

# Welcome to First Baptist Church

“Making much of Jesus among the peoples of the Earth,  
Starting with the people next door.”

**We're glad you're here!**

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**Sam Byers & Greg Pflasterer** – Elders (also called pastors)

**Keith Palmer, John Throgmorton & Jerry Wagner** - Deacons

## ORDER OF WORSHIP ~ APRIL 3, 2016

- **WELCOME** – Grace and Peace to you!
- **CALL TO WORSHIP** – Psalm 96:1-9 ESV

**LEADER:** Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth! Sing to the Lord, bless His Name; tell of his salvation from day to day. Declare His glory among the nations, His marvelous works among all the peoples!

**CONGREGATION:** **For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; He is to be feared above all gods.**

**LEADER:** For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols,

**CONGREGATION:** **but the Lord made the heavens.**

**LEADER:** Splendor and majesty are before him;

**CONGREGATION:** **strength and beauty are in His sanctuary.**

**LEADER:** Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!

**CONGREGATION:** **Ascribe to the Lord the glory due His Name;**

**LEADER:** bring an offering, and come into His courts! Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness;

**CONGREGATION:** **tremble before Him, all the earth!**

- **SONG** – 252. *Glory Be To the Father* [Gloria Patri]
- **PRAYER**
- **SONG** – 14. *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty* (1st & 3rd verses)
- **SONG** – 147. *And Can It Be* (1st & 4th verses)
- **SONG** – 15. *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* (1st & 3rd verses)
- **OLD TESTAMENT READING** – *Leviticus 9 ESV*
- **SONG** – *Blessed Spirit of the King* (Puritan Prayer)
- **NEW TESTAMENT READING** – *Luke 8:40-56 ESV*
- **SONG** – 411. *'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus* (1st, 2nd & 3rd verses)
- **PRAYER**
- **SCRIPTURE READING** – *Romans 12:9-10 ESV*

- **PASSING OF PEACE** – *Let us welcome and greet each other!*
- **SONG** – 386. *Family of God* (Chorus only)
- **ANNOUNCEMENTS**
- **PRAYER**
- **THE LORD'S PRAYER** – *Matthew 6:6-13 KJV*
- **SERMON TEXT** – *1 Corinthians 11:17-34 ESV*
- **TIME OF RESPONSE** [The Lord's Supper, Offering, Prayer]
- **SCRIPTURE READING** – *Psalm 23 ESV*
- **SONG** – 253. *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow* [The Doxology]
- **BENEDICTION** – *Psalm 29:10-11 ESV*

## Lord's Day Meditation

I'm concerned that so many Christians, when we get news – say of an earthquake or of a tsunami, and 100,000 people are wiped away, not to mention our own personal news – almost instinctively today, it seems that Christians are prone to say we shouldn't ask why. “God doesn't have purposes in this. That's blasphemous to even think of the hand of God involved in this in any kind of designed or purposeful way.”

I think there are probably six to ten purposes for suffering in the Bible that are always true for God's people, and some of them true for everybody, so that you are never at a loss to answer the question, Why?

Now, you cannot answer the question “Why now?” or “Why you?” or “Why this severe?” In other words, you cannot answer “the Why?” in all the granular details of your cancer or your child's disability. But there are at least six to ten big why's given in the Bible. Here's one,

“In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith – more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire – may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.” (1 Peter 1:6–7)

God regards your faith and its fire-refined purity and genuineness as more important than keeping you out of the hospital, or out of persecution. He wants to prove your faith. When gold comes through fire, the dross is burned away, and the gold is refined and shines more brightly.

I believe that this “praise and glory and honor” is yours, and not God's. I think this is, “You get praised, you get glory, and you get honor, because of your faith.” Jesus says, “Well done, good and faithful servant” (Matthew 25:21). God will praise your faith, imperfect as it is. And that moment is more valuable to God than your comfort in this world, or your life.

**Source** – “God's Good News in Bad News” by John Piper

“Sin hardens the heart. Every sin makes room  
for another sin and it is always easier to sin again  
after you have sinned once.”

~ Charles H. Spurgeon ~