

Our Worship of God

July 17, 2016

11:15 am

(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Greeting

Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Matt Pierce – cello

Call to Worship (responsive)

This is the day that God has made! Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

Welcome to this sacred place where, indeed, all are welcome. It is here, in this safe space, we receive one another just as we are, just as God receives us.

Wherever you are along your life's journey; whatever your name; however, you feel—come one and all. *Come, and experience the abundance of God's love for you.*

Come, and experience the invitation to give back to our God who has given us life itself.

Come, and be empowered by the Good News of Jesus Christ so that we can share that abundant love with others.

Come, so that our abundance meets the great needs of our world, and the needs of our sisters and brothers become part of our abundance. *Let us worship God!*

+Processional Hymn 644

God, Whose Giving Knows No End Sung to NETTLETON

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

†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

Mark Zumwalt

2 Corinthians 8:1-6

We want you to know, brothers and sisters, about the **grace** of God that has been granted to the churches of Macedonia; for during a severe ordeal of affliction, their abundant joy and their extreme poverty have overflowed in a wealth of generosity on their part. For, as I can testify, they voluntarily gave according to their means, and even beyond their means, begging us earnestly for the **privilege** of sharing in this ministry to the saints—and this, not merely as we expected; they gave themselves first to the Lord and, by the will of God, to us, so that we might urge Titus that, as he had already made a beginning, so he should also complete this generous undertaking among you.

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

Message

Giving is Grace

Carol McEntyre

+Hymn 429

Let Your Heart Be Broken

Anthem

Amazing Grace Matt Pierce – cello, Bria Jones – conductor

Scripture Reading

2 Corinthians 8:7-15

Now as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in utmost eagerness, and in our love for you—so we want you to excel also in this generous undertaking. I do not say this as a command, but I am testing the genuineness of your love against the earnestness of others. For you know the generous act of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, so that by his poverty you might become rich. And in this matter I am giving my advice: it is appropriate for you who began last year not only to do something but even to desire to do something—now finish doing it, so that your eagerness may be matched by completing it according to your means. For if the eagerness is there, the gift is acceptable according to what one has—not according to what one does not have. I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance between your present abundance and their need, so that their abundance may be for your need, in order that there may be a fair balance. As it is written. "The one who had much did not have too much, and the one who had little did not have too little."

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

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

Mark Zumwalt

arr. Stevenson

Every notion we have about power, success, wealth, and achievement, God takes and tosses out the window. More importantly, God comes to us, to upset our notion that we have to save ourselves. In Jesus, God comes to us, removing our sin, our failures, our expectations, so we might have new life. Please join me as we pray, saying,

> We confess we are not the people you hope us to be, God. The very ones you favor, we too often ignore or ridicule. The ones you knock off their pedestals, we admire and emulate. We are so focused on having more and more, we risk being sent away empty.

Forgive us, Mighty God, and look with grace upon us. We would live secure in your love; we would be the ones of peace for our world, we would seek to do your will, as did Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, in whose name we pray.

Silence is kept

Special MusicGlory Glory (Hallelujah) (Since I Laid My Burden Down)
arr. EllingboeFirst Baptist Scholarship Singers

Assurance of Pardon (responsive)

Even now—yes, even in this very moment, God comes to us, bringing hope, bringing forgiveness, bringing grace as freely offered gifts to us.

> May we open our hearts to the God who is with us, and receive the gifts which have been offered to us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Message

From Riches to Rags

Carol McEntyre

+Hymn of Praise 127

All Praise to Christ

+Offertory Sentence

Gracious God, You call us to let go of the things we cling to and step out in faith, trusting in Your love and provision.

Give us courage to step out boldly, to plant our small seeds generously, and without fear. Use our gifts to accomplish more than we could possibly imagine, so that, through us, Your kingdom might come and Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. *Amen*.

Offertory

Matt Pierce - cello

+Benediction (*responsive*)

You have a God who loves you, a God who knows all your needs. So don't be afraid.

Instead, live lives of love and generosity, May we do our part to distribute our abundance equitably and compassionately.

Thereby, storing up treasure in heaven instead of here on earth. Amen.

Postlude

Worship Notes

Robert Zumwalt is a longtime member of FBC. He has served on a variety of boards and committees and is currently a trustee. Robert is a semi-retired faculty member at Westminster College in Fulton, where he continues to teach chemistry as an adjunct professor. As a young scientist, he had the unique experience of studying samples returned from the moon by the Apollo Program as a consultant to NASA. Robert is married to Marilyn, has one son, Rob, and daughter-in-law, Jaime (Bennett), and two grandchildren, Sophia and William. His interests include riding his Harley and following Mizzou sports and St. Louis Cardinals baseball.

Thank you to **Bria Jones** for conducting this morning. Bria is one of the First Baptist Scholarship singers.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, July 17

9:15 am Awakening Worship Fellowship Hall 10:15 Sunday Morning Small Groups Various classrooms 11:15 Traditional Worship Sanctuary

Monday, July 18

9:00 am Senior Yoga Parlor

Wednesday, July 20

5:30 pm Missions Meeting

Thursday, July 21

6:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal Fellowship Hall

Sunday, July 24

9:15 am Awakening Worship Fellowship Hall 10:15 am Small Groups Various Classrooms 11:15 am Traditional Worship Sanctuary

Announcements

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.





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 the Zumwalts in honor of Sophia and William's birthdays.*

- 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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<u>Church Staff</u>

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