

(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

~ The Sixth Sunday of Easter ~

#### Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship (responsive)

Holy God, before time you named us. Through time you redeem us. You call us, precious in your sight.

May we love as you love. Holy One, through the turbulent waters make us steady, your hands holding strong the fragile and weak

May we love as you love. Gracious God, may the fruits of our lives be food for the hungry, bread, clothing, shelter, fire, water, Word.

May we love as you love.

Pastor Carol McEntyre

God of justice, remove the chaff of our lives that keeps us from hearing, following, your call **May we love as you love. Amen.** 

#### **†**Opening Songs

Proof of Your Love One Thing Remains

#### **+**Passing the Peace of Christ

#### **Prayer of Examen**

Based on I Corinthians 13

Your love is patient; we give you thanks for all those who have been patient with us and have taught and cared for us; and we pray for the patience to love others as you have loved us.

(silent reflection)

Your love is kind; give us the courage to be kind to others and to serve those with patience who are so often unkind, rude, difficult to love, or our enemies. (silent reflection)

Your love is not pompous; give us the insight to speak the truth in love and for the sake of your kingdom and not out of a need to appear clever or right and in all our relationships give us the wisdom to listen far more than we speak. *(silent reflection)*  Your love does not seek its own interests; we thank you and pray for those who serve the poor and those in need, who give tirelessly of themselves and who have much to do and little time for themselves.

(silent reflection)

Your love is not quick-tempered; we pray for those who are angry and for the violent and their victims; for children who fear, elders who are abused, and people trapped in relationships that injure and harm. *(silent reflection)* 

Your love bears all things; we remember before you those with heavy burdens, many cares, much stress, and too little comfort and help. Open our eyes to those around us and their needs and give us the wisdom to offer help without any prying or sense of superiority.

(silent reflection)

Your love never fails; even death does not trespass on the breadth and depth of your love. We thank you for those we have loved in this life and who now dwell in the peace and joy of your presence and let your comfort settle on those who are bereaved or who are lonely this day.

(silent reflection)

In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

#### **Scripture Readings**

1 John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us. By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them.

Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

John 15:9-11

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

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

**Reckless Love** 

**Offertory Sentence** 

Message

#### Pastor Carol McEntyre

Pieces

#### Holy Communion Invitation to the Table God loves you and welcomes you to the table. Communion Liturgy God is with us! We are not alone! Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to God. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Loving God, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Creator, Son, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. In all the near and distant corners of the universe, nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, eternal as your love, our bond to one another. We rejoice with all your people of every time and place,

to proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy, holy, holy are you.

Holy, holy, blessed are you.

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers:

loving what he loved living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me." After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying, "This is the new covenant, remember me."

# We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again.

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died Christ has risen Christ will come again

Sustaining Spirit,

we call on you to transform these familiar things,

as you continually transform the world around us.

In the sharing of these simple elements in community,

may we taste and see your goodness,

so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever. Amen

## Breaking the Bread, Sharing the Cup

The love of God given for you.

Song of Response

Over & Over Again

**+**Benediction

# Week at a Glance

### Sunday, May 6

2 pm Columbia Handbell Ensemble Spring Concert4-4:50 pm First Kids Music5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Bible Study

#### Monday, May 7

9-10:30 Senior Yoga 1-3:30 pm Staff Meeting

### Tuesday, May 8

11:45 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters

### Wednesday, May 9

6-7:15 pm The Calling for Youth 7:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

### Sunday, May 13

5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Bible Study

Fellowship Hall Sanctuary Youth Suite

Parlor Conference Room

E2

Youth Suite Fellowship Hall

Youth Suite

# Sign Up for First Kids Camp

First Kids Camp, held July 30-Aug 3, is an all-day camp for 3-year-olds through those entering 6th grade next fall. Registration is \$25 for the week. Details, including cost and a link to sign up, are available on our website, fbc-columbia.org.

# May 20 Combined Worship and Business Meeting

Mark your calendars – for Pentecost Sunday we will have a combined worship service at 11:15 in the Fellowship Hall, followed by a brief business meeting.

## The Practice of Sabbath

Beginning May 28, Pastor Carol will be on Sabbatical. During her absence, you are invited to reflect on and enter into the spiritual practice of Sabbath as well. *Sabbath: Finding Rest, Renewal, and Delight in Our Busy Lives* by Wayne Muller is an excellent book for those wanting to learn more about Sabbath practice, a tradition through the millennia of creating an oasis of sacred time within a life of unceasing labor and business. Read this book over the summer and gift yourself the gift of rest! Books are available for \$10 each Monday-Friday in the church office, or on Sunday mornings in the hallway outside the sanctuary.

# Columbia Handbell Ensemble Concerts

The Columbia Handbell Ensemble presents its 29<sup>th</sup> annual spring concert featuring a wonderful program of dances. "Fly Me to the Moon," Frank Sinatra's romantic standard, highlights a wide array of rhythmic dances. Other featured works include "America" from Bernstein's "West Side Story," the classic Latin dance "Sway," Ravel's incredible "Pavane;" and several rock hits to dance to, "Rock Around the Clock" and "Good Vibrations." The concert is today at 2 pm at in our Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$10 at the door (\$1 for kids 12 and under).

# Street Theology - Joining God's Mission as We Go

From June 3-July 15, our Sunday Morning Adult Small Groups will be coming together and gathering in the parlor at 10:15 for a combined small group series entitled Street Theology-Joining God's Mission as We Go. For the first few weeks, Rev. Brian Ford, a regular attender at Awakening Worship, will be leading us; then, Associate Pastor Michael McEntyre will take some of what was discussed and talk about how it applies to our approach for ministry with the Lakota people in South Dakota.

# First Baptist Trip to Bridger, South Dakota July 6-12

Our First Baptist family will be returning to the Lakota Reservation in Bridger again this summer. There is still room available if you would like to join us. Please see the May 2 Spire for more details, including pre-trip reading and study. If you are interested in this opportunity or have any questions about the trip, please contact Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

## Church Picnic

Our annual picnic is June 10 at 3 pm at the Twin Lakes Pavilion, with many outdoor activities. We'll have our traditional egg toss; the Pepto Bismol Men's Bake-off/Auction for Missions at 4 pm, and dinner at 5 pm.

# Worship Notes

The Call to Worship was written by Terri and posted on **RevGalBlogPals**, http://revgalblogpals.blogspot.ca/.

Proof of Your Love by Jonathan Lee, Joel Smallbone, Luke Smallbone, Fred Williams, Mia Fieldes and Ben Glover (6086707)

One Thing Remains by Brian Johnson, Jeremy Riddle and Christa Black Gifford (5508444)

The Prayer of Examen, inspired by I Corinthians 13:1-13, comes from the Presbyterian Church in Canada website, http://presbyterian.ca/.

Reckless Love by Caleb Culver, Cory Asbury and Ran Jackson (7089641)

Pieces by Steffany Frizzell Gretzinger and Amanda Cook (7051641)

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Over and Over Again by Kristene DiMarco (7047281)

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Thank you for worshiping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.



### 9:15 am Awakening Worship Service

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

For Children During Worship:

1<sup>st</sup>- 5<sup>th</sup> Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

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 which dive into various topics (visitors and guests welcomed):

Faith Forum in the second floor classroom, next to the elevator.

Discussion Class in the parlor on the second floor.

Young Adult Small Group in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor library.

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<u>Church Staff</u>

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director † Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Director Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator Bethany James, Nursery Director † Jason Bell, Custodian