



SEEKING  
peace  
together

# *Our Worship of God*

*September 22, 2024*

*11:15 am*

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

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**Welcome**

Pastor Greg Hunt

**Prelude**

**Praise Unfolding**

by Sandra Eithun

*Chancel Bells*

**†Call to Worship (responsive)**

We come to worship in the name of God, our parent

**who created us,**

**who cares for us and the whole world**

In the name of the Son

**who came into the world,**

**who showed us the way of love.**

In the name of the Holy Spirit

**Who sustains us and incites us to peace,**

We come together to offer our thanks and praise.

**May God bless our time of worship.**

**†Opening Hymn 669**

God of Grace and God of Glory

**†Passing the Peace of Christ**

**Scripture Reading**

Priscilla Hunt

**2 Kings 6:8-23**

Once when the king of Aram was at war with Israel, he took counsel with his officers. He said, "At such and such a place shall be my camp." But the man of God sent word to the king of Israel, "Take care not to pass this place, for the Arameans are going down there."

The king of Israel sent word to the place of which the man of God spoke. More than once or twice he warned a place so that it was on the alert.

The mind of the king of Aram was greatly perturbed because of this; he called his officers and said to them, "Now tell me: Who among us is betraying us to the king of Israel?" Then one of his officers said, "No one, my lord king. It is Elisha, the prophet in Israel, who tells the king of Israel the words that you speak in your bedchamber." He said, "Go and find where he is; I will send and seize him." He was told, "He is in Dothan." So he sent horses and chariots there and a great army; they came by night and surrounded the city.

When an attendant of the man of God rose early in the morning and went out, an army with horses and chariots was all around the city. His servant said, "Alas, master! What shall we do?" He replied, "Do not be afraid, for there are more with us than there are with them." Then Elisha prayed, "O Lord, please open his eyes that he may see." So the Lord opened the eyes of the servant, and he saw; the mountain was full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha. When the Arameans came down against him, Elisha prayed to the Lord and said, "Strike this people, please, with blindness." So he struck them with blindness as Elisha had asked. Elisha said to them, "This is not the way, and this is not the city; follow me, and I will bring you to the man whom you seek." And he led them to Samaria.

As soon as they entered Samaria, Elisha said, "O Lord, open the eyes of these men so that they may see." The Lord opened their eyes, and they saw that they were inside Samaria. When the king of Israel saw them he said to Elisha, "Father, shall I strike them? Shall I strike them?" He answered, "No! Would you strike those whom you have taken captive with your sword and with your bow? Set food and water before them so that they may eat and drink, and let them go to their master." So he prepared for them a great feast; after they ate and drank, he sent them on their way, and they went to their master. And the Arameans no longer came raiding into the land of Israel.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Litany For Loving Our Neighbors**

Pastor Greg Hunt

God we ask for help in loving our neighbors -

**Those who are different from us,**

Those whose ethnicity or nation of origin is different from ours,

**Those whose race is different from ours,**

Those whose political affiliation is different from ours,

**Those whose religious practices are different from ours,**

Those whose cultures are different from ours,

**Those with whom we disagree,**

Those who would consider themselves our enemies,

**Those whom we tend to judge.**

The world offers us all kinds of excuses not to love each other,

**To regard one another as Other,**

To devalue one another,

**To disregard the perspectives of others.**

But you teach us that we are all Love's subjects,

**Under Love's law and domain -**

All connected in the family of God,

**Siblings in your image.**

So, instead of allowing the hierarchies  
and power systems of the world influence us,

**We let Love influence us.**

We let peace be our guide

**To the thriving and flourishing of all.**

We lay down our weapons and our defenses

**So that we can say Yes to loving our neighbors on the earth.**

Instead we take up implements of creativity and beauty,

**Tools of growth and nourishment.**

We give space for listening and peacemaking,

**To build systems of equity and compassion.**

Let the Love of the Divine

**As preached by the Christ,**

Move and compel us forward,

**Filling us and all the earth with abundant life. Amen.**

## Sharing Our Gifts

**Anthem**

**O Day of Peace**

by Parry/arr. Mizell

*Chancel Bells, feat. Chancel Choir*

*Carmen Ramirez and Vaysia Knust, descant*

*Colleen Ostercamp, organ*

*O day of peace that dimly shines  
Through all our hopes and prayers and dreams,  
Guide us to justice, truth, and love,  
Delivered from our selfish schemes.  
May swords of hate fall from our hands,  
Our hearts from envy find release,  
Till by God's grace our warring world  
Shall see Christ's promised reign of peace.*

*Then shall the wolf dwell with the lamb,  
Nor shall the fierce devour the small;  
As beasts and cattle calmly graze,  
A little child shall lead them all.  
Then enemies shall learn to love,  
All creatures find their true accord;  
The hope of peace shall be fulfilled,  
For all the earth shall know the Lord.*

**Message**

Pastor Greg Hunt

**†Hymn of Response 557**

Open My Eyes, That I May See

**Life of the Church**

Pastor Greg Hunt

**†Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Great is Thy Faithfulness**  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. D. Wagner

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# Worship Notes

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*God of Grace and God of Glory*, Words: Harry E. Fosdick, 1930. Music: John Hughes, 1907.

*God of Love and Truth and Beauty*, Words: Timothy Rees, 1922. Music: Erik Routley, 1982.

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*, Words & Music: Clara H. Scott, 1985.

*Litany For Loving Our Neighbors*, by Fran Pratt

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# Week at a Glance

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## 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

## Monday, September 23

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

## Tuesday, September 24

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

## Wednesday, September 25

- 6:00 pm Youth Group
- 6:30 pm Chancel Bells

## Thursday, September 26

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

## Friday, September 27

- 6:00 pm First Baptist Game Night in the Parlor

## Sunday, September 29

- 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



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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).



## 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 8<sup>th</sup>)** for discussions facilitated by interim pastor Greg Hunt. If you are interested, please email Greg at [ghunt@fbc-columbia.org](mailto: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](mailto: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. Childcare is available with registration. Visit [fbc-columbia.org/woven](http://fbc-columbia.org/woven) for more information and to register.

## Worship on the Lawn - Sunday, October 13

Worship is moving outdoors on Sunday, October 13. As we conclude our worship emphasis on seeking peace with creation, we couldn't think of a better way than to celebrate in it. Both worship services will take place on our front lawn (weather permitting). Lawn chairs are encouraged.

## Combined Worship - Sunday, October 27 in the Sanctuary

Join us on Sunday, October 27 at 11:15 am in the Sanctuary for a Combined Worship service led by our Student Ministry. Throughout this semester, our students are meeting with staff to learn about the different components of worship and together they will plan and lead Sunday worship. We look forward to being led by them, and hearing about all the ways God is moving in their lives.

## October 27 - Trunk-or-Treat and 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!

## All-Saints Concert - Sunday, November 3

The First Baptist Chancel Choir and Chancel Handbells will present a FREE ecumenical All-Saints Concert on **Sunday, November 3 at 2:00pm** in the sanctuary. In addition to several diverse choral and handbell selections paying tribute to those who have passed, the choir will present the Gabriel Fauré Requiem featuring a chamber orchestra, vocal soloists, and an ecumenical choir comprised of choir members from several Columbia churches, as well as many familiar faces. We hope you will join us for what is sure to be an afternoon of beautiful music, fellowship, and remembrance.





**First Baptist Church**  
columbia, mo

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