



WHAT IS THE BIBLE?

And what do I do with it...

Our Worship of God

October 6, 2019

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

- World Communion Sunday -

Greeting

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Prelude

Wonderful Words of Life
Chancel Bells

†Call to Worship (responsive)

In a world filled with violence and war,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of peace.

In a world filled with tyranny and oppression,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of justice for all.

In a world filled with hunger and greed,

we gather together to celebrate the promise of plenty for all.

Our hope is in the name of the Almighty God,

the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer of heaven and earth.

†Processional Hymn 62

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Joshua 6:1-5, 20-21; 11:18-20

Now Jericho was shut up inside and out because of the Israelites; no one came out and no one went in. The Lord said to Joshua, "See, I have handed Jericho over to you, along with its king and soldiers. You shall march around the city, all the warriors circling the city once. Thus you shall do for six days, with seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, the priests blowing the trumpets. When they make a long blast with the ram's horn, as soon as you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and all the people shall charge straight ahead."

So the people shouted, and the trumpets were blown. As soon as the people heard the sound of the trumpets, they raised a great shout, and the wall fell down flat; so the people charged straight ahead into the city and captured it. Then they devoted to destruction by the edge of the sword all in the city, both men and women, young and old, oxen, sheep, and donkeys.

Joshua made war a long time with all those kings. There was not a town that made peace with the Israelites, except the Hivites, the inhabitants of Gibeon; all were taken in battle. For it was the Lord's doing to harden their hearts so that they would come against Israel in battle, in order that they might be utterly destroyed, and might receive no mercy, but be exterminated, just as the Lord had commanded Moses.

**We confess the Bible is sometimes confusing,
at times it can be disturbing
and we do not pretend to understand everything about it.
Yet, we commit to meditate on the Bible,
to study the words within and to wrestle with our questions and doubts,
believing that when we do, God will bless us richly.**

God, we wonder where to find you; should we turn our eyes above?
How can people understand you? Is your love a distant love?
Do our songs rise up to heaven? Does that language still ring true?
In this world of joy and suffering, God, we wonder: Where are you?

God, we wonder at our mission; is it only in the church?
We may struggle with tradition; where are you, God, in our search?
We are taught that you are gracious; can we find you in new ways?
Could there be some brand new places where you challenge and amaze?

We are grounded in our neighbors, in our loved ones, in our towns,
And in daily, loving labors, where your signs of grace abound.
Here in Christ we love each other, and we care for the oppressed;
Spirit-filled, with one another, we are grounded! We are blessed!

God, we seek you in the heavens, and we pray in church and pew.
Yet it's often in our living that we feel at home in you.
As we work to bring your justice, as we seek your peaceful way,
As we put our faith in practice, may we find you, God, today.

Prayer of Confession (responsive)

God of compassion and mercy,
we are your wounded and wounding children.

**We bring our wounded selves, our divided society,
and our broken world,
seeking your healing and transforming grace.**

It is easy for us to point the finger at others,
yet we know that we all need your forgiveness.

**So we lift into your presence today,
not only the victims of conflicts,
but also those we have called enemies.**

Break down the walls of hatred, distrust and bitterness
and open a way for us to reach one another in truth and love.

**Enable us to build a society where all can belong;
to share our gifts in mutual respect
and to seek for the new future which you offer us
through Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Voluntary

Boyce

Message

The Bible is Sometimes Disturbing

Carol McEntyre

Observation of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation
Litany for Communion

And as long as there have been people to tell them, our ancestors in faith have shared stories of your mercy. Of how you gave freedom to the enslaved, opportunity to the outcast, and peace to the war-torn.

You acted with both mercy and justice, rescuing the Israelites from slavery in Egypt, providing them with manna when they were hungry.

And your people acted with both mercy and justice, like the prophets who cried out to care for widow, orphan, and foreigner, and those who provided food, shelter, and community.

You have shared your mercy and justice with us, not only as gifts to be received from you, but as gifts that we are to share with the world. We see this gift most clearly in the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ.

Jesus showed us what a life of mercy and justice looked like:

In mercy, he gave food to the hungry.

In justice, he broke social custom and shared tables with the powerful and the lowly at once.

In mercy, he cared for the sick. In justice, he broke religious custom and healed on the Sabbath.

In mercy, he had compassion for the poor.

In justice, he spoke out against the Empire that held them in poverty.

In mercy, he washed his disciples' feet. In justice, he died without protest to expose a corrupt system.

Words of Institution
The Broken Bread, The Cup Shared

Song of Preparation

God so Loved the World
Scholarship Singers

*God so loved the world,
God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that who so believeth, believeth in him
should not perish, should not perish,
but have everlasting life.
For God sent not His Son into the world
to condemn the world,
God sent not His Son into the world
to condemn the world;
but that the world through Him might be saved.*

*God so loved the world, God so loved the world,
that He gave His only begotten Son,
that who so believeth, believeth in Him
should not perish, should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

God so loved the world.

Words of Institution
The Broken Bread, The Shared Cup

†Hymn of Commitment 555

More Love to Thee, O Christ

†Benediction (responsive)

May God bless you with discomfort
at easy answers, half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that you may live deep within your heart.

**May God bless you with anger
at injustice, oppression, and exploitation of people,
so that you may work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

May God bless you with tears
to shed for those who suffer from pain, rejection, starvation and war,
so that you may reach out your hand to comfort them
and to turn their pain into joy.

**And may God bless us with enough Holy foolishness
to believe that we can make a difference in this world,
so that we can do what others claim cannot be done! Amen.**

Worship Notes

☞ *The sanctuary flowers are given by* ☞
Kee & Diana Groshong

-Call to Worship: from *On Earth as in Heaven: Praying for Peace*, MCC Peace Sunday Packet 2008
http://resources.mennonitechurch.ca/FileDownload/9603/Peace_Packet_08_high_res.pdf
.o8pol

~ Communion Litany written by Thom Shuman, and posted on **Lectionary Liturgies**. Visit that site for many other excellent worship resources. <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.ca/>

Ancient Words, ©2001 Integrity's Hosanna! Music, Words and Music by Lynn DeShazo

God We Wonder Where to Find You,

This hymn is based on *Grounded: Finding God in the World--A Spiritual Revolution*
by Diana Butler Bass (Harper One, 2015)

Tune: *The Sacred Harp*, 1844; attributed to Benjamin Franklin White

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Thank you for worshipping 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.

Week at a Glance

Sunday, October 6

10:15 am Summer Book Club Discussion:

The Bible Tells Me So

Parlor

12:30-2:00 pm First Baptist Work Day

Parking Lot

4:00 pm First Kids' Choir

Choir Room

5:30 pm College & Young Adult Small Group

Student Suite

Monday, October 7

9-10:30 Senior Yoga

Parlor

1-3:00 pm Staff Meeting

Office Commons

Tuesday, October 8

11:45 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters

Conference Room

Wednesday, October 9

5:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

6-7:15pm The Calling

Student Suite

6:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal

Sanctuary

7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Friday, October 11

6:00-8:00 pm Parents' Night Out

Nursery or Offsite

Sunday, October 13

10:15 am Summer Book Club Discussion:

The Bible Tells Me So

Parlor

4:00 pm First Kids' Choir

Choir Room

5:30 pm College & Young Adult Small Group

Student Suite

Announcements

Welcome! We're Glad You're Here

We would love to help you connect with our church. To learn more about First Baptist, fill out an information card during worship and drop it in the offering plate or give it to the pastor after worship. You can also stop by the Connections table and pick up our newsletter, *The Spire*. Information about our Children's Ministry and some of our adult small groups can be found on the back of the bulletin.

Summer Book Club Discussion Groups

If you have been reading our summer book club selections about the Bible, we wanted to let you know when the discussions will take place. The groups will meet during the Small Group Hour at 10:15 am in the Parlor on the second floor. We look forward to the conversation!

The Bible Tells Me So by Peter Enns

October 6 & 13

10:15 am, Parlor

led by Brian Ford

First Baptist Work Day – Today!

We are looking for help with some yardwork and clean up around the church following the services on Sunday, October 6. We need help clearing the fence row and trimming the growth in the back parking lot to help with safety and security. We also need assistance in weeding and mulching the island in this space, as well as a few additional projects around the church, depending on the number of people who are able to help. Work will begin after the small group hour for those who normally attend the first service. A picnic lunch will be provided following the second service. Volunteers may want to bring work gloves, old clothes (preferably pants and long sleeve shirt), and a water bottle.

Parents' Night Out – October 11

On October 11 from 6:00-8:00 pm parents and caregivers are invited to drop their kids off and have an evening to themselves. Children 3 and under can be dropped off at the church nursery at 5:45 pm. For kiddos old enough to eat it, pizza will be provided and they will do a craft together. Children 4 years old to 13 years of age can be dropped off at Bonkers at 6:00 pm. The cost of admission is \$5.00 and includes a meal. We need at least 10 kids to secure this reduced rate price so please sign up early by contacting Bethany James, Nursery Coordinator at baj427@mail.missouri.edu.

Fall Fun Fest – October 27

Our Fall Fun Fest and Trunk-or-Treat will take place from 3:00-7:30pm on Sunday, Oct 27 at the newly refurbished Midway Golf and Games located at 5500 W Van Horn Tavern Rd, Columbia, MO 65203. We will gather at their beautiful pavilion and the facility will have a dedicated parking area for those participating in our Trunk-or-Treat festivities. You are encouraged to decorate your vehicle and give out candy to our little ones as they come by.

There will be a Par 3 Tournament for bragging rights for adults, and a kid's putt putt play-off as well. To enter the Par 3 tournament, simply sign up your team on the church website or on the bulletin board. There are lots of free yard games to enjoy like corn hole, Bocce Ball, and ring toss, as well as giant sized Battle Ship, Checkers, and Connect 4, and our church will be offered a group rate of \$6 each for all other activities including putt-putt, foot golf, go-karts, batting cages, and the driving range.

Every family is asked to bring enough food to share for dinner. Just like at the farm, you will want to bring something to keep your items warm or cool until time to eat. While we will never replace the memories of Afternoon at the Farm, we hope this event will offer a fun night of fellowship for our church family and plenty of candy for the kids. We hope to see you there!

Sheppard Lecture Series – October 19 & 20

Sometimes the Bible is presented as a guidebook for life, complete with a fully formed, totally consistent and obvious world view providing clear and universal answers to all of life's questions, including how old the earth is and why God allows suffering in the world. But this view of the Bible doesn't hold up under scrutiny because the Bible is diverse in its view of the world, at times ambiguous, and more concerned with questions of faith than science. So, what is the Bible and why should we pay attention to this book written more than 1900 years ago?

If you are like many, you may have more questions than answers about the Bible, the prophets, the teachings and the Word in general. No matter if your faith is strong or weak, you should enjoy First Baptist Church's must-see speaker, Jared Byas, as part of the church's annual Sheppard Lecture Series on Saturday, October 19 and Sunday, October 20.

Childcare provided with RSVP by October 14 at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

October 19 | 10:00 am

Fellowship Hall

Let There Be Something! An Introduction to that Ancient, Diverse, & Ambiguous Book

October 20 | 9:15 am

Sanctuary – Combined Worship

You Have Heard it Said, But I Say to You. Why We must Change the Meaning of the Bible.

October 20 | 10:30 am

Fellowship Hall *You Will Know By Their Fruits. Where the Bible Belongs*



For Children During Worship:

Birth-Kindergarteners can be checked in at the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

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

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

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

First Kids Sunday School (3 years old through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups are located on the second floor:

-*The Bible Tells Me So* Discussion Group in the Parlor

-Faith Forum (Elevator Lobby Classroom) is a diverse group that likes to read the lesson for the day together, share information, and ask questions to learn from one another.

-Connections Group (office commons) is made up of younger adults. They spend time building community, sharing life, and often take on heady theological topics.

*The all-gender restroom is located in the Child Development Center Hallway outside the Sanctuary.

Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Interim Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Interim Assistant Pastor

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Marques J. Ruff, Interim Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian