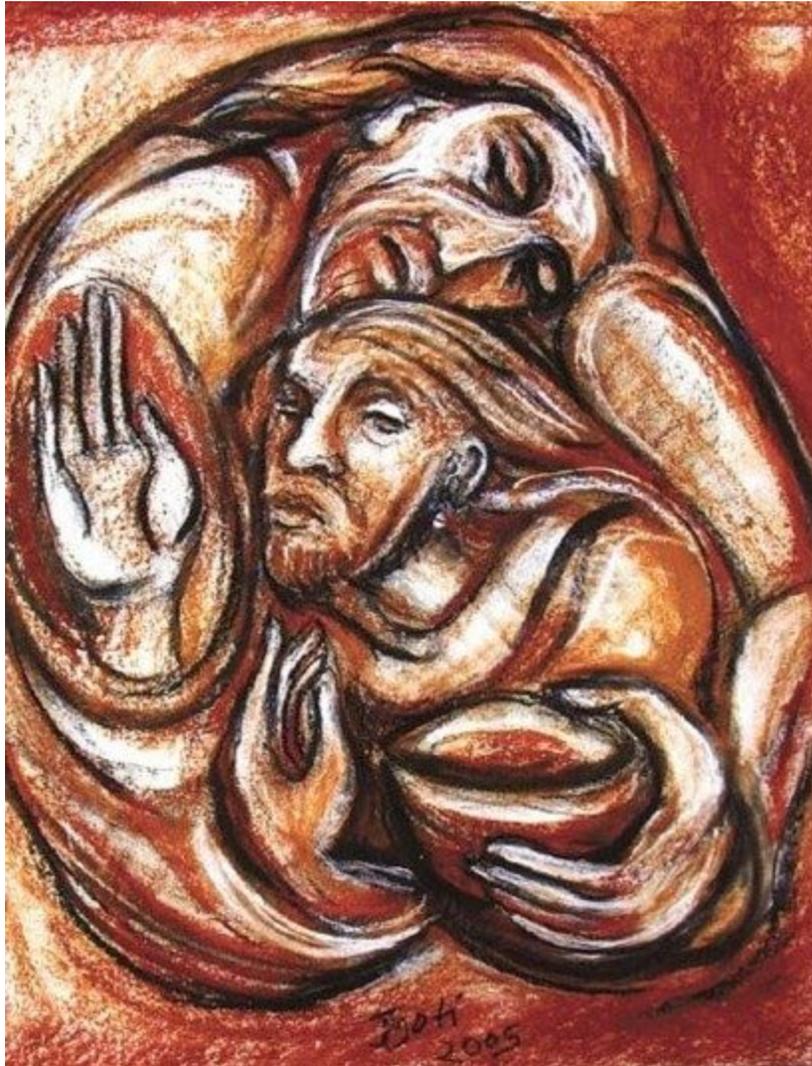


Worship Guide for First Baptist Church on Fifth

Sunday, May 17, 2020 + Winston-Salem, NC
The Sixth Sunday of Easter



Abide in Me | Jyoti Sahi

This Worship Guide is for you: for the worship of God today, for words and practices and images to sustain you through the week, for engagement with your families and communities, for hope in even the deepest places of despair.

On this sixth Sunday of Eastertide, we hear of Jesus' sending of the Advocate, the Holy Spirit who promises to dwell and abide with us always. That is the steadfast promise of God in Christ through the power of the Holy Spirit: we are never alone!

Blessings on your worship, beloved community!

Prelude

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Invitation to Worship

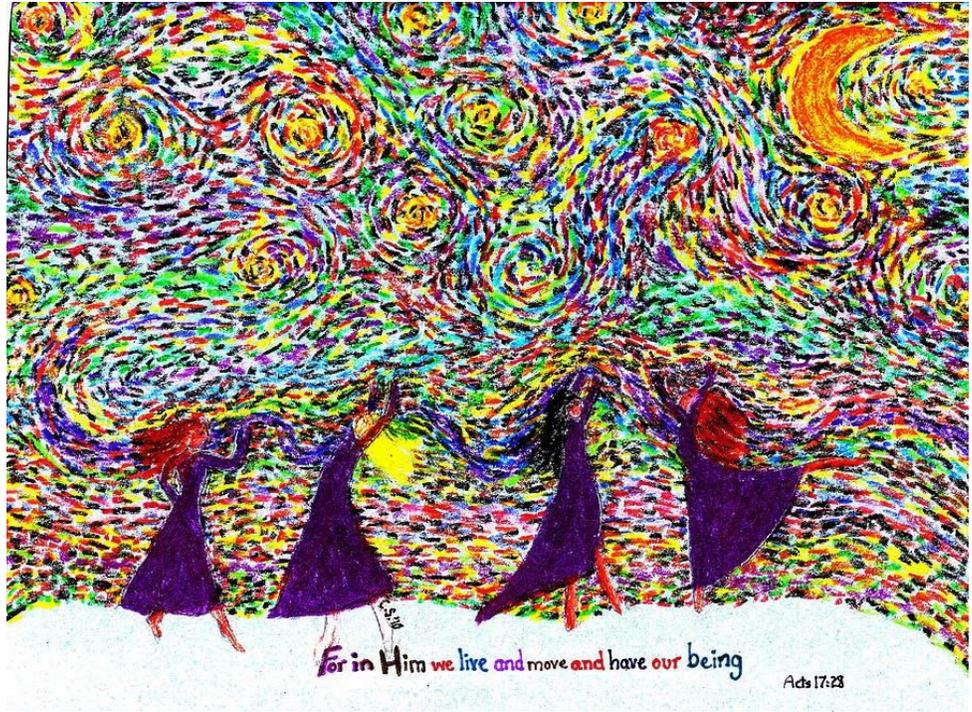
Welcome to worship
with First on Fifth on this
fourth Sunday of
Eastertide!

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New Testament
Reading

Acts 17:22-31

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Artwork above
Being | Catherine Saldana

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Prayer for the Day

Loving God,
in whom we live and move and have our being,
help us to choose life in you,
that we may keep the commands of Jesus,
follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit
and witness to the hope that is within us,
sharing Christ's love in the world.
Amen.

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Hymn: *Alleluia, Sing to Jesus!*

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, His the sceptre, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph, his the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood,
"Jesus, out of every nation, has redeemed us by His blood."

Alleluia! Not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia! Christ is near us, faith believes, nor questions how;
though the cloud from sight received Him when the forty days were o'er,
shall our hearts forget His promise, "I am with you evermore?"

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Passing the Peace

Turn to those around you -- your family, your pets, your neighbors, your friends online -- and share these words:

May the peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

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Gospel Reading

John 14:15-21

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Choral Anthem

If Ye Love Me | Thomas Tallis

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Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance (1 Peter 3:18)

Loving God, we do not always keep your commandments;
we fail to love you; our conscience is not clear.

Wash us in the water of life that we may live again
through the grace and mercy of Jesus,
our resurrected Savior. Amen.

For Christ also suffered for sins once for all,
the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God.
He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the Spirit.

Hear this good news, in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!



Artwork above

Remain in My Love

Detail from a stained glass window in the Dominican church of St. Catherine of Siena in New York City.

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Signs of New Life

Throughout Eastertide, we celebrate stories of our members who are finding signs of new life springing forth all around us -- a powerful reminder of resurrection hope!

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Call to Prayer

Spirit of the Living God

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Artwork above
Christ Taking Leave of the Apostles | Duccio di Buoninsegna

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Prayers for the People & The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

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Homily

Testimony: Knowing Together

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Hymn: *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven to earth come down,
fix in us Thy humble dwelling; all Thy faithful mercies crown,
Jesus, Thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love Thou art;
visit us with Thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe Thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in Thee inherit, let us find the promised rest,
Take away our bent to sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, Thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be;
let us see Thy great salvation perfectly restored in Thee:
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before Thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

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Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below!
O praise God! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise God, O praise God,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

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Benediction



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH