

7 Verbs That Tell Us Who We Are

³ *Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **BLESSED** us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ just as he **CHOSE** us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. ⁵ He **DESTINED** us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely **BESTOWED** on us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace ⁸ that he **LAVISHED** on us. With all wisdom and insight ⁹ he has **MADE KNOWN** to us the mystery of his will, according to his good pleasure that he set forth in Christ, ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to **GATHER UP** all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, ¹² so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; ¹⁴ this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.*

Ephesians 1:3-14

Our Worship of God

May 3, 2015

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand.)

— The Fifth Sunday of Easter —

Greeting Michael McEntyre

Prelude Jubilation Parrish
Chancel Bells

Call to Worship (unison) Ephesians 1:2-3, 5:8, 14

*Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. **Blessed** be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has **blessed** us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places. Once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Therefore it is said, “Awake, O sleeper, and arise from the dead, and Christ shall give you light.”*

† Processional Hymn 72 To God Be the Glory

† Invocation (unison)

*Merciful God,
we come before You with praise and thanksgiving!
Through Jesus Christ,
you have **lavished** on us every spiritual **blessing**
we could possibly imagine!*

*Before the world was created,
you already knew us and loved us.
You adopted us as your own children,
and redeemed us through the blood of Christ.*

*Even more, you have made us your heirs,
and given us your own Spirit as a sign and guarantee.
How we praise you!*

*Open our hearts and minds to your presence among us here.
May our worship this morning bring you honor and glory,
for you alone are worthy of our praise. Amen.*

† Passing the Peace of Christ

*As God has given us peace through Christ,
so let us pass the peace of Christ to each other.*

Scripture Reading Janet Kieffer

Ephesians 1:3-14

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Message Carol McEntyre

Introduction

Blessed

Re - jice _____ and be glad! _____ Bless - ed are
 you, ho - ly are you. Re - jice _____ and be glad! _____
 _____ Yours is the king - dom of God! _____

God has blessed me...

Chosen/Destined

Responsive Reading

Brothers and sisters,
 the extravagant love of God has called us together.

*For long before we were even aware of it.
 God knew us.*

He has already **chosen** us to be family. We are children
 of God!

*And having **chosen** us, he called us;
 and having called us, he justified us;
 and having justified us, he gave us his glory!*

What extravagant love this is!

Gathered Now — Vocal Ensemble

Bestowed/Lavished

Litany of Confession (responsive)

Ephesians says that we were **chosen** by God
 before the foundation of the world
 to be holy and blameless before God in love.

Such a privilege...

Such a responsibility...

*God **chose** us...to be holy and blameless.*

We do try, but being holy all the time is not easy.

Forgive us Lord, when we fail.

We read the we are **destined** for adoption as God's
 children through Jesus Christ...

Such a privilege...

Such a responsibility...

*Our identity as members of God's family should
 be apparent to others...*

That means being recognizable as Christians through our
 words and deeds.

Forgive us Lord, when we fail.

We also read that we were marked with the seal of the
 Holy Spirit which is the guarantee of our inheritance
 as God's own people...

Such a privilege...

Such a wonderful privilege,
 knowing that the burden of living up to such an
 inheritance has been taken off our shoulders
 because of the grace which has been **lavished** upon us.
 For God also promised that in Jesus
 we have been forgiven according to the riches of his grace.

*May we always be aware of the tremendous
 privilege which has been **bestowed** upon us by God
 and may our response to such **blessings**
 be to live as grace-full and joy-full followers of
 Jesus, our Lord and our Savior. Amen.*

Assurance of Forgiveness (responsive)

Hear again the good news:

Because of the riches of God's grace:
 in Jesus we have redemption through his blood,
 the forgiveness of our trespasses—

all gifts of god's generous and amazing grace.
Thanks be to God!

Anthem — Amazing Grace

arr. Stevenson

Made Known/Gathered Up

Preparation for Communion

Stanzas 1 and 3

(see next page)

Gathered Now

Observance of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation
Prayer of Thanksgiving
Words of Institution
The Bread Broken, the Cup Shared

† **Hymn of Commitment 68**

Lavish Love, Abundant Beauty

† **Offertory Sentence**

Offertory

Here, O Lord, Your Servants **Gather**

arr. Koizumi

† **Benediction (unison)**

Ephesians 3:20-21

Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen.

Postlude

GATHERED NOW

Francis Patrick O'Brien



1. Gath-ered now__ a cho-sen peo-ple, called from dark -
2. Gath-ered now__ from ev -'ry cor-ner, gath-ered now__
3. Gath-ered now__ a-round one ta-ble, gath-ered in__



- ness in - to light; bring-ing praise__ and glad thanks -
__ the weak and strong, gath-ered those__ who thirst for
__ our sav-ing Lord; we be - come__ the gifts we



giv-ing, we be - hold__ the Lord of life.
jus-tice, gath-ered those__ whose pain goes on.
of - fer; bread of life__ and cup out - poured.



In the Word__ from the be - gin - ning, in the food__
In this place__ there are no stran-gers; all are blest__
Gath-ered here__ we are one bod - y; gath-ered here__



__ and drink we share, in our joy__ and in our
__ and called by name. In the dy - ing and the
__ we are one blood. Called to serve__ our ris - en



griev-ing, we be-lieve__ that Christ is there.
ris-ing, ho - ly peo - ple we re - main.
Sav-ior, called to live__ God's word of love.

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Announcements

New fbc-columbia.org

Our new website is streamlined, interactive, and purposeful. Guests and members alike will appreciate new features such as our live webcast, video and audio sermon archives, registration forms that allow sign ups and payment online, easy navigation, links to social media, interactive calendar events, and more. So be sure to check us out at www.fbc-columbia.org and let us know what you think. If you see something that needs to be updated or have an idea to make the site better, email us at website@fbc-columbia.org.

Child Development Center (CDC) News

The week of **May 4-8** is "Teacher Appreciation Week!" We would like to invite First Baptist Church to partner with CDC families to show our appreciation of the CDC teachers and staff. We are having a Food Drive in their honor. Containers will be placed in the hallways during the week and on Sunday so you may donate non-perishable items that are labeled and sealed.

Circle Meeting

The next meeting of the Ann Judson Christian Action Circle will be held on Thursday, **May 7** at 1:00 pm in the Parlor.

Odyssey Concert Series

Odyssey will present their season finale concert, American Soundscape, at First Baptist on Friday, **May 8** at 7:00 pm. The exciting, all-American program features Corigliano's 'Chiascuro' for two pianos and more. Join our performers for a post-concert reception.

Announcements

Attention all graduates!

First Baptist Church would like to honor all of our high school and college graduates on Sunday, **May 10**. Graduates will be recognized in both services and there will be a light brunch between services as well. We are asking that all graduates send your graduation information to the church no later than Monday, May 4 so it may be featured in the Spire.

Student Scholarships Available

Every year, First Baptist awards scholarships to individuals pursuing higher education. These scholarships are made available through the generosity of former members of our First Baptist Church family. Graduating First Baptist high school seniors, college students and graduate students can receive an application online at www.fbc-columbia.org, or by calling the church office at 442-1149. Scholarships available are:

The Lionberger Scholarship Fund
The Hudson Memorial Scholarship Fund
The Luebbers Scholarship Fund

The deadline for returning the application to the church office is May 17.

Business Meeting

There will be a Church Wide Business Meeting and Breakfast on Sunday, **May 17** at 10:15 am, in lieu of small group hour in the Fellowship Hall.

Combined Worship

Join us for Combined Worship on Sunday, **May 24** at 11:15 am.

Week At-A-Glance

Sunday, May 3

- 9:15 am Awakening Worship
Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups
Various Classrooms, 2nd floor
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
Sanctuary
- 2:00 pm UMC Women's Chorale Concert
Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm UMC Concert Chorale
Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm The Calling
Youth Suite
- 5:00 pm African Worship
Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 pm College and Young Adult Bible Study
Youth Suite

Monday, May 4

- SPIRE DEADLINE
- 9:00 am Senior Yoga
Parlor
- 6:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal
Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, May 5

- 12:00 pm Book Discussion: The Gift of Years
Parlor

Wednesday, May 6

- 6:30 pm Chancel Bells
- 7:30 pm Chancel Choir

Week At-A-Glance

Thursday, May 7

- 11:45 am CDC Grandfriends
Child Development Center
- 1:00 pm Ann Judson Christian Action Circle Meeting
Parlor

Friday, May 8

- OFFICE CLOSED
- (Our Administrative Assistant, Madison Reynolds, will be out of the office from May 8 - 15.
A church member will be volunteering in the office next week.)
- 10:30 am Eat, Pray, Sew
Parlor
- 7:00 pm Odyssey Concert Series: American Soundscape
Sanctuary

Sunday, May 10

- SENIOR RECOGNITION SUNDAY
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship
Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups
Various Classrooms, 2nd floor
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
Sanctuary
- 5:00 pm The Calling
Youth Suite
- 5:00 pm African Worship
Fellowship Hall
- 8:00 pm College and Young Adult Bible Study
Youth Suite

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:

Discussion Class in the Parlor on the second floor.

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

Community Small Group in the library on the second floor.

*For those who may prefer a more contemporary worship experience, First Baptist Church offers
Awakening at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall.*

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 either of our worship services, go to www.ustream.tv.
Search for [fbwebcast](#) (one word), and you should be able to worship from anywhere!

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The flowers in the sanctuary are provided by Jim and Verna Rhodes,
in celebration of the wedding of their grandson.



1112 E. Broadway

573-442-1149 - Fax 573-449-1223

Explore the FBC Website at www.fbc-columbia.org and/or Join us on Facebook.

Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Missions

Marsha Randell, Director of Children's Ministry

Nene Peter, African Minister † Rubin Byishimo, African Worship Leader

Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coordinator † Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

Glenn Owings, Custodian