





## Our Worship of God

April 12, 2015

11:15 am

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

### — Holy Humor Sunday —

*For centuries, in Catholic, Orthodox, and Protestant countries, Easter Monday and “Bright Sunday” (the Sunday after Easter) were observed by the faithful as “days of joy and laughter” with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus’ resurrection. Parishioners and pastors played practical jokes on each other, drenched each other with water, sang, and danced. It was a time for clergy and people to tell jokes and to have fun. While these joyful celebrations seemed to be a reaction to the austerity of the Lenten season, the custom of Easter Monday and Bright Sunday celebrations were rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. Easter was “God’s supreme joke played on death.”*

**A Time to Laugh:** *An actual headline from a robbery in Los Angeles: “Lingerie Shipment Hijacked — Thief Gives Police the Slip.”*

**Greeting** Ed Rollins

**Prelude** Ode to Joy - à la Gigue arr. Callahan

### Call to Worship (responsive)

You smiled,  
*and the sun burst through the shadows of chaos;*  
you chuckled,  
*and the platypus splashed in creation’s fountain;*  
you laughed,  
*and all that is good and beautiful was given shape by you,*  
***Imaginative God.***

Howling with laughter at death’s foolish belief  
that the tomb could hold you,  
*you burst forth into the kingdom as the stars peeled with joy,*  
***Laughing Jesus.***

As you fill us with new life,  
*may we delight in sharing it with others;*  
as you tell us the good news which can never be taken from us,  
*may we rejoice in offering it to the broken, the sad, the lonely;*  
as you tickle us with grace,  
*may we give it away with laughter on our lips and joy in our hearts.*

God in Community, Holy Three in One,  
*our hearts overflow with wonder as we lift our prayer to you.*  
***Amen.***

† **Processional Hymn**

Christians We Are Made for Laughter  
Sung to HYMN TO JOY

*Christians, we are made for laughter, born to giggle and guffaw!  
Even in the great hereafter mirth is interspersed with awe.  
So don't hold back, let it fill you, let your muscles do their thing!  
Don't you worry, we won't drill you! Just let go and laugh and sing.*

*This is how our great God made us - faces, lungs, and hearts for glee.  
And it's how God would parade us, showing forth most joyously  
All the love and all the gladness, such a great capacity  
For the joy that drives all sadness out of every you and me.*

*We are people with a Savior who was not above a joke,  
Play with words was his behavior, he loved puns with all the folk.  
Joy Christ showed us, joy Christ showers everywhere on everyone.  
Turn your face up like the flowers, catch the joy and have some fun!*

*Christ was dead and now he's risen! Isn't that a cause for glee?  
Love has shattered all the prisons we have built so carefully.  
Now unfettered, free as breezes, giggles, snorts, and glee abound!  
Even when our laughter wheezes, we praise God with every sound.*

† **Invocation (unison)**

*Holy God,  
as you have taken what we call an absurdity  
and turned it into possibility....  
as you have coaxed us to sing springtime alleluias  
where once there was a gray dawn,  
as you have called us out of the tombs we inhabit  
into an undreamed of tomorrow,*

*we praise you for this day!  
Come, Risen Christ,  
in newness and hope on this day of celebration. Amen.*

† **Passing the Peace of Christ**

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

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**A Time to Laugh:**

- *Why is it called lipstick if you can still move your lips?*
- *Why is it that night falls but day breaks?*
- *Why do they call it "chili" if it's hot?*
- *Why is lemon juice made with artificial flavor and dishwashing liquid is made with real lemons?*

**Blessing the Children**

**Anthem**

I Will Clap My Hands

arr. Martin

**Scripture Reading**

Psalm 100

*Make a joyful noise to the Lord.*

Colleen Ostercamp

The Word of our Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Response to Psalm 100 (unison)

*Jump with joy! Praise God!  
Bring a gift of laughter, sing yourselves into God's presence.  
Know this: God is God. God made us; we didn't make God.  
We're God's people, well-tended sheep.  
Enter with the password: "Thank you!"  
Make yourselves at home, talking praise.  
Thank God. Worship God.  
For God is sheer beauty,  
all-generous in love,  
loyal always and ever.  
Jump with joy! Amen!*

## Prayers of Joy and Laughter (responsive)

O Lord, giver of joy and laughter, we thank you for giving us these gifts.  
For the moments of laughter and unbridled joy you give to us:  
*for opportunities to laugh at ourselves,*  
for the belly laughs of children,  
*for friends and family who love us because of our quirks,  
and not just in spite of them,*  
for artists who give us the opportunity to see the world  
through the surreal,  
*for the courage to smile even when difficulties arise,*  
for those who have hope even when others think there is no hope,  
*for saints in the Lord who overflow with laughter and  
spread your joy to all of us.*  
For the words of Jesus that defy our logical minds;  
*for teaching us that we can be born again,*  
for the woman who finds a lost coin and calls her  
friends and neighbors to celebrate,

*for the absurdity of a camel trying to fit through  
the eye of a needle,*  
for the father of the Prodigal son who is willing to look  
like a fool as he runs to greet his son,  
*for the generosity of the landowner who will pay  
workers a whole day's wage when they only worked one hour,*  
for tiny bits of faith that can move entire mountains,  
*for the reality that nothing can live unless it first dies.*  
For the great reversal of the Gospel:  
that the last shall be made first,  
*that the rejected stone became the cornerstone,*  
that those who wish to become great must serve,  
*that the lost will be found,*  
that the small will become great,  
*that though you are Wisdom, you choose to forget our sins,*  
that when we are weak, your strength shines through us.  
*O Lord, giver of joy and laughter,  
we thank you for giving us these gifts.*  
Thank you for the gift you give us that allows us to enjoy  
these things to the fullest.  
*We can laugh because of the most amazing thing of all —  
that you conquered death, that the tomb is empty, that light shone  
so bright that it overcame the darkness.*  
Thank you.  
*Thank you. Amen.*

### *A Time to Laugh:*

- Are part time band leaders semi-conductors?*
- Can you buy an entire chess set in a pawn shop?*
- If Barbie is so popular, why do you have to buy all her friends?*

† Hymn 504

Stanza two - choir

O Happy Day

Message

Carol McEntyre

† Hymn of Commitment 679

When We All Get to Heaven

*A Time to Laugh:*

*A pastor was speaking to a group of second graders about the resurrection of Jesus when one student asked, “What did Jesus say after He came out of the grave?”*

*The pastor explained that the Gospels don’t tell us what He said.*

*The hand of one little girl shot up. “I know what He said: He said, ‘Tah-dah!’”*

Offertory Sentence

Offertory

All Things Bright and Beautiful

arr. Burkhardt

† Benediction (unison)

*Good and gracious God, we laugh as a sign of the joy you have brought into the world through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Help us to see light through your eyes — eyes of grace and forgiveness — and help us to laugh when the world presses in around us and we are afraid. Amen.*

† Postlude

arr. D. Wolff

“Spring” - Allegretto from Vivaldi’s Four Seasons

## Worship Notes

**Call to Worship:** by Thom M. Shuman, on his blog, Lectionary Liturgies.

**Christians We are Made for Laughter:** by Jo Cassiday-Maloney.

**Invocation:** From Still Laughing God: Service Prayers for the Second Sunday of Easter, posted on the United Church of Christ’s Worship Ways website.

**Response to Psalm 100:** based on The Message’s unique paraphrase of scripture.

## Announcements

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### New Welcome Team

The Ushers, led by Randy Wyatt and the Greeter Ministry, led by Sue Hammann are joining forces to become the new Welcome Team. If you want to be involved in this essential new ministry, you are invited to meet with us in the parlor **today** at 12:15 pm for lunch, training, and an opportunity to sign up and serve.

### CBF Global Missions

First Baptist will be collecting money to support the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global Missions projects from **April 5- 26**. To give, simply indicate CBF Global Missions on your check and place your offering in one of the specially marked mission envelopes. Please give graciously.

### The Gift of Years — A Discussion About Growing Older Gracefully

The Gift of Years book discussion will be co-facilitated by Bob Russell and Carol McEntyre continues this Tuesday, **April 14** at noon. **Please RSVP to the church office** (at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org, or 573-442-1149) **by noon on Monday, April 13, to reserve a lunch order.**

## Announcements

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### Fellowship Adventures

The first road trip of the year will be Saturday, **April 18**. All are invited to go to lunch in Vienna, Missouri at Moreland's Catfish Patch & Steakhouse, located at 13448 Maries Rd 325 Vienna, MO 65582, near the Gasconade River! Meet at First Baptist at 10:45 am to take the van together! Contact Paula Thomas (paulalou52@gmail.com) with any questions, or to sign-up.

### Pulpit Swap

Sunday, **April 19** is the downtown church pulpit swap. Knute Jacobson, the Senior Pastor at Calvary Episcopal Church, will be our guest preacher here at First Baptist.

### Serving the City is back on Saturday, April 25

The Serving Team is offering our First Baptist family the opportunity to get involved in supporting our community and ministry partners with a day of serving, Saturday, **April 25** from 9:00 am to noon.

### Attention all graduates!

First Baptist Church would like to honor all of our high school and college graduates on Sunday, **May 10**. Graduates will be recognized in both services and there will be a light brunch between services as well. We are asking that all graduates send your graduation information to the church no later than Sunday, April 26 so it may be featured in the Spire.



02-06-2015

SIRI ... SAY GRACE



02-07-2014

Thanks to SoloTotoCoyote

MOSES AND NOAH HAVING AN ARGUMENT



02-10-2014

Thanks to J.R. Lucas (See Mark 10:25)

GENTLEMEN, I WILL NOW CUT THE RIBBON AND PROJECT GIGANTIC NEEDLE WILL BE UNDERWAY



09-26-2014

(See Numbers 14)

OUR SPECIALS OF THE DAY INCLUDE MANNA IN A SMOOTH MANNA REDUCTION AS WELL AS TODAY'S FRESHLY COLLECTED MANNA SALAD TOPPED WITH THREE DIFFERENT SIZES OF MANNA AND, FOR DESSERT ... MANNA

## Week At-A-Glance

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### Sunday, April 12

9:15 am Awakening Worship  
*Fellowship Hall*

10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups  
*Various Classrooms, 2nd floor*

11:15 am Traditional Worship  
*Sanctuary*

12:15 pm Welcome Team Training  
*Parlor*

4:00 pm Youth Ensemble  
*Sanctuary*

5:00 pm The Calling  
*Youth Suite*

5:00 pm African Worship  
*Fellowship Hall*

8:00 pm College and Young Adult Bible Study  
*Youth Suite*

### Monday, April 13

9:00 am Senior Yoga  
*Parlor*

6:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal  
*Fellowship Hall*

### Tuesday, April 14

12:00 pm Book Study: The Gift of Years  
*Parlor*

## Week At-A-Glance

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### Wednesday, April 15

5:30 pm Missions Meeting  
*E2*

5:30 pm Psalm Players

6:30 pm Chancel Bells

7:30 pm Chancel Choir  
*Sanctuary*

### Friday, April 17

11:00 am The Wardrobe Volunteers  
*The Wardrobe*

### Sunday, April 19

9:15 am Awakening Worship  
*Fellowship Hall*

10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups  
*Various Classrooms, 2nd floor*

11:15 am Traditional Worship  
*Sanctuary*

4:00 pm Youth Ensemble  
*Sanctuary*

5:00 pm The Calling  
*Youth Suite*

5:00 pm African Worship  
*Fellowship Hall*

8:00 pm College and Young Adult Bible Study  
*Youth Suite*

**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.

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

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**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 either of our worship services, go to [www.ustream.tv](http://www.ustream.tv).  
Search for [fbwebcast](#) (one word), and you should be able to worship from anywhere!

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The flowers in the sanctuary are provided by Debbie Jacobs,  
in memory of her mother, Barbara Toalson.



**1112 E. Broadway**

**573-442-1149 - Fax 573-449-1223**

**Explore the FBC Website at [www.fbc-columbia.org](http://www.fbc-columbia.org) and/or Join us on Facebook.**

**Church Staff**

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Missions

Marsha Randell, Director of Children's Ministry

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

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

Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

Glenn Owings, Custodian