



First Baptist Church

J E F F E R S O N C I T Y T E N N E S S E E



THE WORSHIP OF GOD Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 1, 2024

10:45am

Welcome/Opportunities for Service/Invocation

Chad Hartsock

Prelude

Communion Hymn

arr. Larson

Call of Approach

Chad Hartsock and People

God's wisdom is pure, peaceable, gentle, open to reason, full of mercy and good fruits, without uncertainty or insincerity.

Our wisdom is none of these things. We compete for knowledge, and our learning fosters belligerence. Our understanding is insufficient and our compassion limited.

We long for certainty and sacrifice too much for its sake. We strive for conditional sincerity.

We do not fully comprehend God's wisdom or achieve God's righteousness, but we come together to share insight, read Scripture, sing, pray, and make peace. Let us worship God together.**

*Hymn of Praise 319

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

(Children meet your leader at the front of the Sanctuary for Bible Study)

Unison Prayer of Confession Nenette Measels and People

True Reflector, you are the mirror of our lives, for by facing you we see ourselves more clearly. May the sight of our true faces humble us and encourage us to be doers of your word, not merely hearers of it. It is only through you that our intentions and actions may be united; so we pray in your name. Amen.**

Prayer Response

Create in Me a Clean Heart, O God

Carter

Worship Ensemble and Congregation

Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Your presence,
and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with your free Spirit.

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
Create in me a clean heart, O God,
and renew a right spirit within me.**

Create in me a clean heart, O God.

Offertory Prayer

John Burton

Offertory

In Remembrance of Me

arr. Red

Scripture Reading

Merci Rowlett and Julia Bass

James 1:17-27

Every generous act of giving, with every perfect gift, is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. In fulfillment of his own purpose he gave birth to us by the word of truth, so that we would become a kind of first fruits of his creatures.

You must understand this, my beloved brothers and sisters: let everyone be quick to listen, slow to speak, slow to anger, for human anger does not produce God's righteousness. Therefore rid yourselves of all sordidness and rank growth of wickedness, and welcome with meekness the implanted word that has the power to save your souls.

But be doers of the word and not merely hearers who deceive themselves. For if any are hearers of the word and not doers, they are like those who look at themselves in a mirror; for they look at themselves and, on going away, immediately forget what they were like. But those who look into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and persevere, being not hearers who forget but doers who act—they will be blessed in their doing. If any think they are religious and do not bridle their tongues but deceive their hearts, their religion is worthless. Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to care for orphans and widows in their distress and to keep oneself unstained by the world.

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Now when the Pharisees and some of the scribes who had come from Jerusalem gathered around him, they noticed that some of his disciples were eating with defiled hands, that is, without washing them. (For the Pharisees, and all the Jews, do not eat unless they wash their hands, thus observing the tradition of the elders, and they do not eat anything from the market unless they wash, and there are also many other traditions that they observe: the washing of cups and pots and bronze kettles and beds.) So the Pharisees and the scribes asked him, “Why do your disciples not walk according to the tradition of the elders but eat with defiled hands?” He said to them, “Isaiah prophesied rightly about you hypocrites, as it is written,

‘This people honors me with their lips,
but their hearts are far from me;
in vain do they worship me,
teaching human precepts as doctrines.’

“You abandon the commandment of God and hold to human tradition.”

Then he called the crowd again and said to them, “Listen to me, all of you, and understand: there is nothing outside a person that by going in can defile, but the things that come out are what defile.”

For it is from within, from the human heart, that evil intentions come: sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, avarice, wickedness, deceit, debauchery, envy, slander, pride, folly. All these evil things come from within, and they defile a person.”

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

***Hymn of Formation 281**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BEECHER

Sermon

Religion That is Pure and undefiled

Major Treadway

Preparation for Communion

A Communion Invitation

Martin/Courtney

Worship Ensemble

Come, if you are lonely, My door is open wide.

All of you are welcome, come and step inside.

Enter with My blessing, no-one is denied.

Come, sit at My table, come, sit by My side.

Come, if you are thirsty, I will pour the wine.

If you hunger, take this bread, sit with Me and dine.

Ev'ry weary trav'ler, ev'ry troubled, soul.

Rest for just a moment and leave the table whole.

The feast I spread before you, the cup that we will share,

The bread we'll break together, I've lovingly prepared.

Come, if you are thirsty, I will pour the wine.

If you hunger, take this bread, sit with Me and dine.

Ev'ry weary trav'ler, ev'ry troubled, soul.

Rest for just a moment and leave the table whole.

Communion

Major Treadway

Time of Reflection and Response

Peaceful Praise

Wooden

***Hymn of Commitment and Departing**

507 Lord, I Want to Be a Christian

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN

***Benediction**

Major Treadway

*If you can do so, please stand for this portion of the worship service.

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**Used by permission from *Touch Holiness: Resource for Worship, Updated*, Ruth C. Duck and Maren C. Tirabassi, editors, The Pilgrim Press, 2012.

THE COMING WEEK AT FBC

Sunday, September 1

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

Monday, September 2—Office Closed (Labor Day)

7:00pm Boy Scouts/Fellowship Hall

8:00pm Upper Room Ladies Bible Study/Zoom

Tuesday, September 3

10:00am Tuesday's Neighbors/Parlor

1:00pm Staff Meeting/Office

Wednesday, September 4

5:00pm WNS (Chicken)/Fellowship Hall

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

6:00pm Common Prayer, Bible Study, Music Ste

6:45pm Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Music Ste

Thursday, September 5

8:30am Men's Breakfast/Bojangles

7:00pm Cub Scouts/Fellowship Hall

Friday, September 6—Church Office Closed

Sunday, September 8

9:30am Bible Study Classes for Adults/Various Rooms

10:00am Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Sanctuary

10:45am Worship Service/Sanctuary or Facebook
and Youtube

10:45am Children's Bible Study/Birth-K Room 119,
1st-5th grade Room 218

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

Our membership is open to all persons regardless of race, social status, gender, and sexual identity and affirms our motto, "Breaking down barriers to proclaim the love of Christ."

CHURCH STAFF

Sierra Bevins, Ministry Assistant
Angie France, Organist
Dr. Chad Hartsock, Minister for Students
Steven Lloyd, Custodian
Rev. Nenette Measels, Minister of Music and Worship
Cameron Rowlett, Video Editor
Melanie Simpson, Pianist
Karen Treadway, Interim Administrative Coordinator
Dr. Major Treadway, Senior Pastor

Deacons & Minister of the Week:

Mel Hawkins & Jim Wilson / Chad Hartsock

CONTACT US

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Church Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 8:30-4:30pm, Closed on Friday

Secure online giving:

<https://onrealm.org/fbcjeff/give/now>

Follow us on *Facebook* and *YouTube*!