



SEEKING
peace
together

Our Worship of God

September 15, 2024

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Rev. Caleb Cooke

Prelude

For the Beauty of the Earth
Bells for All Ages

by Kevin McChesney

†Call to Worship (responsive)

As followers of Jesus, we are called

to bless those who reject us;

to rejoice with those who rejoice, and mourn with those who mourn;

to live in harmony with others and not be arrogant.

As disciples of the Prince of Peace, we are called

to not repay anyone evil for evil;

to, as far as possible, live peaceably with all;

to feed our enemies when they are hungry

and offer a drink when they are thirsty.

Ours is a hard and holy calling, friends. And so we gather.

We gather for prayer and study.

We gather for singing and silence.

We gather for encouragement and support.

We gather for worship.

†Opening Hymn 712

The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Selections from 1 Samuel 25

There was a man in Maon who was very rich. He was shearing his sheep in Carmel. Now the name of the man was Nabal, and the name of his wife was Abigail. The woman was clever and beautiful, but the man was surly and mean; he was a Calebite. David heard that Nabal was shearing his sheep. So David sent ten young men, and David said, "Go to Nabal and greet him in my name. Thus you shall salute him, 'Peace be to you, and peace be to your house, and peace be to all that you have. Your shepherds have been with us, and we did them no harm. Therefore let my young men find favor in your sight, for we have come on a feast day. Please give whatever you have at hand to your servants and to your son David.' "

When David's young men came, they said all this to Nabal. But Nabal answered David's servants, "Who is David? Who is the son of Jesse? Shall I take my bread and my water and give it to men who come from I do not know where?" So David's young men turned away and came back and told him all this. David said to his men, "Every man strap on his sword!" And every one of them strapped on his sword, including David. But one of the young men told Abigail, Nabal's wife, "David sent messengers out and Nabal shouted insults at them. Yet the men were very good to us. Now, therefore, know this and consider what you should do, for evil has been decided against our master and against all his house; he is so ill-natured that no one can speak to him." Then Abigail hurried and took two hundred loaves, two skins of wine, five sheep ready dressed, five measures of parched grain, one hundred clusters of raisins, and two hundred cakes of figs. She loaded them on donkeys and said to her young men, "Go on ahead of me; I am coming after you." But she did not tell her husband Nabal.

When Abigail saw David, she fell before David on her face, bowing to the ground. She said "My lord, do not take seriously this ill-natured fellow. I, your servant, did not see the young men of my lord, whom you sent. Now then, my lord, as the Lord lives and as you yourself live, since the Lord has restrained you from bloodguilt and from taking vengeance with your own hand, please forgive the trespass of your servant."

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Litany for Peace and Justice

Pastor Greg Hunt

Wherever the pride of a few causes harm to many, gracious God,
bring your justice.

To those who feel resentment of all that is asked of them, gracious God,
bring your peace.

To those who do not receive fair payment and appreciation for their service,
gracious God,
bring your justice.

In every place where people enact violence against each other, gracious God,
bring your peace.

To every heart that is reluctant to share from the bounty you provide,
gracious God,
bring your justice.

To those who step out toward conflict despite their fear, gracious God,
bring your peace.

Gracious God, may your justice fuel our world,
may your peace guard our hearts.

Amen.

Sharing of our Gifts

Pastor Greg Hunt

Anthem

Here I Am, Lord
Chancel Choir
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

by Schutte/arr. Schrader

*"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"*

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them- they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?"*

*I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame;
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?"*

Message

Rev. Caleb Cooke

†Hymn of Response

Sing a New World into Being
Sung to NETTLETON

*Sing a new world into being.
Sound a bold and hopeful theme.
Find a tune for silent yearnings.
Lend your voice and dare to dream:
dream a church where all who worship
find their lives and loves belong.
Sing a new world into being.
Sing as Christ inspires your song!*

*Sing a new world into being
where each gender, class, and race
brings its rainbow gifts and colors
to God's limitless embrace;
where the lines that once divided
form instead the ties that bind.
Sing a new world into being:
risk transforming heart and mind!*

*Sing a new world into being
where the homeless find a home,
where no children ever hunger
but are filled in God's shalom;
where all people work for justice,
where all hate and vengeance cease.
Sing a new world into being:
raise the harmonies of peace.*

*Sing a new world into being.
Join the ancient prophets' cry
for a time of health and plenty
when all tears have been wiped dry;
when compassion flows like waters,
pouring balm for all who grieve.
Sing a new world into being:
live the promise you believe!*

Life of the Church

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Litany of Farewell and Blessing (responsive)

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

As a church, we give thanks to God for partnering with you, Caleb and Rianna, in your Residency journey. We are also grateful for all the family, friends, teachers, mentors, and churches who have shaped you on your way to us.

We give thanks for the journey that brought you to us.

Over the past year, we have sought to follow in the way of Jesus together. Caleb, you have rejoiced with us, wept with us, ministered to us, and accompanied us as a sibling in Christ.

We give thanks for the time you ministered with us.

Now we prepare to send you with our blessing as you continue your calling in new ways and in new places.

We give thanks for all the ways you will share God's abundant love.

First Baptist, do you release Caleb as our Pastoral Resident?

With God's help, we release you, Caleb, as our Resident.

Do you commit to continue to pray for him as he lives into his calling in a new place?

We promise to pray for you as you live out your calling, as you preach the gospel of love, minister to the sick and hurting, and discern difficult situations.

As we release Caleb from his ministry at First Baptist, we also want to ask God's blessing on his future.

We offer our support and encouragement to you, Caleb, as your ministry unfolds in a new setting, and you begin your calling as a Senior Pastor.

We pray God's blessings on you and express our gratitude for your ministry among us.

Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

May you find fulfillment in your work, continue to seek the love of God, and help others to do the same.

Caleb, as you leave First Baptist, do you commit to continuing to embody the values you learned here, to keep asking questions, listening to the Spirit and wise counsel, pursuing excellence, and following the way of love?

I do, with the help of God. I pray God's blessing on each person here in their spiritual journey, and I pray God's blessing on First Baptist in its continued ministry.

I thank you for the love and support you have shown me while I ministered among you.

As I leave here, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

†Benediction

Rev. Caleb Cooke

Postlude

Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. R. Powell

Worship Notes

The Kingdom of God is Justice and Joy, Words: Bryn Austin Rees, 1973. Music: William Croft, 1708.

We've a Story to Tell to the Nations, Words & Music: H. Ernest Nichol, 1896.

Sing a New World into Being, Words: Mary Louise Bringle © 2006 GIA Publications, Inc. (All rights reserved. Used by permission OneLicense.net #A705700.) Music: HYMN TO JOY - Ludwig van Beethoven; arr. by Edward Hodges

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, September 15

9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

9:15 am Awakening Service in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am First Kids Sunday School

10:15 am Farewell Sendoff for Caleb & Rianna in the Fellowship Hall

11:15 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

Monday, September 16

1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, September 17

1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, September 18

6:00 pm Youth Group

6:30 pm Chancel Bells

Thursday, September 19

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

Sunday, September 22

9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

9:15 am Awakening Service in the Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour –Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School

11:15 am Traditional Service in the Sanctuary

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.



First Baptist Pride Shirts

First Baptist is re-ordering shirts in time for MidMo PrideFest on September 28, 2024. Whether you plan to represent First Baptist at Pride or want an awesome shirt proclaiming God's inclusive love, this shirt is for you! The cost is \$15/shirt and we will only be purchasing what is ordered. The deadline to purchase a shirt is September 16th so order soon!



Fall Book Study - *Baptizing America*

Tuesdays in October

As we approach a major, upcoming election, increased attention has been given to the rise of Christian nationalism, an unholy marriage of religion and political power. To learn more about this and consider how best to respond, we will be doing an October book study. *Baptizing America: How Mainline Protestants Helped Build Christian Nationalism*, provides a compelling narrative about how mainline Protestantism promoted Christian nationalism's growing influence in American life. It also offers insights into what might be done about it.

Note that instead of Thursdays, we will meet on **Tuesdays at 6pm on October 1, 15, 22, and 29 (no meeting on the 8th)** for discussions facilitated by interim pastor Greg Hunt. If you are interested, please email Greg at ghunt@fbc-columbia.org. Participants are asked to purchase the book independently. If you are needing childcare, please email Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org.

Save the Date! Parenting and Faith Workshop - October 12

Save the date for a Parenting and Faith Workshop led by Meredith Miller, author of *Woven: Nurturing a Faith Your Kids Don't Have to Heal From*. She will lead us in conversations centered around faith formation for our children and how to help our kids have a strong and adaptable faith. More details coming soon!

October 27 - Trunk-or-Treat and Chili Cook-Off

If you have been here for a bit, this year's Halloween-themed church activity is going to look a little different! This year, we are staying close to home and joining our trunk-or-treat with our much-requested CHILI COOK-OFF!!!

Join us on Sunday, October 27 at 5 pm at First Baptist for a Chili Cook-Off and Trunk-or-Treat. Get your favorite chili recipe perfected because the competition around here is steep. Enjoy a cozy chili dinner paired with some fun games and trunk-or-treating. We are still fine-tuning all the details, but we know it will be a blast!



First Baptist Church
columbia, mo

Rev. Dr. Greg Hunt, Interim Senior Pastor
Rev. Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation
Rev. 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