

# Our Worship of God

May 7, 2017

11:15 am

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

# ~The Fourth Sunday of Easter~

**Greeting** Ed Rollins

**Invitation to Worship** 

**Prelude** Crown Him with Many Crowns

arr. Davis

Call to Worship (unison)

Based on Philippians 2:-13

Merciful God, give us the same attitude as Jesus, who emptied himself and was obedient to you all the way to his death on the Cross. Make us eager to put others before ourselves, and their needs before our own. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**+** Hymn 77

Praise to the Lord

(Please turn to face the cross at it enters)

#### **†**Passing the Peace of Christ

#### **Scripture Reading**

Norma Fair

Acts 6:1-7:2

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, friends, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them. The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke. Then they secretly instigated some

men to say, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." They stirred up the people as well as the elders and the scribes; then they suddenly confronted him, seized him, and brought him before the council. They set up false witnesses who said, "This man never stops saying things against this holy place and the law; for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses handed on to us." And all who sat in the council looked intently at him, and they saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

Then the high priest asked him, "Are these things so?" And Stephen replied: "Brothers and fathers, listen to me. The God of glory appeared to our ancestor Abraham when he was in Mesopotamia, before he lived in Haran.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

#### **Anthem** A Prayer for Humility

Patterson

Mighty God and gentle Lamb, Lord of all creation, how we long to know you, how we strive to serve you, help us now to love you even more.

Give us humble hearts to praise you and listening ears to hear your voice, willing hands to serve you, thankful spirits to rejoice.

Lord of all, we adore you, and we bring this prayer before you:

Create in us humble hearts.

When our thoughts turn proud, remind us of the grace you freely give.

When we lose our way, Lord, find us, draw us close to you again.

Give us humble hearts to praise you and listening ears to hear your voice, willing hands to serve you, thankful spirits to rejoice.

Lord of all, we adore you, and we bring this prayer before you:

Create in us humble hearts.

Amen

#### **Prayer** (responsive)

Reconciling Christ, bless our efforts to bring about reconciliation. Give us the strength to persevere without counting the hurts, and to find within ourselves the capacity to keep on loving.

Give us the grace to be able to stand in the middle of situations, and to be a conduit for the deep listening which can lead to healing and forgiveness.

Help us to conduct ourselves with dignity, giving and expecting respect, moving from prayer to action, and from action back again to prayer.

Grant that we may be so grounded in your love, that our security is not threatened if we change our minds, or begin to see a better way to act.

Bless those who are called to reconcile on a large scale – politicians, world leaders, leaders of business, and those who stand in the midst of bitter conflict.

Reconciling Christ, bless us and bless all who engage in the sacred work of envisioning new wholeness, and bringing people and nations together. Amen.



#### **†**Offertory Sentence

**Offering** 

I Love Thee (Pictures from "For Columbia – Serving the City" will be shown during the offering.) arr. Thomas

#### **Preparation for Communion**

#### For Everyone Born Stanza 1



#### Gathering at the Table of Our Lord

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

#### **Renewal of Our Church Covenant (unison)**

Because we have responded to Christ's call to follow him as disciples and because we find this calling too difficult and too important to fulfill alone,

We covenant together to support and to pray for one another without ceasing; to be candid in our speech, kind in our attitudes, and caring in all our dealings with one another; to seek the mind and vision of Christ for ourselves and our life together, mindful that our unity does not require uniformity.

Moreover, we covenant to give first priority to our times of public worship and learning; to sustain our common mission by proportionate giving, faithful service and personal witness; to live our lives in a manner worthy of the gospel we profess and of this family of faith; and to seek each other's forgiveness and God's when we fail to honor this covenant, trusting God's Spirit to renew us in stronger faith, brighter hope and broader love.

**†**Hymn of Commitment

For Everyone Born (see above) Stanzas 2, 3, 5

**†Benediction** 

**Postlude** 

# Week at a Glance

# Sunday, May 7

12:15-1:30 pm Sermon Discussion Group Conference Room

3 pm Columbia Handbell Ensemble Sanctuary
5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Bible Study Youth Suite

#### Monday, May 8

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga Parlor
1-3:30 pm Staff Meeting Library

#### Wednesday, May 10

6:15-7:15 pm The Calling for 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade

5:30 pm Psalm Players Rehearsal

6:30 pm Chancel Bells Rehearsal

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Sanctuary

#### Sunday, May 14

4-4:50 pm Children's Music Sanctuary

5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Movie Night TBA

Today's scripture reader, Norma Fair, has attended First Baptist since she moved to Columbia in the mid-1960s. By the second Sunday she was a member of the Chancel Choir. She has been a long-time ringer with the Chancel Bell Choir and, for a brief stint, played with the Psalm Players. Norma served as the FBC Church Clerk from 1998 through 2104. She is presently on the Serving Team and is an FBC volunteer at the Wardrobe each month. She is retired from the University of Missouri Libraries.

# **Announcements**

#### Columbia Handbell Ensemble in Concert

"It Don't Mean a Thing if it Ain't Got that Swing" is the thematic concept for the spring concert of the Columbia Handbells in our sanctuary this coming Sunday, May 7 at 3 pm. As the title suggests, toes will be tapping and rhythms will be popping! We'll feature a Celtic dance, a tango, a polka, and of course, a swing. You'll also hear some of the concert that is being prepared by the choir for the late June concert the ensemble will present as guest featured choir for Area 1 of the Handbell Musicians of America (Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire and Massachusetts). It will be a grand afternoon of great music – plan now to take a bit of time this Sunday to hear some fabulous music. Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, and \$1 for children under 12 – contact Ed Rollins or Noah Hartsfield for ticket information.

# College and Young Adult Bible Study

Tonight the group will meet at the church for dinner and reflections on the semester. For anyone still in town on Sunday, May 14<sup>th</sup>, please join us for a movie night celebration- details to be announced.

# The Calling

Our weekly youth Bible Study, the Calling, will continue to meet on Wednesday nights (6:15-7:30 pm) through May 24<sup>th</sup>. Information about summer plans will be announced soon.

# Pentecost Sunday All Church Worship and Business Meeting

On Pentecost Sunday, June 4, we will have an all-church worship service at 11:15 in the Sanctuary, followed by lunch and a business meeting to vote on the 2017-2018 Endowment recommendations. The regular Sunday Morning Small Group sessions will meet at 10:15; there will be no 9:15 worship service.

# **Announcements**

# City of Refuge

City of Refuge is a non-profit organization that strives to help refugees and immigrants, in mid Missouri, become productive, successful, contributing members of our community. They offer opportunities for churches to "Adopt a Family." Many families are placed in Columbia with little to no belongings. Most of the time, they do not speak fluent English and they do not know how to drive, so going to the store to get a loaf of bread is next to impossible. Having church come alongside them to help them navigate the first few weeks of culture shock is a huge blessing. With the support of the Missions Team, a group of folks from First Baptist is interested in adopting a family. If you would like to help, City of Refugee will be here Monday, May 22 at 5:30 pm to educate and train our congregation in this process. We are planning to serve a light dinner in the Parlor, so if you plan to attend please RSVP to churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

# First Baptist Adventures

Come join in an old-time hymn sing on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm at the home of Larry & Esther Rollins, 4211 Fall River Drive. Cookies and tea are provided.

# Sunday Morning Small Group for Women

A new small group just for women meets on Sundays at 10:15 in the hospitality room off the sanctuary. Come and develop friendships, share joys and concerns, and study scripture together.

#### Church Picnic

Our annual picnic is June 11<sup>th</sup> at 3 pm at the Twin Lakes Pavilion, with many outdoor activities. We'll have our traditional egg toss; the Pepto Bismol Men's Bake-off/Auction for Missions at 4 pm, and dinner at 5 pm.

# Worship Notes

The Call to Worship is posted on the Luther Church of Australia's LCA Worship Planning Page.

The responsive prayer was written by Ann Siddall, posted on the website of the Stillpoint Spirituality Centre, <a href="http://www.stillpointsa.org.au/">http://www.stillpointsa.org.au/</a>.



# 11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

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

For Children During Worship:

1st\_ 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

#### 10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

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 which dive into various topics (visitors and guests welcomed):

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 conference on the second floor.

Young Adult Small Group in the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor library.

#### 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 Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coordinator † Collegen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator Bethany James, Nursery Director † Glenn Owings, Custodian