of the nations
shall worship before him.

For dominion belongs to the Lord,
and he rules over the nations.

To him, indeed, shall all who sleep in the earth bow down;
before him shall bow all who go down to the dust,
and I shall live for him.

Posterity will serve him;
future generations will be told about the Lord
and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn,
saying that he has done it.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Bible Reading

Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Call to Confession

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Gracious God,

**There are days that threaten to swallow us,
days when the storms of life feel too big.**

**In those moments, we often cling to the sides of our ships in fear,
spending more energy hiding from storms than looking for you.**

Forgive us for doubting ourselves.

Forgive us for doubting you.

Rescue us from the storms of today and from the fears that trap us.

With hope in our hearts we pray, amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Sharing Our Gifts

Anthem

Lamb of God
Chancel Choir

by Twila Paris

*Your only Son no sin to hide
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod
And to become the Lamb of God*

*Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God*

*Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
I love the Holy Lamb of God
Oh wash me in His precious Blood
My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God*

*I was so lost I should have died
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod
And to be called a lamb of God"*

Message

Rescue Me from Danger

Pastor Greg Hunt

†Hymn of Response

Across the Sea
Sung to: O WALY WALY

*Across the sea you stand alone,
far from this boat where winds have blown.
What pow'r could span a rift so wide?
"Take heart my friends, I'm by your side."*

*On swell and sand you teach the crowd
with words to heal both poor and proud.
Where is our hope and daily bread?
"Cast in the deep and you'll be fed."*

*At rest at last, you're sleeping sound
when fears arise and storms surround.
Why don't you wake to soothe and save?
"Peace! Now be still, both gust and wave."*

*Along the shore you called my name
and strangely moved by grace I came.
How can I serve? Who shall I be?
"Come follow me on land and sea."*

Life of the Church

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

†Benediction

†Postlude

Sonata in D Major
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

Scarlatti

Worship Notes

ABOUT THE BULLETIN COVER:

Lift Off

by Nicolette Peñaranda

Inspired by Matthew 14:22-23

Acrylic, ink, paper collage, and mixed media on canvas

There are no streetlights in the ocean. I think about that often. Rarely do we think about how dark and mysterious the night is, even for a veteran fisherman. Nor do we take into consideration the movement of the wind and its roar rumbling off of the waves.

Inside the wind tunnel in this piece, we see the West African symbol, *Adinkrahene*,¹ symbolizing leadership and charisma. Peter embodies all of that when he follows Jesus onto the water. But the bottom of his foot holds the *Mako*. *Mako* reminds us that not all peppers grow the same. As charismatic and eager to impress Jesus as Peter is, he does not necessarily embody the same level of development as Jesus. The hand of Jesus reaches through the image of *Asase Ye Duru*, reminding us that the earth has weight. Jesus, the divine, is greater than the limitations of the flesh, the fears we carry like the uncertainty of the water. What we also see around the hand of Christ is *Nyame Dua*, the sacred stump symbolizing God's presence and protection. The ever-present God protected Peter from drowning. All of this storytelling is set inside the symbol of *Mmusuyidee*, signifying prosperity and sanctity. We are invited to maintain a hopeful outlook and persevere.

How Firm a Foundation, Words: Rippon's Selection of Hymns, 1787. Music: Traditional American melody; Funk's Genuine Church Music, 1812.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand, ©1938 Hill & Range Songs. Words:& Music: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1938.

Across the Sea, Text by Hannah C. Brown (c) 2023 GIA Publications, Inc.

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, February 25

- 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

Monday, February 26

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, February 27

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, February 28

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

Thursday, February 29

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

Sunday, March 3

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:15 am Combined Worship in the Sanctuary followed by a business meeting

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

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.



Senior Pastor Search Committee Selection - March 3

On January 16, 2024 the church council selected the following individuals to represent our seven teams; Congregational Care Team – Dolores Shearon, Teaching Team – Beth Marchbanks, Worship Team – Kimberly Moeller, Mission Team – Jonathan Ludwig, Telling Team – Noah Hartsfield, Racial Justice and Inclusion Team – Mychel Varner, Administrative Team – Charles Hunter. On March 3 the congregation will gather for combined worship in the sanctuary at 10:15 a.m. Following worship we will move to the Fellowship Hall for the called business meeting to vote for the 7 at-large members to serve on the search committee. Our bylaws state that only church members may serve on the committee. Non-members may join the church by Sunday February 25, 2024 to be considered for the committee. To join the church, please talk to Pastor Brittany. You may nominate individuals in the church or you may nominate yourself by February 25, 2024. Nominations may be given to Pastor Brittany, placed in the offering plate or emailed to churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org by February 25, 2024.

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.” The Sunday morning “Fellowship Table” is a way to fill our tummies and hearts on Sundays and mix and mingle with each other. The table is located in the connector building and all are invited to stop by before making their way to small groups (or to hang out in the hallway if you are not going to small groups that week!)

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 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.

First Kids Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 30 at 10 am

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.

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.



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