



# BRIGHT HOPE



## HOW JESUS' PARABLES ILLUMINATE OUR DARKEST DAYS

January 3 - Luke 11:5-13  
THE POWER OF PERSISTENCE

**January 10 - Matthew 18:21-35**  
**THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS**

January 17 - Matthew 13:24-30  
THE POWER OF COURAGE

January 24 - Luke 14:16-24  
THE POWER OF INVITATION

FIRST BAPTIST KNOXVILLE - 11 AM SERVICE

# 11 am Service | January 10, 2021

## Prelude | Brandon Coffey

*Amazing Grace* | arr. Joseph Martin

## Call to Worship Hymn 310

*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* | HYMN TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love;  
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the dark of doubt away;  
Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, earth and heaven reflect Thy rays,  
Stars and angels sing around Thee, center of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
Singing bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
Wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Thou our Father, Christ, our Brother - all who live in love are Thine;  
Teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

Mortals, join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
Love divine is reigning o'er us, bringing all within its span.  
Ever singing, march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
Joyful music leads us sunward, in the triumph song of life.

## Welcome | Pam Neal

## Children's Sermon | Susan Tatum

## Hymn of Confession 234

*Spirit of the Living God* | IVERSON

Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me;  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.  
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.  
Spirit of the living God, fall fresh on me.

## Responsive Reading | Richard Buerkle

Leader: *Kyrie eleison. Christe eleison. Kyrie eleison.*

**People: Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: We confess, O Lord, our faults and acknowledge our shortcomings.

**People: We confess that we have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.**

Leader: Reveal to us the sin that ensnares, and refine us with your Holy fire.

**People: Through the power of the Holy Spirit we ask that you reveal the hardened and dark places in our lives and trade beauty for ashes.**

Leader: Hear now the Good News through the blood of Christ Jesus, our Lord -

**People: Your sins are forgiven. My sins are forgiven.**

## Hymn of Forgiveness 615

*Forgiven* | RIDGECREST (FORGIVEN)

Forgiven, I've been forgiven;  
God has looked beyond my sin,  
Saved me from what I might have been,  
Gave me a new life within,  
I am forgiven by His grace.

## A Modern Parable | FBC Drama Team

*The Chains that Bind* | Barbara Nelson

## Special Music | Julie Rice

*Forgive Our Sins As We Forgive* | Herklots/arr. Koine

"Forgive our sins as we forgive," you taught us Lord, to pray,  
But you alone can grant us grace to live the words we say.

How can your pardon reach and bless the unforgiving heart  
That broods on wrongs and will not let old bitterness depart?

In blazing light your cross reveals the truth we dimly knew:  
What trivial debts are owed to us; how great our debt to you!

Lord, cleanse the depths within our souls and bid resentment cease;  
Then, bound to all in bonds of love our lives will spread your peace,  
Our lives will spread your peace.

## Scripture Reading (Matthew 18:21-35) | Tim Boone

<sup>21</sup> Then Peter came to Jesus and asked, "Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother when he sins against me? Up to seven times?"

<sup>22</sup> Jesus answered, "I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.

<sup>23</sup> "Therefore, the kingdom of heaven is like a king who wanted to settle accounts with his servants. <sup>24</sup> As he began the settlement, a man who owed him ten thousand talents was brought to him. <sup>25</sup> Since he was not able to pay, the master ordered that he and his wife and his children and all that he had be sold to repay the debt.

<sup>26</sup> "The servant fell on his knees before him. 'Be patient with me,' he begged, 'and I will pay back everything.' <sup>27</sup> The servant's master took pity on him, canceled the debt and let him go.

<sup>28</sup> "But when that servant went out, he found one of his fellow servants who owed him a hundred denarii. He grabbed him and began to choke him. 'Pay back what you owe me!' he demanded.

<sup>29</sup> "His fellow servant fell to his knees and begged him, 'Be patient with me, and I will pay you back.'

<sup>30</sup> "But he refused. Instead, he went off and had the man thrown into prison until he could pay the debt. <sup>31</sup> When the other servants saw what had happened, they were greatly distressed and went and told their master everything that had happened.

<sup>32</sup> "Then the master called the servant in. 'You wicked servant,' he said, 'I canceled all that debt of yours because you begged me to. <sup>33</sup> Shouldn't you have had mercy on your fellow servant just as I had on you?' <sup>34</sup> In anger his master turned him over to the jailers to be tortured, until he should pay back all he owed.

<sup>35</sup> "This is how my heavenly Father will treat each of you unless you forgive your brother from your heart."

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

## Pastoral Prayer | Brent McDougal

## Sermon | Brent McDougal

**"Bright Hope: How Jesus' Parables Illuminate Our Darkest Days - The Power of Forgiveness" | Matthew 18:21-35**

## Invitation Hymn 680

*I Then Shall Live* | FINLANDIA

I then shall live as one who's been forgiven;  
I'll walk with joy to know my debts are paid.  
I know my name is clear before my Father;  
I am His child, and I am not afraid.  
So greatly pardoned, I'll forgive another;  
The law of love I gladly will obey.

I then shall live as one who's learned compassion;  
I've been so loved that I'll risk loving too.  
I know how fear builds walls instead of bridges;  
I dare to see another's point of view.  
And when relationships demand commitment  
Then I'll be there to care and follow through.

You kingdom come around and through and in me,  
Your power and glory, let them shine through me;  
Your hallowed name, O may I bear with honor,  
And may Your living kingdom come in me.  
The Bread of Life, O may I share with honor,  
And may You feed a hungry world through me.

## Worship Through Giving and Benediction | Brent McDougal

### Benediction Hymn 622 (stanza 3)

*He Lives* | ACKLEY

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian, lift up your voice and sing  
Eternal hallelujahs to Jesus Christ, the King!  
The hope of all who seek Him, the help of all who find;  
None other is so loving, so good and kind.

He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

**Organ Postlude | Rhonda Carpenter**  
*Postlude on "Lancashire" | Jason D. Payne*

**Sanctuary Flowers**

In Thanksgiving for our church staff  
and in memory of our parents and grandparents,  
Mr. & Mrs. J. P. Maples and Mr. & Mrs. Claude Forry,  
by Dianne & Gary Forry and Leah Fisher.

# SERMONNOTES

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## "THE POWER OF FORGIVENESS"

MATTHEW 18:21-35

Forgiveness is never easy. In some situations, we may think it is impossible. Forgiveness always costs us something – our pride, our sense of justice, or our comfort in holding on to a past hurt. But failing to forgive is even more costly. We carry a burden too great for us.

Jesus loves us so much that He gave his life so that we would no longer have to bear the burden of sin. But He also unlocks a mystery for us, revealing that the forgiveness of our sins is linked to how we forgive others.

The parable of the unmerciful servant is the most famous story in literature on forgiveness. We may be tempted to think that forgiveness is impossible, but Jesus shows us why it is not.

Peter asks, “Lord, how many times shall I forgive my brother or sister who sins against me? Up to seven times?” He thinks he is being generous. But Jesus’ answer must have blown him away. “I tell you, not seven times, but seventy-seven times.” He then tells of a servant who refuses to forgive and the devastating consequences.

Who is the “Ryan Cushing” in your life? Name the relationship you most wish would get better or the person you need to forgive or seek forgiveness from.

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Now listen to the parable’s teaching.  
How can you discover the power of forgiveness?

First, consider how much you \_\_\_\_\_.

“No matter how deep the stain of your sins, I can take it out and make you clean as freshly fallen snow (Isaiah 1:18, TLB).”

# SERMONNOTES

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“He has removed our sins as far from us as the east is from the west. The Lord is like a father to his children, tender and compassionate to those who fear him. For he knows how weak we are; he remembers we are only dust (Psalm 103:12-14, NLT).”

Biblical forgiveness is \_\_\_\_\_.

How much has God forgiven you?

Now, consider how much is \_\_\_\_\_ to you.

“Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you (Ephesians 4:32, NIV).”

Choose \_\_\_\_\_.

We live in a world filled with guilt-ridden, hard-hearted, unforgiving people. But there is a population of people who have discovered the grace of God. God wants you in that crowd.

Is this message for you today?

Write out your response – your prayer – for what God has said to you.

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# SEASON OF PRAYER

## FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS

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### *WEEKLY FOCUS: PURE WATER, PURE LOVE*

WMU's Compassion Ministry, *Pure Water, Pure Love (PWPL)*, has a three-fold mission: to supply missionaries with water filters, to provide the people they serve with wells that offer clean water, and to supply missions teams with water filters for use on short-term missions trips. Throughout the world, people are at constant risk of contracting diseases or parasites from their water. Many are forced to carry heavy jugs of water for miles just to be sure their families have clean, healthy water. For others, the prospect of clean water is simply non-existent. With the help of hundreds of churches, PWPL provides thousands of water filters to missionary families and helps fund clean water projects.

You can help! [www.wmu.com/pwpl](http://www.wmu.com/pwpl)

### *PRAYER FOCUS:*

Thank you for your prayers and encouragement for missionaries during this pandemic. Many Baptist churches in countries around the world are sending missionaries to hard places to share the gospel and make disciples. This is a huge task, but it is not too big for God. He can do this and so much more. Pray this would be so, and petition for God's wisdom and guidance in where He is leading them to go. Many go with a small budget that funds a few years of ministry. Pray that gospel workers would have the prayer and financial support to serve long term and acquire the longevity that promotes healthy, reproducible churches.

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Wednesday Night Bible Study

*Wednesdays, 6 pm | Sanctuary*

Join us for Wednesday Night Bible Study! You can come in person or watch the livestream on Facebook, YouTube, or our website ([fbcknox.org](https://fbcknox.org)). If you attend in person, please be prepared to follow social distancing rules and wear your mask. We look forward to seeing you there!



## Youth Bible Study Resumes Tonight

*Sundays, 6:30 - 8 pm | Trentham Hall*

Youth Sunday Night Bible Study starts back up tonight! Our Bible leader, Megan Buerkle, will begin a five-week biblical finance study by Crown Financial Ministries called *YourLife: Finding Success Through Stewardship*. In this unit, teens will learn how to be faithful stewards with their finances. Bring your Bibles, wear your masks, and come ready to learn! You may also bring snacks to share with the group. Drinks will be provided.



## First Community

*Sunday, January 10 | 8:45 am | Trentham Hall*

First Community is back! We are excited to resume this service, so join us on Sunday mornings for contemporary worship led by our First Community Band. Chairs will be spaced out six feet apart to help distance, and please be prepared to wear your mask. If you need **CHILDCARE** for ages three and below, remember, you must RSVP to Susan Tatum ([statum@fbcknox.org](mailto:statum@fbcknox.org)) by Thursday at noon. This applies to both Sunday services. See you for worship!



## Follow Along with the Sunday Bulletin!

Do you watch our services from home? If so, please be aware that the Sunday Bulletin is available online! With the bulletin, you can follow along with the service, participate in Brent's Sermon Notes, and check the Sunday Announcements. To access the Sunday Bulletin, visit our website ([fbcknox.org](https://fbcknox.org)), and under the "Media" tab, click "Publications." You may also copy and paste the following link: <https://fbcknox.org/media/view/publications/> Bulletins are uploaded to the website the Friday preceding the Sunday service.



## Small Groups, Bible Studies, & Sunday School

Are you looking for a Small Group, Bible Study, or Sunday School class to join? There are options available to you! Contact the people below for info on the topics of study and how to connect each week. Everyone is welcome!

### Virtual Zoom Sunday School Classes:

Discovery Class: Cathy Campbell - [docspot@chartertn.net](mailto:docspot@chartertn.net)

Midway Class: Emily Plemmons - [jimilyp@comcast.net](mailto:jimilyp@comcast.net)

Tatum Class: Alan Tatum - [tatumba@comcast.net](mailto:tatumba@comcast.net)

Young Adult SS: Tim Boone - [tboone@fbcknox.org](mailto:tboone@fbcknox.org)

### In-Person Sunday School Classes:

Calloway Class (Hill St. Training Room 120):

Bob Calloway - [bcalloway@comcast.net](mailto:bcalloway@comcast.net)

Ruth Class (Education Building Room 301):

Jane Hall - [jwhall29@aol.com](mailto:jwhall29@aol.com)

Friendship/Nelson Class (Education Building 304):

Tammy Basiri - [tammybakerbasiri@bellsouth.net](mailto:tammybakerbasiri@bellsouth.net)



### Bible Studies/Small Groups:

Youth Sunday Night Bible Study (6:30 pm, Trentham Hall):

Amy Evans - [amydevans27@gmail.com](mailto:amydevans27@gmail.com)

TNT Calloway Small Group (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday, 5 pm, 230

Centre): Bob Calloway - [bcalloway@comcast.net](mailto:bcalloway@comcast.net)

College & Young Professional Small Group Zoom (Tuesday,

6:30 pm): Tim Boone - [tboone@fbcknox.org](mailto:tboone@fbcknox.org)

Children's Missions & Choirs Zoom (Wednesday, 6:30 pm):

Susan Tatum - [statum@fbcknox.org](mailto:statum@fbcknox.org)

Please drop your offering in the Offering Boxes next to the Sanctuary doors.

	Nov '20	Fiscal YTD	Last Week's Attendance
Revenue (all sources)	\$134,663	\$689,348	
Expenses	<u>\$122,107</u>	<u>\$620,948</u>	Worship Total 104
Excess/Deficit	\$12,555	\$68,400	(does not reflect at-home viewers)



## Contacts

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**Dave Ward**

*Minister Emeritus*

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## CONNECT

 [fbcknox.org](http://fbcknox.org)

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 [@fbcknox](https://twitter.com/fbcknox)

 [fbcknox.org/subscribe](mailto:fbcknox.org/subscribe)

## First Baptist Knoxville

**Main Number** | 865-546-9661

To reach the Minister On Call, please call the main church number and when prompted for an extension, choose option 9.