



The Burning Bush (by 'earsaregood' on Openverse.com)



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
OCTOBER 1, 2023
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

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EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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An uncalled life is an autonomous existence in which there is no intrusion, disruption, or redefinition, no appearance or utterance of the Holy....The life of Moses in this narrative, as the lives of all people who live in this narrative of faith, is not autonomous. There is this One who knows and calls by name, even while we imagine we are unknown and unsummoned.
— Walter Brueggemann

Gathering Music "Higher Ground"
Charles L. Gabriel/Victor Labenske. © 2000 Pilot Point Music. Lillenas Pub. Co Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude "How Glorious Is Thy Name (Psalm 8)"
Mozart/Carl Simone. © 1991 Lorenz. Publ. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

* Call to Worship Laura McCorkill

Leader: Sometimes we feel like asking God: are you paying attention?

People: And God asks us too: are we paying attention?

Leader: To the people right in front of us,

People: to the people who live with the consequences of our actions,

Leader: to the realities with which our neighbors live,

People: to the opportunities presented to us:

Leader: are we paying attention?

People: God sees, God knows, and God comes through us to respond.

All: We will listen, and look, and go.

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 319) "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"
LOBE DEN HERREN

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 318, v. 3) "For All the Love"
ENGLEBERG

**For all the joy that childhood's days have brought, for healthful lives and purity of thought,
for life's deep meaning to our spirits taught: Alleluia!**

* Gospel Reading Mark 12:26-27a

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Children's Sermon

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

You are the giver of Abundant Life, O God, and yet we so often accidentally choose the empire's side of death instead. We confess that we have allowed the perfect to become the enemy of the good, and when we can't do everything, we do nothing. Forgive us, Lord, for our apathy that keeps us from resisting in even the smallest ways. Forgive us for overlooking opportunities to do justice because they don't fit our preconceived notions. Forgive us for being so wrapped up in ourselves that we never even notice you calling. As Moses turned aside from his everyday economic concern to see you doing a new thing, turn us aside from those things that consume us that we may be set ablaze by your call that brings life instead.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Our loving God desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. Hear the good news! In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response (CONGR 478)

"God is Calling Through the Whisper"
W ZLOBIE LEZY

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship - Offertory

"Siciliano"

Bach/Ruth Barrett Arno. © 1939 Carl Fischer, Inc./Carl Fischer LLC Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those wishing to attend Children's Church may leave now)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Meg Biddle
Exodus 3:1-6, 13-15

Sermon

Rev. Meg Biddle
"What If? Lessons From a Burning Bush"

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Call to Communion

"Celtic Laud"

Pamela Martin/Music & Transcription by Craig Courtney (ASCAP)
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Invitation to the Table

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Celebration of the Bread and Cup “Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart” Frederick C. Atkinson/Mark Hayes.
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* Hymn of Invitation, (CONGR 641)

“Higher Ground”
HIGHER GROUND

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

“Maestoso Postludium”

C.W. Gluck/Rick Parks. © 1993 Pilot Point Music/Lillenas Pub. Co. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

*The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God by Wendy Wheeler, in honor of daughter
Samantha’s birthday on Oct. 2*

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Laura McCorkill

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Director of Worship Music & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Joanna Gillette, Matthew Johnston Sound: Jim Lord

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Jenny Purvis

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Lawrence Evangelical Friends

*American Baptist Churches, USA; Rev. Dr. Steve Van Ostran, serving Rocky Mountain Churches in Colorado &
Wyoming*

International Ministries Missionary: Christine & Lance Muteyo, serving in Zimbabwe

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Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.
The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Mark Robinson – mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Senior Pastor

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Administrative Support Manager

Bookkeeper

Building Manager

Digital Media Coordinator

Director of Worship Music

Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1330 KASOLD DRIVE, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66049

PHONE: 785/843.0020 * FAX: 785/843.0021 * EMAIL: OFFICE@FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM

WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM

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