

Worship Guide for First Baptist Church on Fifth

Sunday, July 26, 2020 + Winston-Salem, NC
Eighth Sunday after Pentecost



A Little Leaven | James Janknegt

God longs for God
and uses us, rises in us...
becomes in us.
Let us be silent, a quiet dough
where God moves into every pore...
where God lives as God pleases.
Let us rise simply, a quiet dough.

- Gunilla Norris

Prelude: *Sarabande from Suite No.4* by J.S. Bach
Emily Grissing, Cello

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Invitation to Worship

Welcome to worship with First on Fifth!

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Hymn: *For the Beauty of the Earth*

For the beauty of the earth, for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night,
hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

For Thyself, best Gift Divine! to our world so freely given;
for that great, great love of Thine, peace on earth, and joy in heaven:
Lord of all, to Thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

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Passing the Peace

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

*May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!*

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New Testament Lesson

Romans 8:26-39

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Gospel Lesson

Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52

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Call to Prayer: *Seek Ye First*

Seek ye first the kingdom of God
and its righteousness,
and all these things shall be added unto you;
Allelu, alleluia!

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Prayer of Confession

Holy God, we confess that we sometimes cease
to function as conduits for Your peace.
We know that the Christ child came
to proclaim radical truth and harmony.
Christ, we admit that we see others alone all around us
and yet we focus on loneliness in ourselves
and look the other way all too often.
We know You are in us
and because You inhabit our very DNA,
You will never leave us.
Help us to spread that assurance.
Spirit, we confess that in our shortcomings,
we have not noticed the beauty of the earth
nearly as much as we could have.
We know that when we proclaim and claim Your love,
as the scripture tells us, "all things work for good."
Amen.

Written by Mary Beth Beck-Henderson, FBC Summer Ministry Intern

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Words of Assurance

Now hear the good news.
Our confessions have been heard by the Creator of All.
God's mercy is forever.
Through Jesus, the God of grace has forgiven our sins.

Thanks be to God.

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Anthem: *Seek First the Kingdom*
Sanctuary Choir

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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
Discovering Stories

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Hymn: *As Grain on Scattered Hillsides*

As grain on scattered hillsides, when gathered, makes one bread,
God, gather all your people as one in Christ our head.
We come from many places, and we are not the same,
yet Your strong love has called us to meet in Jesus' name.

A grain of wheat is fruitless until in earth it lies;
then, dying to its old life, it bears and multiplies.
So may we die to hatred, to all our hurtful ways,
reborn to common living, to love, to work, to praise.

Like yeast that brings new ferment so lifeless dough may rise,
Your Spirit is the leaven of life that satisfies.
As salt enhances flavor, enriches, and preserves,
may earth rejoice to savor a church that heals and serves.

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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

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FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH