

A photograph of a large, leafless tree in a field of yellow daffodils under a blue sky. The tree is the central focus, with its intricate branches reaching across the upper half of the frame. The daffodils are in the foreground, their bright yellow petals contrasting with the green grass. The sky is a clear, vibrant blue.

THE GOOD LIFE

Practices for
Abundant Living

Our Worship of God

April 18, 2021

9:15 am

Prelude

Hymn of Praise
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

Sleeth/arr. Ferguson

Welcome

Pastor Michael McEntyre

Call to Worship (responsive)

Creating God, we gather in your name to worship you.
We give thanks that there is a small spark of God within us.

Kindle that small spark into a flame of love and service.

Sustaining God, we gather in your name to worship you.
We celebrate the loving presence of God in our life.

May God's loving presence be a strong influence in our life.

Nurturing God, we gather in your name to worship you.
We rejoice that God teaches us about love and forgiveness.

**As we grow in faith, trust and love for God, may our worship,
witness and service bring honor to God's Holy Name. Amen.**

Opening Hymn 57

All Things Bright and Beautiful

*All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all.*

*Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings,
He made their glowing colors, he made their tiny wings.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all.*

*The purple-headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all.*

*The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun,
The ripe fruits in the garden: he made them every one.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all.*

*He gave us eyes to see them, and lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty, who has made all things well.
All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small,
All things wise and wonderful; the Lord God made them all.*

Lighting of the Christ Candle

*As we light the Christ Candle in the Sanctuary, we invite you to
light a candle in your place of worship as a reminder
of God's presence who invites us to rest and reflect together.*

Scripture Reading

Pastor Brittany McDonald Null

Genesis 1:27

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment of Reflection

"Our bodies, given out of God's own goodness and created in God's own image,
house the essence of who we are as beings of body, mind and spirit."

- Evelyn L. Parker

Centering Ourselves in God's Love and Care

Prayer (unison)

**God, we thank you for these bodies you have given us.
For all the pleasures we feel in them, in movement, and stillness,
for the impossible grace of loving touch,
for delicious tastes and dizzying smells,
for the ability to experience the world in sounds and sight.
For waking and sleeping, laughing and crying,
for hearts that beat.
Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Brittany McDonald Null

1 Corinthians 6:19-20

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, which you have from God, and that you are not your own? For you were bought with a price; therefore glorify God in your body.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Moment of Reflection

“Honoring the body is a Christian practice that reflects
God's affirmation of our amazing, fragile, finite embodiment.”

- Dorothy Bass

Centering Ourselves in God's Love and Care

Scripture Reading

Brittany McDonald Null

Psalm 139:13-14

For it was you who formed my inward parts;
you knit me together in my mother's womb.
I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.
Wonderful are your works;
that I know very well.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Moment of Reflection

"The embodiment of our souls, and the resurrection of the body
are evidence that matter matters to God."

- Barbara Brown Taylor

Centering Ourselves in God's Love and Care

Sharing Our Gifts

Hymn of Praise

Gather Us In

*Here in this place the new light is streaming;
Now is the darkness vanished away;
See in this space our fears and our dreamings
Brought here to you in the light of this day.*

*Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
Gather us in, the blind and the lame;
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
We shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young, our lives are a mystery.
We are the old who yearn for your face.
We have been sung throughout all of history,*

Called to be light to the whole human race.

*Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
Gather us in, the proud and the strong;
Give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;
Give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Not in the dark of buildings confining,
Not in some heaven, light years away;
Here in this place the new light is shining;
Now is the kingdom, and now is the day.*

*Gather us in and hold us forever,
Gather us in and make us your own,
Gather us in, all peoples together,
Fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

Message

Honor

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Hymn of Response

Sacred the Body

*Sacred the body God has created,
Temple of Spirit that dwells deep inside.
Cherish each person; nurture relation.
Treat flesh as holy, that love may abide.*

*Bodies are varied, made in all sizes,
Pale, full of color, both fragile and strong.
Holy the difference, gift of the Maker,
So let us honor each story and song.*

*Love respects persons, bodies and boundaries.
Love does not batter, neglect, or abuse.
Love touches gently, never coercing.
Love leaves the other with power to choose.*

*Holy of holies, God ever loving,
Make us your temples; indwell all we do.
May we be careful, tender and caring,
So may our bodies give honor to you.*

Life of the Church

Benediction (unison)

**We are ordinary people, going about our lives,
Realizing that we are Beloved through and through,
Realizing that Heaven is available to us now,
Realizing that what we do here on earth matters,
Realizing that Christ's invitation is for us, too;
And stepping in - gratefully, joyfully, and with intention –
to this Kin-dom work.**

Postlude

Lord, Dismiss Us With Your Blessing
Colleen Ostercamp, *organ*

arr. G. Young

Worship Notes

Call to Worship, —© 2012 Joan Stott – "The Timeless Psalms" RCL Psalm Year B, used with permission.

All Things Bright and Beautiful, Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848. Music: Cornelius Vleugel, 1957.

Gather Us In, ©1982 GIA Publications. Words & Music: Marty Haugen, 1979.

Sacred the Body, Words: Ruth C. Duck ©1997 The Pilgrim Press. Music: TENDERNESS by Colin Gibson, ©1992 Hope Publishing Company.

Litany of Intention, from *Litany for a New Day* by Fran Pratt.

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, April 18

- 9:15 am Online Worship Service
- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Sunday Morning Small Groups/Bible Study
- 11:15 am Worship Service on the front lawn
- 1:00 pm Church Business Meeting via Zoom

Tuesday, April 20

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters Zoom Call

Wednesday, April 21

- 12:00 pm Zoom at Noon with Pastor Carol
- 6:00 pm The Calling
- 6:30 pm Handbells Rehearsal
- 7:45 pm Chancel Choir

Friday, April 23

- 12:15 pm Jesus Calling: Women's Devotional and Prayer Time via Zoom

Sunday, April 25

- 9:15 am Online Worship Service
- 10:00 am Student Ministry Group online
- 10:00 am Sunday Morning Small Groups/Bible Study
- 11:15 am Worship Service on the front lawn
- 1:00 pm First Baptist Hiking Club, meet at the MKT Trail Forum Blvd
- 2:00 pm Lawn Games on the front lawn

Announcements

Visitors and Prayer Requests

If you are visiting with us online, we are so glad to have you with us! If you would like to receive more information about First Baptist and our ministries, let us know you are with us today by texting “guest” to 573-326-9490. If you are in need of prayer, text “prayer” to 573-326-9490 and Brittany, our Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation will connect with you.

Church Business Meeting Today

Sunday, April 18, 1:00 pm via Zoom

This afternoon at 1:00 pm, First Baptist will gather for a special called Business Meeting via Zoom. Thanks to the hard work of our Finance Committee, the Stepping Toward 200 Taskforce (a team created by the Church Council in 2019), and our Church Council, a motion is being presented to the church to pay off the remaining building debt from our Building Tomorrow Today campaign. Thanks to the generosity of our congregation and recent gifts to our Legacy Giving funds, we have the opportunity to retire our approximate remaining debt of \$375,000. This will save us roughly \$50,000 per year in debt services. The Business Meeting will lay out the path on how this will be accomplished and ask the church to vote to approve the retirement of this loan. We hope all our members will take part in this good work.

Childcare for Toddlers – Pre-K beginning April 25

Beginning April 25, we are excited to announce that childcare will be available during the on-lawn service for toddlers through pre-k on the playground. Our Nursery Director, Bethany James, has been hard at work recruiting workers to ensure kids have a fun and safe experience. Children can be checked at 11:00 am at the playground entrance on the front lawn. We are thankful for Bethany's diligent work, and for spaces to safely gather outdoors for worship and play!

Afternoon of Lawn Games

Sunday, April 25 from 2-4 pm

On Sunday, April 25 from 2:00 pm-4:00 pm we will gather on the front lawn of the church building for an afternoon of fun and games! With the weather warming up, people are longing for safe, enjoyable ways to gather. We will play some lawn games like ladder ball, volleyball, corn hole toss, and other such amusements.

Please bring a lawn chair and wear your mask. Remember, no handshakes, hugs, elbow bumps, or any form of physical touching, but laughter, conversation, and fun are encouraged.

First Baptist Hiking Club

Who is ready to explore the great outdoors with actual human connection? Well, we have an opportunity for you! Join Kimberly Moeller and Misty Phillips as they lead you through some awesome hiking trails both around Columbia and, at times, through other adventures in Missouri. We will spend time in the great outdoors together as we build a hiking community, get exercise, and provide healing from COVID. Nature is a great way to find peace and often a spiritual connection with others and God. We respectfully ask that masks be worn regardless of vaccination status.

Join us the 4th weekend of each month (rotating between Saturday and Sunday), beginning Sunday April 25th at 1:00 pm at MKT Trail Forum Blvd. There is a parking lot at the Forum entrance. A calendar with hiking opportunities for the year will be forthcoming soon.

If you would like to join us or be on the email list for future hikes, please RSVP by email to Kimberly Moeller at knmoelle@gmail.com or Misty Phillips at mistya2014@gmail.com.

ForColumbia Signups Begin Today

ForColumbia is back and gearing up to serve our city on June 5, 2021. First Baptist will be leading 2 projects this year, but there are a variety of opportunities across the city to chose from, with various levels of Covid awareness and sensitivity to meet a variety of volunteer needs.

Our project at Benton Elementary will include enhancing the outdoor learning space, assembling a chicken coop, planting flowers, putting up fencing, spreading mulch, painting play elements, and putting together picnic tables. We are also looking for an old boat or canoe that could be partially buried and added to the area. Please contact Pastor Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org, if you might be able to help us locate one. This project is outside and is possible to maintain social distance at all times.

Our project at our Extra Mile house will have two main areas to serve. Part of our team will be outdoors helping with general clean up, planting flowers, and sealing the deck. This part of the project is outside, and it is possible to maintain social distance most of the time. The other part of our team will be demolishing and removing old ceilings and wall coverings as well as removing some carpeting in an effort to prep the area for future renovation. This part of the project requires N95 masks, gloves, and safety glasses to protect from dust and particles and is not family friendly. This project is inside with limited social distancing.

Signing Up

Beginning April 18, go to <https://www.forcolumbia.com/volunteer/> and fill in your information, including t-shirt size. Be sure to select our church from the drop-down menu of which church you are signing up under. To volunteer for one of our specific projects, under Group Name, type in "Extra Mile" or "Benton."