"As truly as God is our father, so just as truly is God our mother. In our father, God Almighty, we have our being; in our merciful mother we are re-made and restored. Our fragmented lives are knit together and made perfect. And by giving and yielding ourselves, through grace, to the Holy Spirit we are made whole."

~ Julian of Norwich

Greeting

Carol McEntyre

Invitation to Worship

Meditation on the many names of God

Call to Worship (responsive)

Creator God, we gather on this new day of your creation to gather in worship.

Shepherd God, we follow where you lead.

Merciful God, in your love, re-make us.

Compassionate God, bring grace and forgiveness to our lives.

Comforting God, in our grief and pain, lift us from despair.

Mothering God, gently gather your people.

Fathering God, embrace us with your unending love.

Nourishing God, feed us and strengthen us.
Weeping God, who knows our sorrow, dry our tears.
Everlasting God, you are everywhere and right here.
Open our hearts and minds to worship you, the God of many names.

Song of Praise
One True God

Scripture Reading
Lillian Hoell

He was praying in a certain place, and after he had finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say:
Father, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Give us each day our daily bread.
And forgive us our sins,
for we ourselves forgive everyone indebted to us.
And do not bring us to the time of trial.”

And he said to them, “Suppose one of you has a friend, and you go to him at midnight and say to him, ‘Friend, lend me three loaves of bread, for a friend of mine has arrived, and I have nothing to set before him.’ And he answers from within, ‘Do not bother me; the door has already been locked, and my children are with me in bed; I cannot get up and give you anything.’ I tell you, even though he will not get up and give him anything because he is his friend, at least because of his persistence he will get up and give him whatever he needs.

“So I say to you, Ask, and it will be given you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. Is there anyone among you who, if your child asks for a fish, will give a snake instead of a fish? Or if the child asks for an egg, will give a scorpion? If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Songs of Thanksgiving
No Longer Slaves
Ever Be
Responsive Reading:
Isaiah wrote that God is a mother to us, comforting and carrying us in her arms:
As a mother comforts her child, so will I comfort you... (Isa. 66:13)
Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Isaiah also wrote that God would never forget us. He knows each of us, like a mother knows her own children:
Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?
Though she may forget, I will not forget you! (Isa. 49:15)
Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

David wrote that in God's presence, he was quiet and at peace, trusting his mother God like a child safe in loving arms:
But I have stilled and quietened my soul;
like a weaned child with its mother,
like a weaned child is my soul within me (Psalm 131:2)
Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Jesus spoke of himself as a mother, longing to wrap his arms around us, like a mother hen gathers her chicks under her wings:
O Jerusalem, Jerusalem...
how often I have longed to gather your children together,
as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings,
but you were not willing (Matthew 23:37)
Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Paul writes about his missionary ministry and likens his work to that of a nurse who looks after those in her care:
...but we were gentle among you,
like a mother caring for her little children (1 Thessalonians 2:7).
Loving Lord, thank you for your tender care.

Offertory Prayer with Lord’s Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Offertory

Your Grace Is Enough

Message

Carol McEntyre

Preparation for Communion

by Mary Bringle

As tender as a mother hen
who spreads her wings to shield her brood,
Christ Jesus stretches out his arms
and sheds his life as holy food.

   We seek his pattern in our hearts,
   amazed by such unselfish grace,
   and tend the children of the world
   in whom we see God’s face.

Courageous as a mother bear
who guards her young from danger’s path,
Christ Jesus wields his zealous love
and shows the gift of rightful wrath.

   We heed his call, opposing pow’rs
   that thwart the cause of life and health,
   and strive to reach the prophets’ dreams
   to build God’s Commonwealth.

A phoenix rising from the flames,
a mother eagle, soaring high,
Christ Jesus lifts the weary world
and conquers death for all who die.
   In him, we find our strength renewed,
and, mounting up on fledgling wings,
we rise to share the gospel hope
that resurrection brings!

Communion

Passing the Peace of Christ

Song of Response

Benediction

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Worship Notes

One True God by Steven Curtis Chapman (7052884)
No Longer Slaves by Jonathan and Melissa Hesler (7030123)
Children of God by Third Day (5856024)

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Fall Kick-off
August 28th
on the Front lawn

Bounce house,
Snow cones and
Much More
Week at a Glance

**Sunday, August 7**
9:15 am Awakening Worship  
Fellowship Hall
10:15 Sunday Morning Small Groups  
Parlor
11:15 Traditional Worship  
Sanctuary
3:00-5:00 Oakland Pool

**Tuesday, August 9**
5:30 pm Trustee Meeting  
Conference Room

**Thursday, August 11**
6:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
Fellowship Hall

**Sunday, August 14**
9:15 am Awakening Worship  
Fellowship Hall
10:15 am Small Groups  
Various Classrooms
11:15 am Traditional Worship  
Sanctuary

Announcements

**Do you want to know God more?**

This fall, Pastor Carol McEntyre will be leading two Covenant Groups that will focus on creating the space in our lives to hear from Christ through the spiritual practices. Specifically, the groups will focus on the Spiritual Practices of solitude, scripture reading, prayer, honoring the body, self-examination, discernment and Sabbath. Each group will meet just once a month to allow time to try out the practices. The evening group will meet the first Tuesday of every month beginning September 6. The afternoon group will meet on Thursdays beginning September 8 at 1:00 pm. The groups are capped at 10 participants each to allow for intimacy and community. It is also important that participants really commit to attending the meetings and making time for the practices between meetings. The cost for the group materials is $20 per person. If you are interested in signing up or want to know more email me at mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org or call the church office at 442-1149.
Join Us for Some Fun in the Sun!
First Baptist children and youth—and friends and family—will be swimming at Oakland Pool on Sunday, August 7, from 3-5 pm.

Back to School Playground Rejuvenation Event
The Child Development Center would like to invite First Baptist Church to the “Back to School Playground Rejuvenation Event.” It will be held on Tuesday, August 9, from 6-7:30 pm. A rain date is set for August 10. We will be working on flower beds, raking and spreading mulch, trimming trees, and weeding.

Beginning August 14th: Sunday Morning Small Group Opportunities at 10:15 am
The Community Small Group is an inter-generational group that focuses on God's call to live in community with one another. We meet in the conference room. We rotate facilitators and our discussion tends towards how do we, as a community of Christ's followers, live in today's world in a meaningful way. After the special summer series is concluded, we will be picking up a study by Baptist Ethics Daily titled "The Practice of Living Faithfully." We look for a curriculum that is unified, but not linear, making it easy for members to miss a week and not feel behind in the discussion. We hope that you will join our community!

The Faith Forum Class is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day and share information and ask questions to learn from one another. We try to put the lesson in context to our personal lives and current events. The class does not have a teacher but all help with the learning. Charles Hunter helps guide the discussion. Anyone is welcome, any Sunday you want to stop in. We meet in E-2 by the elevator. We would love to have you visit.

Young(ish) Adult Group is made up of people who are 25-39(ish) who are single and married, with kids and without. We meet in the library outside the church offices. We will be continuing our series on Friendship First. Learning how to develop stronger friendships with each other as well as developing our relationship with God. The facilitator is Sherry Wyatt. Come join us!
On August 14, the Discussion Class will begin a 10 week study in Paul's letter to the Roman Christians. Romans has a unique place in the letters of Paul in the New Testament and has had a profound influence in the history of the Christian church. We invite you to join us for these studies.

Safe Seminar Sexual Awareness and Family Empowerment
Save the date: September 23-25.
9:15 am Awakening Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more traditional worship experience, First Baptist Church offers worship at 11:15 a.m. each Sunday morning in the Sanctuary.

Nursery: (ages birth-three) located on the first floor outside the sanctuary and is available from 9:15-12:15 while parents are in worship or Sunday Morning Small Groups.

Extended Session: children ages 3-5 including kindergarten may be dropped off during both worship services in the nursery for extended session, an extension of First Kids Sunday School.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:
First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.
Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.
Adult Small Groups are combined for the summer, through August 7th, and meet in the parlor.

First Baptist Church partners in mission with the American Baptist Churches USA, Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Alliance of Baptists.

To view the live webcast of our 11:15 am Traditional worship service, go to www.ustream.tv.
Search for fbcwebcast (one word), and you should be able to worship from anywhere!

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