



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

To God All Glory Given | Rachel Sawyer

Call to Worship | Quartet

A Prayer for Our Time | Joseph Martin

Our God, to Thee we pray.
Heal our nation, Lord, today.
God of mercy, grant us courage.
Give us peace, give us peace, give us peace.

When evil draws its angry sword
And seeks to sever freedom's cord,
Death and darkness shake our faith
In God's unfailing pow'r to save,
Eternal Father, ever be our courage in the time of need.

When war is waged by faceless foes
Who battle peace with fiery blows,
When storms of hate and fear assail,
Our Father's mighty arm prevails,
Eternal Father, ever be our refuge in the time of need.

There is no tyrant who can stand
Against our sure Defender's hand.
No threat or danger can defeat
The strong and righteous Prince of Peace.
Eternal Father, ever be our fortress in the time of need.

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Congregational Hymn 477

We Are Called to Be God's People | AUSTRIAN HYMN

We are called to be God's people, showing by our lives His grace,
One in heart and one in spirit, sign of hope for all the race.
Let us show how He has changed us and remade us as His own;
Let us share our life together as we shall around His throne.

We are called to be God's servants, working in the world today;
Taking His own task upon us, all His sacred words obey.
Let us rise, then, to His summons, dedicate to Him our all,
That we may be faithful servants, quick to answer now His call.

We are called to be God's prophets, speaking for the truth and right,
Standing firm for godly justice, bringing evil into light.
Let us seek the courage needed, our high calling to fulfill,
That we all may know the blessing of the doing of God's will.

Responsive Reading 647 | Richard Buerkle

Leader: "Come, all that are blessed,

People: inherit the kingdom prepared for you.

Leader: I was hungry

People: and you gave me food,

Leader: I was thirsty

People: and you gave me something to drink,

Leader: I was a stranger

People: and you welcomed me,

Leader: I was sick

People: and you took care of me."

Leader: "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry,

People: thirsty, a stranger, or sick?"

Leader: The king will answer,

Everyone: "Just as you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

Welcome | Pam Neal

Children's Sermon | Susan Tatum

A Modern Parable | FBC Drama Team

Neighbors | John Cospier

Scripture Reading (Luke 14:16-24) | Tim Boone

¹⁶ Jesus replied: "A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests. ¹⁷ At the time of the banquet he sent his servant to tell those who had been invited, 'Come, for everything is now ready.'

¹⁸ "But they all alike began to make excuses. The first said, 'I have just bought a field, and I must go and see it. Please excuse me.'

¹⁹ "Another said, 'I have just bought five yoke of oxen, and I'm on my way to try them out. Please excuse me.'

²⁰ "Still another said, 'I just got married, so I can't come.'

21 “The servant came back and reported this to his master. Then the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame.’

22 “‘Sir,’ the servant said, ‘what you ordered has been done, but there is still room.’

23 “Then the master told his servant, ‘Go out to the roads and country lanes and make them come in, so that my house will be full. 24 I tell you, not one of those men who were invited will get a taste of my banquet.’”

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

Congregational Hymn 653 (stanzas 1, 2, 4)

Lord, You Give the Great Commission | BEECHER

Lord, You give the great commission: "Heal the sick and preach the word."
Lest the church neglect its mission, and the gospel go unheard,
Help us witness to Your purpose with renewed integrity;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, You call us to Your service: "In my name baptize and teach."
That the world may trust Your promise, life abundant meant for each,
Give us all new fervor, draw us closer in community;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Lord, You show us love's true measure: "Father, what they do, forgive."
Yet we hoard as private treasure all that You so freely give.
May Your care and mercy lead us to a just society;
With the Spirit's gifts empower us for the work of ministry.

Pastoral Prayer | Brent McDougal

Special Music | Quartet

Psalms 23: A Song of Hope | Heather Sorenson

The Lord is my Shepherd, and I shall not want.
I shall not want. I shall not want.
The Lord is my Shepherd, and I shall not want,
I shall not want for more.
How could I ask for more?

He leads by still water, and I shall not want,
I shall not want. I shall now want.
He leads by still water, and I shall not want.
I shall not want for more.
How could I ask for more?

He is enough for ev'ry need.
He is enough for ev'ry broken dream.
The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want.

I'm satisfied with what He gives.
He will provide and faithfully supply.
The Lord is my Shepherd, and I shall not want.

He leads through the valley, and I shall not want.
I shall not want. I shall not want.
He leads through the valley, and I shall not want,
And I shall not want.

He is enough for ev'ry need.
He is enough for ev'ry broken dream.
The Lord is my Shepherd. I shall not want.

I'm satisfied with what He gives.
He will provide and faithfully supply.
The Lord is my Shepherd, and I shall not want.

He is the Night. He is the Day.
He is the Sun. He is the Shade.
He is the Ocean. He's the Stream.
In ev'ry song. He is my theme.
And if we wander off alone,
His mercy calls us back to home.
His mercy calls us back to home, to home!

I feast at His table, and I shall not want.
I shall not want. I shall not want.
I feast at His table, and I shall not want.
I shall not want for more.

He is the Strength to conquer sin.
He's faithful when my trust is thin.
I shall not want.

Sermon | Brent McDougal

"Bright Hope: How Jesus' Parables Illuminate Our Darkest Days - The Power of Invitation | Luke 14:16-24

Invitation Hymn 497

I Have Decided | ASSAM

I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
I have decided to follow Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still will follow;
Though none go with me, I still will follow;
Though none go with me, I still will follow;
No turning back, no turning back.

My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
My cross I'll carry, till I see Jesus;
No turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
The world behind me, the cross before me;
No turning back, no turning back.

Worship Through Giving and Benediction | Tim Boone

Benediction Hymn 588 (stanza 1)

I Know Whom I Have Believed | EL NATHAN

I know not why God's wondrous grace
To me he has made known,
Nor why, unworthy, Christ in love
Redeemed me for his own.

But "I know whom I have believed,
And am persuaded that he is able
To keep that which I've committed
Unto him against that day."

Organ Postlude | Rhonda Carpenter
Festive Celebration on "Arlington" | Gilbert M. Martin

Sanctuary Flowers

In loving memory of Vesta and Ralph Frost,
Virginia Frost Kelly, Ralph Walter Frost, Jr. and Robert Bibb Frost
given by the family.

VISITING?

Let us know you're here!



SERMONNOTES

"THE POWER OF INVITATION"

LUKE 14:16-24

If you're like many people in our church, you don't want to just sit there. You want to *do something*, making an impact through your faith. But what can you do? Especially during COVID-19, you may feel limited. Still, you know deep down, "I can't just keep sitting here. I was made for more."

There's something that only you can do, but there is also something that all of us must do. To make an eternal difference, you must join God in giving the great invitation to others. You have been invited into the kingdom. Now you must extend the invitation to others. One day you'll be asked, "What did you do with what I gave to you?" But as you're welcomed to the great banquet, you'll also be asked, "Whom did you bring along with you?"

We can't just sit there. We must *all* extend God's great invitation. How do we "do" this?

The prompt of the parable: "When one of those at the table with Him heard this, he said to Jesus, 'Blessed is the one who will eat at the feast of the Kingdom of God' (Luke 14:15, NIV)."

Look forward to the _____.

"People will come from east and west and north and south, and will take their places at the feast in the Kingdom of God. Indeed, there are those who are last who will be first, and first who will be last (Luke 13:29-30, NIV)."

"A certain man was preparing a great banquet and invited many guests... (Luke 14:16, NIV)."

Come when you're _____.

"Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved (Acts 4:12, NIV)."

SERMONNOTES

Do _____ that you can to _____ as many people as you can.

“...the owner of the house became angry and ordered his servant, ‘Go out quickly into the streets and alleys of the town and bring in the poor, the crippled, the blind and the lame’ (Luke 14:21, NIV).”

Invite someone to _____.

Invite someone to your _____ class or _____ group.

Invite someone into your _____ life.

Now think of some real people that you can invite. List them here:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

Make an invitation plan to be carried out in the next few days.

What is your prayer today?

SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Be a Prayer Partner

Pastor Brent McDougal is calling for 120 people to commit to praying daily for First Baptist Church. We need prayer for our church leaders, staff, children's/youth programs, senior adults, and in every other aspect of our congregational life. Where there is little prayer, there is little power. But where there is much prayer, there is much power. To sign up as a prayer partner, email bmcdougal@fbcknox.org or call/text 865-850-2167. You can expect to receive a monthly prayer newsletter and special calls to pray throughout the year. Sign up today.



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

Children's Summer Activities: Save the Date!

Kids Camp: June 9-12 | VBS: July 12-16

Parents, mark your calendars! The dates for Kids Camp and VBS have been set! Kids Camp is for grades 3-5 completed, and VBS is for ages three years to 5th grade completed. More information to come!



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!



Pilgrimage to Israel: February 2022

Sunday, January 31, 2:30 pm | Zoom Meeting

Join Pastor Brent McDougal and other First Baptist members for a transformative trip to the Holy Land next year. The pilgrimage will involve visits to the Judean wilderness, Jerusalem, Bethlehem, the Sea of Galilee, and other Biblical sites. There will be a Zoom interest meeting on Sunday, January 31, at 2:30 pm, to discuss the itinerary, costs, timeline, and preparation for the journey. Email Vanessa Moore (vmoores@fbcknox.org) for the Zoom meeting login. If you can't make that time but are interested, email Pastor Brent McDougal (bmcdougal@fbcknox.org) for more information.



High School Fellowship Resumes

Sunday, January 31, 5:30 pm | Trentham Hall

The purpose of the fellowship will be twofold: 1) encourage students in their discipleship, addressing questions and spiritual concerns, and 2) provide an opportunity for Pastor Brent and students to get to know one another. To be consistent with church standards, masks, and social distancing will be required. Students, please make plans to attend, and parents, encourage your students to participate!



International Missions Offering Update: Thank You!

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!



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	154
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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To reach the Minister On Call, please call the main church number and when prompted for an extension, choose option 9.