



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

Prelude | Rhonda Carpenter

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God | Mary McDonald

Call to Worship | Praise the Lord Medley

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (319 v.1, 4)

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Praise Him in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him.
Let the Amen sound from His people again,
Gladly forever adore Him.

Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him (335 v.1)

Praise the Lord! ye heavens, adore Him; praise Him, angels in the height;
Sun and moon, rejoice before Him; praise Him, all ye stars of light.
Praise the Lord! for He hath spoken; worlds His mighty voice obeyed;
Law which never shall be broken for their guidance hath He made.

O Worship the King (52 v.1)

O worship the King, all glorious above,
And gratefully sing His power and His love;
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.

Responsive Reading | Richard Buerkle

Leader: Be strong and courageous

People: Be strong and courageous

Leader: for the Lord your God goes before you.

People: We will not falter, we will not fail, for the Lord is our victorious warrior.

Leader: Have courage ye people of God.

People: We have found courage to pray. Give us courage to live according to Your will.

Leader: Let not your hearts be troubled

People: but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

Congregational Hymn 51

On Eagle's Wings | ON EAGLE'S WINGS

You who dwell in the shelter of the Lord, who abide in His shadow for life,
Say to the Lord, "My refuge, my Rock in whom I trust."
And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.

The snare of the fowler will never capture you, and famine will bring you no fear,
Under His wings your refuge, His faithfulness your shield.
And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.

You need not fear the terror of the night nor the arrow that flies by day;
Though thousands fall about you, near you it shall not come.
And He will raise you up on eagle's wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,
Make you to shine like the sun and hold you in the palm of His hand.

Welcome | Tim Boone

Children's Sermon | Susan Tatum

Congregational Hymn 627

Victory in Jesus | HARTFORD

I heard an old, old story, how a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary to save a wretch like me:
I heard about His groaning, of His precious blood's atoning,
Then I repented of my sins and won the victory.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever,
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about His healing, of His cleansing power revealing,
How He made the lame to walk again and caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus, come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and brought to me the victory.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever,
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.

I heard about a mansion He has built for me in glory,
And I heard about the streets of gold beyond the crystal sea;
About the angels singing, and the old redemption story,
And some sweet day I'll sing up there the song of victory.

O victory in Jesus, my Savior, forever,
He sought me and bought me with His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him, and all my love is due Him;
He plunged me to victory, beneath the cleansing flood.

Scripture Reading (Matthew 13:24-30) | Pam Neal

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: “The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ “The owner’s servants came to him and said, ‘Sir, didn’t you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?’

²⁸ “An enemy did this,’ he replied.

“The servants asked him, ‘Do you want us to go and pull them up?’

²⁹ “No,’ he answered, ‘because while you are pulling the weeds, you may root up the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.’”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Congregational Hymn 59

My Lord Is Near Me All the Time | FOREST PARK

In the lightning flash across the sky His mighty power I see,
And I know if He can reign on high, His light can shine on me.
I've seen it in the lightning, heard it in the thunder,
And felt it in the rain; my Lord is near me all the time,
My Lord is near me all the time.

When the thunder shakes the mighty hills and trembles every tree,
Then I know a God so great and strong can surely harbor me.
I've seen it in the lightning, heard it in the thunder,
And felt it in the rain; my Lord is near me all the time,
My Lord is near me all the time.

When refreshing showers cool the earth and sweep across the sea,
Then His rainbow shines within my heart, His nearness comforts me.
I've seen it in the lightning, heard it in the thunder,
And felt it in the rain; my Lord is near me all the time,
My Lord is near me all the time.

Pastoral Prayer | Tim Boone

Special Music | Quartet

Behold Our God | Baird/Altrogge, arr. Spacht

Who has held the oceans in His hands?
Who has numbered ev'ry grain of sand?
Kings and nations tremble at His voice.
All creation rises to rejoice.

Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him.
Behold our King. Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!

Who has given counsel to the Lord?
Who can question any of His words?
Who can teach the One who knows all things?
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds?

Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him! Adore Him!

Who has felt the nails upon His hands,
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man?
God eternal, humbled to the grave.
Jesus, Savior, risen now to reign!

Behold our God, seated on His throne.
O Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!

You will reign forever! Let Your glory fill the earth!
You will reign forever! Let Your glory fill the earth!
You will reign forever! Let Your glory fill the earth!
You will reign forever! Let Your glory fill the earth!

You will reign forever! Let your glory fill the earth!
Oh, You will reign forever! Let Your glory fill...

Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!

Behold our God, seated on His throne.
Come, let us adore Him!
Behold our King. Nothing can compare.
Come, let us adore Him!

Sermon | Brent McDougal

**"Bright Hope: How Jesus' Parables Illuminate Our Darkest Days -
The Power of Courage | Matthew 13:24-30**

Invitation Hymn 629

Be Strong in the Lord | STRENGTH

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage;
Your mighty Defender is always the same.
Mount up with wings, as the eagle ascending;
Victory is sure when you call on His name.

Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And be of good courage, for He is your guide.
Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And rejoice, for the victory is yours.

So put on the armor the Lord has provided,
And place your defense in His unfailing care.
Trust Him, for He will be with you in battle,
Lighting your path to avoid every snare.

Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And be of good courage, for He is your guide.
Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And rejoice, for the victory is yours.

Be strong in the Lord, and be of good courage;
Your mighty Commander will vanquish the foe.
Fear not the battle, for the victory is always His;
He will protect you wherever you go.

Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And be of good courage, for He is your guide.
Be strong, be strong, be strong in the Lord;
And rejoice, for the victory is yours.

Worship Through Giving and Benediction | Susan Tatum

Benediction | Quartet

May the Grace of Our Lord Jesus | Grindal/Jude, GALILEE

May the grace of our Lord Jesus,
and the blessed love of God,
The communion of the Spirit,
richly bless and keep you all.

Organ Postlude | Rhonda Carpenter

Hymn to Joy | Albert L. Travis

Sanctuary Flowers

In loving memory of Charles and Ella Gaut by family.

VISITING?

Let us know you're here!



SERMONNOTES

"THE POWER OF COURAGE"

MATTHEW 13:24-30

We're only a few days into 2021, but it still feels like 2020. There is a lot that can discourage us - from the pandemic's plodding to the political unrest we see in our country. We have seen that medical science, while extremely important, can't prevent new viruses from developing or protect us from other disasters. Technological advances can't prevent the spread of misinformation. Political leaders and parties can't solve all of the challenges in our fallen world. We feel tempted and tried by the evil we see. Where will we find hope?

The response of despair: Give _____.

The response of resignation: Give _____.

The response of faith: Go _____.

**The greatest need of our day is for _____
Christianity.**

Where are you experiencing discouragement? Jesus' parable of the wheat and weeds can teach us much about perseverance and courage.

Expect _____.

"...Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also *masquerade* as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve (2 Corinthians 11:14-15, NIV)."

Leave the _____ to the Lord.

"His winnowing fork is in his hand, and *he will clear his threshing floor*, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire (Matthew 3:12, NIV)."

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Candlelight Prayer Service for Our County

Wednesday, January 20 | 6 pm | Sanctuary/Virtual

Join us as we pray for our leaders, our peace, and our shared future. There will be special music along with Bible Study, led by Pastor Brent McDougal, entitled, "Respectfully, I Disagree: How to Be Civil in an Uncivil Time." You are welcome to attend in person or watch the livestream on Facebook or fbcknox.org.



Help With Local Needs

If you are looking for additional ways to serve people in need in our community, please subscribe to the Compassion Coalition mailing list. You will receive an e-mail each week with an updated list of local needs, community resources, and volunteer opportunities. To subscribe, visit <https://compassioncoalition.org/stay-informed/> and sign up to the Bulletin Board mailing list. Contact tboone@fbcknox.org if you have any questions.



MISSION

International Missions Offering Update

December was the Season of Prayer for International Missions, and we received \$8,992 through the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and \$8,044 through the Offering for Global Missions. That is a total of \$17,036 for International Missions! Thank you all for your prayers and generosity. You help us make a difference in the lives of people around the world!



Wednesday Night Bible Study

Wednesdays, 6 pm | Sanctuary

Join us for Wednesday Night Bible Study! You may come in person or watch the livestream on Facebook, YouTube, or our website (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!



First Baptist Communications Survey

First Baptist would appreciate your feedback on a Communications Survey that went out last week. This 5-minute survey invites input from FBC members and long-time guests about how well we are communicating as a church. It concerns *internal* communications (within the church family). We are also evaluating our *external* communications through other means. If you would like to take the survey but did not receive the link, email Vanessa Moore at vmoore@fbcknox.org. Thank you for helping us communicate more effectively to best fulfill our mission of making disciples and sharing the gospel with our community. Please complete the survey by January 21.



First Community Worship Service

Sundays, 8:45 am | Trentham Hall

Come worship with us on Sunday mornings in First Community! Everyone is welcome to join in this contemporary worship service. Please be prepared to follow social distancing rules and wear your mask. If you need **CHILDCARE** for ages three and below, remember, you must RSVP to Susan Tatum (statum@fbcknox.org) by Thursday at noon. This applies to both Sunday services. See you for worship!



Sign-up to be a Benevolence Team Member!

The Benevolence Team demonstrates the love of Jesus by interviewing clients and offering material and financial resources to those in need. To serve in this ministry, you will need to attend several training sessions that we will offer in 2021. Please contact Tim Boone at tboone@fbcknox.org to sign up.



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

	Dec '20	Fiscal YTD	Last Week's Attendance	
Revenue (all sources)	\$269,998	\$961,667	Worship Total	155
Expenses	<u>\$167,117</u>	<u>\$788,066</u>	(does not reflect at-home viewers)	
Excess/Deficit	\$102,881	\$173,601		



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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.