



BE LOVED

BE KIND

BE YOU

Our Worship of God

July 19, 2020

11:15 am

Opening Song

The Love of God

*The love of God is greater far
Than tongue or pen can ever tell
It goes beyond the highest star
And reaches to the lowest hell
The guilty pair bowed down with care
God gave His Son to win
His erring child He reconciled
And pardoned from his sin*

*O love of God how rich and pure
How measureless and strong
It shall forevermore endure
The saints and angels song*

*When years of time shall pass away
And earthly thrones and kingdoms fall
When men who here refuse to pray
On rocks and hills and mountains call
God's love so sure shall still endure
All measureless and strong
Redeeming grace to Adam's race
The saints and angels song*

*Could we with ink the ocean fill
And were the skies of parchment made
Were every stalk on earth a quill
And every man a scribe by trade
To write the love of God above
Would drain the ocean dry
Nor could the scroll contain the whole
Though stretched from sky to sky*

Call to Worship (unison)

**Gentle One,
Thank you for your Spirit within us
who guides, encourages, and strengthens us.
Help us see ourselves through your eyes -
with love, kindness, and deep joy.
May we love our bodies, treasure our hearts,
and celebrate our spirits. Amen.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*At this time, we invite you to light a candle at your place of worship
as a reminder of God's presence with us.*

Scripture Reading

Reid Wilson

Mark 12:28-31

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answered, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Hymn #565

Lord of Creation
Sung to SLANE

*Lord of creation, to you be all praise:
Most mighty your working, most wondrous your ways!
Your glory and might are beyond us to tell,
And yet in the heart of the humble you dwell.*

*Lord of all power, I give you my will,
In joyful obedience your tasks to fulfill;
Your bondage is freedom, your service is song,
And, held in your keeping, my weakness is strong.*

*Lord of all wisdom, I give you my mind;
Rich truth that surpasses our knowledge to find,
What eye has not seen and what ear has not heard
Is taught by your Spirit and shines from your word.*

*Lord of all bounty, I give you my heart;
I praise and adore you for all you impart—
Your love to inspire me, your counsel to guide,
Your presence to cheer me, whatever betide.*

*Lord of all being, I give you my all;
For if I disown you I stumble and fall,
But, sworn in glad service your word to obey,
I walk in your freedom to the end of the way.*

Children's Moment

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Sharing Our Gifts

Song of Affirmation

Be Kind to Yourself

*You've got all that emotion
That's heaving like an ocean
And you're drowning in a deep dark well
I can hear it in your voice
That if you only had a choice
You would rather be anyone else
I love you just the way that you are
I love the way He made your precious heart*

*Be kind to yourself
I know it's hard to hear it
When that anger in your spirit
Is pointed like an arrow at your chest
When the voices in your mind
Are anything but kind
And you can't believe your father knows best
I love you just the way that you are
I love the way he's shaping your heart
Be kind to yourself
How does it end
If the war that you're in
Is just you against you against you
You've gotta learn to love learn to love
Learn to love your enemies too*

*You can't expect to be perfect
It's a fight you have to forfeit
You belong to me whatever you do
So lay down your weapon
Darling take a deep breath
And believe that I love you
Be kind to yourself*

*Gotta learn to love learn to love
Learn to love your enemies too*

Message

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Litany for Self-Love (responsive)

Loving Creator, we confess that, in general,
we are bad at loving ourselves.

Help us, oh God.

Many of us have been criticized mercilessly
and have simply accepted the habit of it.

Help us, oh God.

Help us to regard ourselves with the same kindness and patience

With which you regard us.

Help us to lay down our judgements of ourselves and others

And to leave the judging to you.

Help us to see ourselves and everyone around us in the light of love,

Which is your own light.

Help us to feed, nourish, care for, and live into our True Self,

Which is your love in us.

We acknowledge that we live among tensions and paradoxes
that are not always easy to parse out:

Good and evil

Light and darkness

Flesh and spirit

We acknowledge that our enemies are mostly unseen,

And sometimes hidden within ourselves.

We acknowledge that we must both accept ourselves as we are

And work toward transformation.

We acknowledge that you have given us authority and power over evil,

And we take hold of them in the name of Christ.

Hallelujah! For you have looked upon us with eyes full of grace

Grace is air we breathe.

Grace is the ocean we swim in.

Grace is our resting place.

Amen.

Hymn of Commitment

*O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.*

*O Light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.*

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

You Are My All in All
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

arr. M. Ham
in style of Pachelbel

Worship Notes

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The Love of God, Frederick Martin Lehman, Meir Ben Isaac Nehorai CCLI #18448

Lord of Creation: words: John Winslow, 1961

Be Kind to Yourself: ©2015 Andrew Peterson, Gabe Scott, CCLI #7053164

Litany for Self-Love - <http://www.franpratt.com/litanies/2017/7/6/litany-for-self-love>

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go, Words: George Matheson, 1882. Music: Albert L. Peace, 1884

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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.

Week at a Glance

Tuesday, July 21

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

4:00 pm Compassion Camp Bible Study

Children's Online Zoom call with Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Wednesday, July 22

6:00 pm The Calling Online

Online Zoom meeting with Pastor Michael McEntyre

Sunday, July 26

10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study and Small Groups

Online Zoom Churchwide Bible Study

11:15 am Online Worship Service

Stream the worship service by clicking "Watch Us Live" from link at the top of our website

Information regarding Zoom meetings
is available on our website:
www.fbc-columbia.org
Go to: "Get Involved" tab
and then click "Online Gatherings"

Announcements

Stay Connected

During this period of physical distancing, we believe it is important to stay connected as a church family. First Baptist is offering several opportunities to connect throughout the week. More information can be found at <http://fbc-columbia.org/get-involved/online-gatherings/> and an email with all of the links will be sent out this week. Below is a list of the online gatherings being offered this week. If you have any questions about any of the gatherings, contact Brittany, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation.

- Sunday
 - 10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study
 - 10:15 am Connections Small Group
 - 10:15 am Discussions Class
 - 10:15 am Youth Small Group

- Tuesday
 - 1:00 pm Crafty Critters
 - 4:00 pm Compassion Camp Bible Study

- Wednesday
 - 6:00 pm The Calling Online

Visitors and Prayer Requests

If you are visiting with us online, we are so glad to have you with us! If you would like to receive more information about First Baptist and our ministries, let us know you are with us today by texting “guest” to 573-326-9490. If you are in need of prayer, text “prayer” to 573-326-9490 and Brittany, our Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation will connect with you.

Zoom at Noon Cancelled for July 22

Zoom at Noon will not be meeting on July 22. The group will resume on July 29.

Worship Service Options Beginning August 9

We are excited to announce that beginning Sunday, August 9 at 9:15 am, we are planning to host in-person worship services on the front lawn of the church building. Since March, the Church Council has met regularly to discuss the possibility of resuming in-person worship. A growing consensus exists among experts, which suggests if Americans are going to leave their homes, it is safer to be outside than indoors where fresh air and more space between people can help mitigate the risk of spreading COVID-19. Additionally, since the HVAC systems in the sanctuary and Fellowship Hall only recirculate air, simply sucking the air in from the room, cooling it and then, pushing it back out into the room, we feel even with social distancing measures it is not our best option at this time. Based on these factors and the uptick of COVID-19 cases in Columbia, the Church Council believes gathering outdoors on the front lawn is the safest option for now.

We are excited about the opportunity to gather in-person and plan to host outdoor services each Sunday (weather permitting) at 9:15 am beginning August 9. We will rotate the music leadership of the service every few weeks to allow for a variety of musical styles to be experienced in-person. Our 11:15 am service will continue to be tailored to an online experience and will also rotate the music leadership of that service to complement and allow for our in-person service. The guidelines for in-person gatherings on the front lawn will apply to the 9:15 am worship services as well. We understand that despite all our precautions, in-person gathering still elevate risks of exposure and encourage our church members to make choices based on what is best for you and your family.

Guest Preacher for July 26 Online Service

Several months ago, I invited Dr. Terrell Carter to be our guest preacher in July because I was planning to be out of town attending a conference. Of course, my conference is cancelled, but I couldn't pass up the chance to hear from Dr. Carter and am thrilled he has agreed to join us for online worship as our guest preacher on July 26 at 11:15 am.

- *Terrell Carter, DMin, is pastor of Webster Groves Baptist Church in Webster Groves, MO and Chief Diversity Officer and Special Advisor to the President at Greenville University in Greenville, IL. Dr. Carter has an extensive writing ministry. His latest book *The Only Thing that Matters is Heaven: Rethinking Sin, Death, Hell, Redemption, and Salvation for All Creation* is currently available through traditional booksellers.*

ForColumbia Service Opportunity - August 1

Covid-19 put a halt to our plans to return to Benton Elementary this past April to help create a new outdoor learning classroom for the students. However, under the current guidelines for the city, we are planning to be able to move forward with this project on August 1 with a smaller team of folks following the appropriate precautions. The work will include moving some fencing and installing new sections; spreading mulch in a large area that will include several new “play elements” for this outdoor classroom; painting some of the play elements of the outdoor classroom; general yard clean-up of the property.

Shelby Myers and Michael McEntyre will be leading the work at the site. If you are in a lower risk category for Covid-19 and feel comfortable participating in this project, please contact Michael at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org to pre-register.

Guest Speaker – Conversation on Christian Nationalism

August 9 & 16

On August 9 and 16 at 10:15 am via zoom, Brian Kaylor will be our guest speaker for a conversation on Christian Nationalism. Christian Nationalism is an ideology, which seeks to merge Christian and American identities and in doing so, distorts both the Christian faith and America's constitutional democracy. Christian Nationalism equates being a Christian with being American and asserts that Christianity should be privileged by the State over other religions. Christian Nationalism implies that to be a good American, one must be Christian.

In the last few years, we have seen a rise in legislation around the country, and in Missouri, which attempts to advance the cause of Christian Nationalism. Some Christians have launched an effort known as "Project Blitz" in hopes of fusing Christianity and American Civic Life. Lawmakers in more than a dozen states used model bills from *Project Blitz*, on topics like encouraging classes on "Bible literacy" in public schools and mandating public schools post "In God We Trust." In April of 2019, our Pastor Carol McEntyre testified in Jefferson City against one of these bills, a biblical literacy bill, which encourages public schools to teach the Bible. Baptists have historically stood for religious liberty for all, and believed that everyone should be free to practice their faith or to have no faith if they so choose. Faith should never be coerced. We hope you will join us for this important conversation about religious liberty for all!

- *Brian Kaylor is editor & president of Word&Way, associate director of Churchnet, and author of four books on religion, politics, and communication. He graduated with an M.A. and Ph.D. in political communication from the University of Missouri.*

First Baptist Book Club – Tuesday, August 11

First Baptist's Book Club has selected *I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness* by Austin Channing Brown. Austin is an activist, a writer, a speaker, and a media producer providing inspired leadership on racial justice in America. In *I'm Still Here*, Brown offers an eye-opening account of growing up Black, Christian, and female that exposes how white America's love affair with "diversity" so often falls short of its ideals. The book club will meet via Zoom at 7:00 pm on August 11 to discuss the first 6 chapters. Email Pastor Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org for the Zoom link.

The Color of Compromise Study Expands and Resumes

Prior to the Covid-19 pandemic, a small group was meeting to talk about *The Color of Compromise* a book and video study by Jemar Tisby, which takes readers on a historical journey: from America's early colonial days through slavery and the Civil War, covering the tragedy of Jim Crow laws and the victories of the Civil Rights era, to today's Black Lives Matter movement. Author Jemar Tisby reveals the obvious—and the far more subtle—ways the American church has compromised what the Bible teaches about human dignity and equality.

The group lead by Lynne Lampe and Julie Walker are planning to restart their discussion of *The Color of Compromise* in August via Zoom. They are also planning to do some research on racism in Columbia and First Baptist's response throughout the years. If you would like to join the discussion, purchase the book on your own, begin reading, then email Lynne at llampe.editor@gmail.com. To allow for maximum participation, the group is not planning to meet during Sunday Morning Small Group hour and will pick another day and time for the four sessions, to be determined by those who choose to participate.

Financial Assistance for Those Affected by COVID-19

If you have found yourself in need of financial assistance in this disruptive time of a global pandemic, please reach out to any of our pastors (by phone or email) to notify us of your need. We have a Benevolence Fund, which can respond in times such as these. The Missions Council has also set aside additional funds to provide relief and the church is considering further ways in which we can be of greater assistance. Please know that all such requests are confidential. We will get through this together!