



## *Our Worship of God*

*September 6, 2020*

*11:15 am*

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### **- Online Service -**

**Welcome**

Pastor Carol McEntyre

**Prelude**

This is My Father's World  
Taylor Stewart and Mariah Dale, *voice*

arr. Walter

*At this time we invite you to get bread and juice  
for communion later in the service.*

**Opening Prayer (responsive)**

Reveal your presence to us this day,  
O God of light, love, and glory.  
As you did to your servants at the foot of the mountain,  
send your Spirit to show us your story.

**May the brilliance of your face  
illuminate this place  
as we dare to proclaim your Word**

**and may we, your people, be never unable  
to tell all of that we have heard. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**

**Open My Eyes That I May See**

*Open my eyes that I may see  
Glimpses of truth thou hast for me;  
Place in my hands the wonderful key  
That shall unclasp and set me free.*

*Silently now I wait for thee,  
Ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my eyes, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears, that I may hear  
Voices of truth thou sendest clear,  
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear,  
Everything false will disappear.*

*Silently now I wait for thee,  
Ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my ears, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear  
Gladly the warm truth everywhere;  
Open my heart, and let me prepare  
Love with thy children thus to share.*

*Silently now I wait for thee,  
Ready, my God, thy will to see;  
Open my heart, illumine me,  
Spirit divine!*

## Back-to-School Video

### Back-to-School Blessing (responsive)

Pastor Michael McEntyre

We lift up our teachers who answered the call to teach  
However heavy or uncertain the coming days may be:

**May they know assurance and comfort  
from the Spirit and from community  
May their imaginations flow freely  
May their connections to students be authentic  
As they mold the minds of our children  
And may they know they can do this hard thing.**

We lift up those who provide support and safe places for our children and  
teachers, our school counselors and nurses, cafeteria workers, custodians,  
teacher aides, and diagnosticians:

**May you keep their anxiety at bay  
May their masks stay firm  
May they enter their spaces with peace and love  
May their kindness and faithfulness remind our  
kids that they are valued  
And may they know they can do this hard thing.**

We lift up our principals, superintendents, and administrators:

**May they have courage in the face of public moods  
and difficult data.  
May they have wisdom as they make difficult decisions even as they  
deal with the trauma of experiencing a pandemic themselves.  
May they have steady minds, tender hearts, and strong backs.  
And may they know they can do this hard thing.**

We lift up the adults entrusted to our children and students.  
The parents and guardians who answered the call  
to nurture and tend to our younger ones:

**May our adults know we love them**

**May they know peace and grace as they take on the roles of both  
teacher and parent**

**May they know their community holds them in these days**

**Give them still hearts**

**Give them peace of mind**

**And may they know that they can do this hard thing.**

We lift up our children and youth to you, O God.

We pray for those who will see their friends and teachers through computer  
screens, and for those who will be attending school in a mask with so many  
new safety measures that school may feel unfamiliar. We pray they are able  
to cultivate friendships and feel connected to their community.

**May they feel your presence on the first day of  
school and every day**

**May they be curious and ready to learn**

**May they be treated with dignity and respect**

**May they know that they are loved by you and  
by their First Baptist family**

**And may they know they can do this hard thing.**

With the love of our Creator God

With the mercy of our Redeemer Jesus

And with the strength of the Spirit who sustains us

**Together, we can do this hard thing. Amen.**

**Matthew 17:1-9**

Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, and his face shone like the sun, and his clothes became dazzling white. Suddenly there appeared to them Moses and Elijah, talking with him. Then Peter said to Jesus, “Lord, it is good for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three dwellings here, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.” While he was still speaking, suddenly a bright cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud a voice said, “This is my Son, the Beloved; with him I am well pleased; listen to him!” When the disciples heard this, they fell to the ground and were overcome by fear. But Jesus came and touched them, saying, “Get up and do not be afraid.” And when they looked up, they saw no one except Jesus himself alone.

As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus ordered them, “Tell no one about the vision until after the Son of Man has been raised from the dead.”

The Gospel of our Lord.

**Praise be to Christ.**

**Sharing Our Gifts**

## Hymn of Glory

## Christ Upon the Mountain Peak

*Christ upon the mountain peak  
Stands alone in glory blazing;  
Let us, if we dare to speak,  
With the saints and angels praise him: Alleluia!*

*Trembling at his feet we saw  
Moses and Elijah speaking;  
All the prophets and the law  
Shout through them their joyful greeting: Alleluia!*

*Swift the cloud of glory came,  
God proclaiming in the thunder  
Jesus as his Son by name;  
Nations cry aloud in wonder! Alleluia!*

*This is God's beloved Son:  
Law and prophets fade before him;  
First and Last, and only One,  
Let creation now adore him! Alleluia!*

## Message

Carol McEntyre

## Litany for Communion (responsive)

Pour out your Holy Spirit  
on all gathered here,

**that we might be your light in the world.**

Pour out your Holy Spirit  
on these gifts of bread and wine,

**that we might be infused with the gift  
of your nourishing guidance.**

Transform us with your nourishing grace,

**even as we eat of this bread  
and drink of this wine.**

Transfigure us to be your presence in the world,

**even as we are redeemed and reclaimed  
by your great love.**

By your Spirit, make us one with Christ,  
one with each other,

and one in ministry to the world,

until Christ comes in final victory,

and we feast at the heavenly banquet.

**Through Jesus Christ,  
with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church,  
all honor and glory is yours, almighty God,  
now and forever more.**

**Amen.**

## Communion

## Hymn of Response

Transform Us

*Transform us as you, transfigured,  
Stood apart on Tabor's height.  
Lead us up our sacred mountains,  
Search us with revealing light.  
Lift us from where we have fallen,  
Full of questions, filled with fright.*

*Transform us as you, transfigured,  
Once spoke with those holy ones.  
We, surrounded by the witness  
Of those saints whose work is done,  
Live in this world as your Body,  
Chosen daughters, chosen sons.*

*Transform us as you, transfigured,  
Would not stay within a shrine.  
Keep us from our great temptation—  
Time and truth we quickly bind.  
Lead us down those daily pathways  
Where our love is not confined.*

## Life of the Church

### Benediction

### Postlude

A Gaelic Blessing  
Colleen Ostercamp, *piano*

arr. Rutter



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# Worship Notes

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*Opening Prayer*, ~ written by Stephen Fearing, and posted on Wild and Precious Life.  
<http://www.stephenmfearing.com/>

*Open My Eyes That I May See*, Words & Music: Clara H. Scott, 1895.

*Back-to-School Blessing*, Prayer is adapted from A Blessing for the Teachers and A Blessing for the Parents and Guardians by Alyssa Aldape

*Christ Upon the Mountain Peak*, ©1977 Hope Publishing Company. Words: Brian Wren, 1962.  
Music: Cyril V. Taylor, 1985.

*Litany for Communion*, — from the Abingdon Worship Annual, posted on the Cokesbury website.  
<http://www.cokesbury.com/>

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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.

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# Week at a Glance

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## Monday, September 7

Labor Day – Offices Closed

## Tuesday, September 8

1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

## Wednesday, September 9

12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol

6:00 pm The Calling on the Lawn

## Friday, September 11

5:30 pm First Baptist Bingo Night

## Sunday, September 13 -New Sermon Series

9:15 am Worship Service on the Front Lawn

10:15 am Sunday Morning Bible Study and Small Groups

*Online Zoom Churchwide Bible Study*

10:30 am Student Ministry Group online

11:15 am Online Worship Service with Traditional Worship Team

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

5:00 pm *Everything Must Change* Book Study on the Lawn

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# Announcements

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## 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.

## New Sermon Series – September 13

*Things I Wish I Would Have Said About the Pandemic Back in March but I Didn't Know Them Yet*

As your pastor, there are some things I wish I had said back in March when the pandemic began, but spiritual insight and perspective often takes time to percolate. With no end in sight, there is still time to talk about a Christian response. Here are some of the questions that I have been reflecting on these last few months: How does our relationship with Jesus change our response to the pandemic? In what ways can our spirituality carry us through the pandemic? What will life be like on the other side? I hope you will join us for this sermon series, as we reflect together on what we are learning during the pandemic and how we want to live going forward.

## First Baptist Bingo Night

On Friday, September 11 join us for a Bingo Night on the front lawn from 5:30 pm until sundown. Please bring a chair, your own dinner, and wear your mask. If you are unable to carry chairs, we do have a few picnic tables. The event begins at 5:30 pm. Bingo with prizes will begin at 6:30 pm. All ages welcome! Please RSVP to the church office by September 10. We will reschedule if there is bad weather. Office email: [churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org) Phone: 573-442-1149

## Senior Adults – Let's Stay Connected!

This time of social distancing has been particularly hard on senior adults, especially those who live alone. We all need socialization, and the pandemic has led to low-level depression and feelings of isolation. Therefore, we want to make sure that you feel supported by your church during this time and that you can stay connected.

Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol has become a wonderful time for conversation and fellowship. Zoom is a computer program used to hold online meetings and gatherings. You can use Zoom on a smartphone, a tablet, a laptop, or a desktop computer (as long as you have an internet connection, camera, speakers, and a microphone). We know the technology might be intimidating, but we would love for you to join us. If you would like to try and get connected through Zoom and do not know how, we can send someone to your house to help you set up the technology. Let us know if you need help figuring out the technology. You can email Carol at [mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org](mailto:mcentyre@fbc-columbia.org) or call at 573-303-4987.

## Fall Book Study - *Everything Must Change* by Brian D. McLaren

The *Everything Must Change* book study is set to begin! The in-person group will meet on Sunday evenings at 5:00 pm on the front lawn of the church beginning September 13. Please bring a mask and a lawn chair and join us for the discussion.

## 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. Please know that all such requests are confidential. We will get through this together!

## Student Ministry Update

This fall looks to be a bit different from our usual Back-to-School schedule. Our Student Ministry continues to work hard to stay connected with our students while at the same time being smart about precautions and necessary safeguards. We are excited to announce that The Calling, our midweek youth Bible study on Wednesday nights from 6-7:15pm, will begin on September 9 at the church. For the month of September, students are invited to join us for CARD Games on the front lawn (Carefully crafted, Appropriately precautioned, Reasonably distanced, Distinctly fun-Games.) While we will be outside (unless weather demands an adjustment), we are asking each student to please bring and wear a mask. I understand that not all parents or students will be comfortable with in person gathering just yet and we are respectful of that decision.

Our Student Ministry will also resume our virtual Sunday morning small group meetings on September 6 at 10:30am. Zoom links will be sent out to youth and parents. We are also working on some group activities for the fall that can combine some fun outdoor activities (a bonfire, visiting some state parks, and a possible game of laser tag in the woods) to help alleviate the confines of the pandemic. We look forward to seeing our students again and are excited to welcome our new 6th graders into the group. As always, we appreciate your prayers for our students and leaders this semester.