



SEEKING  
peace  
together

# Our Worship of God

September 29, 2024

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

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Welcome

Pastor Greg Hunt

Prelude

**I've Got Peace Like a River**  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. Sondra Tucker

†Call to Worship (responsive)

Source of Life, in the beginning,

**you made us and called us beloved.**

When we forget how to love,

**you remind us we are beloved.**

When the powers of the world try to oppress us,

**you name us beloved.**

When our siblings in faith condemn us,

**you claim us: beloved.**

We are your beloved,

Source of Life, in the beginning.

†Opening Hymn 362

Morning Has Broken

†Passing the Peace of Christ

**A Paraphrase of Genesis 2:4-23**

In the day that God made the earth and the heavens – before there were plants, even before it had ever rained – a stream rose and watered the ground. Then God formed a human being from the clay of the earth. God breathed into the human’s nostrils the breath of life. With that, humanity entered the picture as a living soul.

God planted a beautiful garden in Eden. God made every type of tree grow up from the ground. These trees were wonderful and full of delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden grew the tree of life. Beside it was another tree – the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flowed out of this beautiful, green garden, and it became four rivers, flowing around lands with gold and onyx stone.

God took the human beings and put them in the garden of Eden to care for the land. God said, “You may eat of every tree in the garden except for the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat from that tree, you will die.”

God formed every living creature. Animals and birds came to the human beings to be cared for and named.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Prayers of the People (responsive)

Pastor Greg Hunt

We come with joyful hearts  
for the gift of diversity  
and bodies of all colors, sizes, and genders.  
For the gift of love  
and different ways in which we can love one another.  
For the gift of community  
and families that extend beyond biology.  
So today, we pray:

**increase our joy, O Holy One.**

We come with broken hearts  
for a society that makes tiny boxes  
and wants us all to fit in them.  
For love that is conditional  
and asks us to be who we aren't.  
For relatives that reject us  
and friends that forget us when we need them.  
So today, we pray:

**deliver us from evil, O Holy One.**

We come with thankful hearts  
For strength and courage  
to be and exist in this world as we are.  
For dreams of new ways  
to dismantle systems of oppression.  
For love and hope  
knowing a different world is possible.  
So today we pray:

**be with us today and always, O Holy One.**

## Sharing Our Gifts

**Anthem**

**For the Beauty of the Earth**

by John Rutter

*Chancel Choir*

Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

*For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise, this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child,  
Friends on earth, and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

*For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given,  
Graces human and divine, flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n,  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.*

**Message**

Pastor Greg Hunt

Trust your belovedness.

**Let it be a protest,  
an act of resistance,  
a song of celebration.**

Trust your belovedness in a world  
that is rarely satisfied.

**Wear it like a badge of honor.**

Speak it as confidently as your last name.

**Tattoo it to your heart.**

When outside forces  
chip away at your sense of self,  
when life asks you  
to hand over the keys,

**remember the water.**

**Remember creation.**

Remember how it was good,  
so very good.

Let that truth hum through your veins.

**Sing it so loud**

**that it drowns out the weariness of the world,**

for the bravest thing we can ever do

**is trust that we belong here.**

*(Two sheets of colored paper have been included in each bulletin. On one of the sheets, write down a word or sentence describing something that reminds you that you are beloved. It should be something you are comfortable sharing with the community. When instructed, take what you've written and tape it to the heart-shaped board.*

*On the next paper, write down a challenge for yourself for this coming week:*

*What is one actionable thing you will do to share belovedness with someone to make that person feel how beloved they are?*

*This paper will be for you to take with you into the week!)*

# †Hymn of Response

# Impartial, Compassionate God of All Living

1. Im - par - tial, com - pass - ion - ate God of all lives,  
 2. Un - ho - ly, un - just - i - fied fear we in - cite,  
 3. Cre - a - tor of beau - ty, we stand not in pride,  
 4. Our hope is your free - dom for both great and small,  
 5. All hon - or - we give you, O help us to see,

in Christ you have shown us your love ac - tual - ized,  
 when we shun our neigh - bors yet cling to our rights.  
 we do not as - sume you will stay on our side.  
 to strive for per - fec - tion and know all means all.  
 your chil - dren are wor - thy to claim vic - to - ry.

in - car - nate and weak in the arms of the poor,  
 Your chil - dren still wan - der the streets left in pain,  
 For yours is the sa - cred, un - tar - nished by sin,  
 We chal - lenge and quest - ion each law with - out grace,  
 And so let our ac - tions flow out of our praise,

de - stroy - ing all sys - tems that keep closed the door.  
 we pass laws a - gainst them to prove our dis - dain.  
 a re - fuge for out - casts that all may come in.  
 af - firm - ing the im - age of Christ on each face.  
 to seek trans - for - ma - tion, your Kin - dom to raise.

**Life of the Church**

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

**†Benediction**

**Postlude**

**Allegretto**  
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

Couperin

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## Worship Notes

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*Morning Has Broken*, Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931. Music: Traditional Gaelic Melody.

*Breathe On Me, Breath of God*, Words: Edwin Hatch, 1878. Music: Robert Jackson, 1894.

*Belovedness Prayer and Ritual* —Rev. Sarah A. Speed

*Impartial, Compassionate God of All Living*, ©2019 Adrienne Stricker. Sung to: ST. DENIO

*Liturgy* by Rev. Claudia Aguilar Rubalcava, Avery Arden, Rev. Brooke Scott, and Matt Webb | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

*The paraphrase of today's biblical reading is based on materials from Current's "Seeking Peace Together" series*

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## Week at a Glance

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### 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

### Monday, September 30

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

### Tuesday, October 1

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room
- 6:00 pm Fall Book Study - *Baptizing America* in the Conference Room

### Wednesday, October 2

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

### Thursday, October 3

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

### Sunday, October 6

- 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 in the Conference Room**

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. There is a Zoom option and 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*