



First Baptist Church

columbia

Our Worship of God

July 3, 2016

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Greeting

Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Call to Worship *(responsive)*

Those of us who wish to draw near to God should not be surprised when our vision goes cloudy, for this is a sign that we are approaching the opaque splendor of God. If we decide to keep going beyond the point where our eyes or minds are any help to us, we may finally arrive at the pinnacle of the spiritual journey toward God.

Let us keep going, wrestling with our doubt, journeying together through the darkness and into the light. Let us worship God.

†Processional Hymn 532

Be Thou My Vision

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

Prayer for our Country: Re-Instill in Us the Dreaming (*responsive*)

Our God,
we pray on this occasion
remembering, in particular, our country.
We give you thanks for the good dreaming
that envisioned a land of freedom and opportunity—
a land in which to grow respect for all its citizens.

*We give you thanks for all who sacrificed in so many ways
to create and to sustain such dreaming.*

We give you thanks for the many ways
in which that dream has been,
and continues to be
embraced and made manifest—
as a better tomorrow is shaped for all—
all within these borders and without them too.

*We thank you for the call to let freedom shine,
to let celebration of the dignity of all resound.*

But we also confess to you
the many ways in which we fall short
of our best dreaming—
fall into immaturity, and selfishness—
into shortsightedness—
into too much of a focus on immediate benefits for some
and a lesser tomorrow for all.

*We confess to binding the dream
we apparently sometimes want to claim in word only—
not in words made flesh.*

Re-instill in us the dreaming, God.
Guide us into the disciplines of love and grace
that cultivate those ideals of discipline and sacrifice—

of a commitment to our children and our children's children
that theirs should be a better land than ours is now—
with more mature leaders and citizens than we are—
with greater opportunities than we have known—
with even deeper respect for all its citizens—
a more far reaching vision—
with richer examples of freedom and bravery
because that's the way we dream it to be.

Lord, let it be so. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Marilyn Zumwalt

2 Corinthians 4:16-5:10

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear

before the judgement seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Special Music

Deep River Spiritual

Tony Offerlee
Arr. by Moses Hogan

Message

Learning to Walk in the Dark

Carol McEntyre

Prayer of Response

My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself, and the fact that I think that I am following your will does not mean that I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire. And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore will I trust you always, though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

Amen.

†Hymn of Response

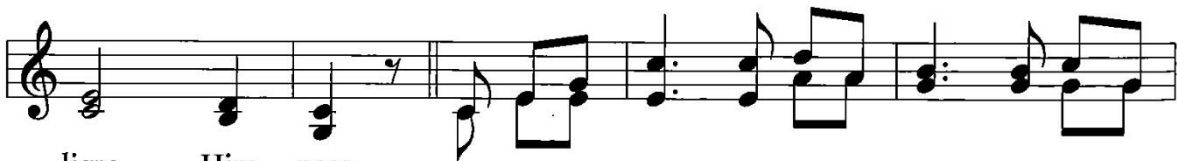
Walk by Faith



1. We walk by faith and not by sight. No gra-cious words we
 2. We may not touch His hands and side, nor fol-low where He
 3. And when our life of faith is done, in realms of clear - er



hear from Him who spoke as none e'er spoke; but we be -
 trod; but in His prom - ise we re - jice, and cry, "My
 light we may be - hold You as You are, with full and



lieve Him near.
 Lord and God!" We walk by faith and not by sight, led by God's
 end - less sight.



pure and ho - ly Light! Pre-pare us for the jour-ney, Lord, and may we



know Your power and might, as we walk by faith and not by sight.

WORDS: Henry Alford, 1844 (stanzas); Lloyd Larson (refrain), 1998 (2 Cor. 5:7)

MUSIC: Lloyd Larson, 1998

FAITH'S JOURNEY

CM with refrain

Music and Refrain © 1998 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.

Prayer of Confession (*responsive*)

inspired by 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

Holy God, you call us to live in mystery,
to walk by faith.

*Yet we long for plans with goals and schedules.
It's hard to live by faith.*

You call us to place our trust in you,
to live according to your direction.

*Yet we want life to make sense from a human point of view.
It's hard to live by faith.*

You call us to feel the mystery of life,
to marvel at the power of your love.

*Yet it's not easy to accept your promise
that everything old has passed away.
It's hard to live by faith.*

Forgive us, holy maker of reality.

*Forgive us for playing god
instead of accepting our humanity.*

(Silent prayers of confession)

Words of Assurance

“My grace is sufficient for you,
for power is made perfect in weakness.”
We move into this time of communion
in the power of the Almighty,
who forgives us and loves us.

Amen.

Observance of Holy Communion

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

†Passing the Peace of Christ

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

Offertory Sentence

We walk by faith, we live by faith, and we give by faith.
God of great gifts, you have given us so much.
In this offering, we have the opportunity to express our faith,
as a reminder that our God will supply all our needs.
Accept these gifts from our hands,
our faithful response to your abundant grace.

Amen.

Offertory

†Benediction (*responsive*)

Life is a mystery. Yet, we walk by faith and not by sight.
*God calls us when we least expect it,
inviting us to be in Christ.*

Walk out into the world, knowing that you are part
of God's life-giving new creation.

Life is a mystery. Yet, we walk by faith.
Amen.

Postlude

Worship Notes

Marilyn Zumwalt is a long-time member of First Baptist. She serves on the teaching team, has taught Sunday school for 25+ years, and serves on the CDC board. Marilyn is a retired English as a Second Language teacher from Columbia Public Schools. She is married to Robert Zumwalt, has one son, Rob, a lovely daughter-in-law, Jaime and two grandchildren, Sophia and William

Call to worship is a quote from Barbara Brown Taylor's book *Learning to Walk in the Dark*

Re-Instill in Us the Dreaming is written by John Ballenger and posted on the website "A Preacher Musing" (<http://preachermusings.wordpress.com/>).

Words of assurance prayer by Peter Bankson and posted on the Worship Elements page of the website "Ministry Matters" (<http://www.ministrymatters.com/>).

Week at a Glance

Sunday, July 3

9:15 am Awakening Worship

Fellowship Hall

10:15 Sunday Morning Small Groups

Various classrooms

11:15 Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

5:00 pm African Worship Service

(in Swahili)

Fellowship Hall

Monday, July 4

Office Closed

Tuesday, July 5

8 am – 6 pm Life Line Screening

Fellowship Hall

5:30 pm Church Council Meeting

Conference Room

Thursday, July 7

6:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 10

9:15 am Awakening Worship

Fellowship Hall

10:15 am Small Groups

Various Classrooms

11:15 am Traditional Worship

Sanctuary

5:00 pm African Worship Service

(in Swahili)

Fellowship Hall

Announcements

Fellowship Adventures

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat!

July 16 – Maples Theater in Macon

Join us for another great adventure as we travel to see the Broadway musical, “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat!,” at the Maples Theater in Macon. We’ll depart from the church at noon, arrive at the theater around 1:15 for the 2:00 show. Following the show, we’re off to Seven for dinner – back to church between 6:30 and 7:00 pm. Cost for the show is \$20 per person (you get to buy your own dinner). Contact Paula at Paulalou52@gmail.com.

Summer Book Club Books Available Now!!

The Teaching Team would like to invite First Baptist family and friends to join our annual summer book club. Below are the four books being offered this year. Pick one or two (or more) to read during the summer and we will gather in late August/ early September for discussion. Books are available for \$10 in office and on Sunday in the entry foyers.

Summer Small Group: Looking for a Village

Reshaping the Church’s Response to the Faith Journey of Young People

What: New Summer Small Group offering- Looking for a Village- Reshaping the Church’s Response to the Faith Journey of Young People.

When: Sunday mornings 10:15-11:05am, now until August 7th.

Where: 2nd Floor in the Parlor

Who is it for: Adults 18 and up. This is a vital topic for everyone in our faith community. We are looking for a healthy intergenerational mix to bring join in this discussion to better represent our congregation.

What we will discuss: In some ways, this is an intervention. It has become abundantly clear that the church is losing its appeal to the younger generation (and many in the other generations if we are honest). The attempt of this discussion is to help us as a church understand why this is happening and better equip ourselves to live out the beauty and passion of the Gospel in a way that is authentic and attractive to those around us.

Life Line Screening at First Baptist, July 5



Do you know how to recognize the warning signs of a stroke? If you or someone you know is experiencing any of the below symptoms, call 911 right away. It is important to seek medical treatment immediately.

- Sudden Numbness
- Difficulty Speaking
- Severe Dizziness
- Loss of Coordination
- Sudden Loss of Vision
- Sudden Intense Headache
- Brief Loss of Consciousness

Protect your health by participating in the Life Line Screening health screenings that will be at First Baptist Church of Columbia on Tuesday, July 5, 2016. Through ultrasound we evaluate the carotid arteries for the buildup of fatty plaque, which is the leading cause of stroke. Register today for the Stroke, Vascular & Heart Rhythm package, which includes four screenings: carotid artery, abdominal aortic aneurysm, peripheral arterial disease and atrial fibrillation. In order to register for this event and to receive a \$10 discount off any package priced above \$129, please call [1-888-653-6441](tel:1-888-653-6441) or visit www.lifelinescreening.com/community-partners.



11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

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

The flowers are given by Esther and Larry Rollins in honor of their 59th Anniversary.

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.

Young Adult Small Group in the Fellowship Hall fireplace area.

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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Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions

Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry

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

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

David Moore, Temp Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

†Meredith Green, Nursery Director †Glenn Owings, Custodian