

WORSHIP GUIDE for JANUARY 30, 2022

SETTING YOUR SPACE

This Sunday, continuing in our series with your questions, we're taking up the hardest ones yet: questions about why God lets horrible things happen; about why, even when we're trying our best, doing all we can, sometimes things still just won't line up for us. It'll be hard, but that's part of what we do together: we show up, with and for one another, even and especially when things are hard. We sing and we pray and we remember old promises and we make new ones. Hope you can join – either in person or virtually – for that aspect of being community.

And we hope you can join in after the service for our Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting, a different, quite practical way of being community: coming together to make the decisions that govern our ministry together. This is part of what it is to be the First Baptist Church of McMinnville, to be congregationally-led, and to be called to join with God in the good work happening all around. We need your input to approve the 2022 budget and to review a new proposed by-law – should be a short meeting, but it's an important one! If you want to attend from home, here's the zoom link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89493614964>. Thanks for participating.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Prelude – Robin Pederson

Welcome – Rev. Erika Marksbury, Senior Pastor

Gathering Song: *Amazing Grace* (NC Hymnal #547)

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;
'Tis grace has brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

My God has promised good to me, whose word my hope secures;
God will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

Gathering Prayer & Communal Prayer from the FBC Children

Our Creator, your name is great and holy. You dwell in a place of celebration, love, and peace. You are near to us and in our hearts. Let earth be a place of kindness, hope, respect, and love, just like it is in heaven. Give us all that we need for life. Please forgive us for our mistakes and help us forgive others. And help us make good choices so that we can do what is right. God, please lead us to be our very best. Amen.

Children's Time - Sean P. Williams, Children's & Youth Minister

Scripture: Selected verses from Job 6

Job replied, "Oh, if only my grief could be measured, and all my calamity weighed! They'd be heavier than all the grains of sand in all the seas - this is why my words seem rash. For the lance of Shaddai impales me, and my spirit drinks its poison; the terrors of God surround me. Tell me, does the wild ass bray when it has grass, or do the cattle moo over their fodder? Can tasteless food be eaten without salt? Is there any flavor in the slime of an egg white? Yet I can't even touch good food any more - food makes me ill just to look at it.

Oh, that my prayers might be answered, and that God would grant me what I long for, or that God would be willing to simply crush me, to reach out and cut me off entirely! For then I'd have the consolation – the joy, even amid unspeakable pain – that I never denied the words of the Holy One.

What strength is waiting for me, that I should have hope? What prospects do I have, that I should tell myself to be patient? Do I have the strength of a stone? Is my flesh tough as bronze?

No! I am now helpless, and deliverance has been driven from me! . . . Straighten me out, and I'll be quiet – make me understand what I've done wrong. It isn't that the truth is too hard for me to hear, it's simply that you haven't proven your case. Why do you consider your words as fact, and view the words of a desperate person as nothing but hot air? . . . Do you hear lies from my lips? Do you think my mouth doesn't know what malice tastes like?"

Sermon: “Questions about Permission” – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Response Song: *Be the Centre (Blue Book)* – Music Team

Jesus, be the centre.

Be my source, be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the centre.

Be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.

Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be my vision.

Be my path, be my guide, Jesus.

Be the fire in my heart. Be the wind in these sails.

Be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.

Jesus, be the centre.

Be my source, be my light, Jesus. Jesus.

Pastoral Prayer – Rev. Erika Marksbury

Special Music: *Turn, Turn, Turn* – Robin Pederson

Closing Words

Going Forth Song: *Be Now My Vision* (NC Hymnal #451)

Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart—
You my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.

Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Benediction – Rev. Erika Marksbury

One: Friends, ... may the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

Postlude – Robin Pederson

To make a financial gift to FBC:

www.fbcmac.org/give or mail a check to FBC, 125 SE Cows, McMinnville, OR 97128.

To register your worship attendance:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf6cnoRaxoyMr3_ElMIpaUPQeoNRrMpHB3p4oZi_pcieRTz-kA/viewform

To join the Semi-Annual Congregational Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89493614964>