



Three for the Road, by Martin Benka

A Blessing for The Seekers

by Rev. Sarah Are Speed

Blessed are you who turn your face up to the sky,
who open your arms to feel the wind,
who notice all the things that we should notice.
Blessed are you who are fluent in wonder
and familiar with awe.
Blessed are you who, even now, dream dreams,
who have not lost hope,
who swear the glass is still half-full.
Blessed are you who plant trees
and sing the harmony,
who tell the children how this world can be magic.
Blessed are you who
walk and seek
and turn over every stone,
pointing out all the corners and colors
that God lives in.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

EPIPHANY SUNDAY

Sunday, January 1, 2023 • 11:00 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

INTROIT: *Go, Tell It on the Mountain*

arr. P. Simms

Teresa Moore-Mitchell

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere that Jesus Christ is born. The little Baby Jesus was born on Christmas Day. A bright star in the heavens gave light to show the way. The shepherds gathered 'round Him, this Child upon the hay. Three wise men brought Him presents that glorious Christmas Day.

CALL TO WORSHIP: Isaiah 60:1-6

Amy McClure

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.
For darkness shall cover the earth,
and thick darkness the peoples;
but the Lord will arise upon you,
and his glory will appear over you.

**All: Nations shall come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.
Lift up your eyes and look around;
they all gather together, they come to you;
your sons shall come from far away,
and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.**

Leader: Then you shall see and be radiant;
your heart shall thrill and rejoice,
because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you,
the wealth of the nations shall come to you.
A multitude of camels shall cover you,
the young camels of Midian and Ephah;
all those from Sheba shall come.

**All: They shall bring gold and frankincense,
and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.**

*HYMN 126: *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Emily Hull McGee

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

SOLO: *Gesu Bambino*

P. Yon

Teresa Moore-Mitchell

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night was born the Child,
the Christmas Rose, the King of Love and Light. The angels sang, the shepherds
sang, the grateful earth rejoiced, and at His blessed birth the stars their
exultation voiced. O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. Again the heart with
rapture glows to greet the holy night that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its
King of Love and Light. Let every voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus
swell, from paradise to earth He came that we with him might dwell.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 2:1-23

Steve Smith

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Nikki Byers

Leader: One of my favorite things about the Magi is that they go looking for God. Actively and consistently, day by day, they follow the star until it guides them to Jesus. I wish I was more like that, but I admit, I tend to follow God with part of my heart. I tend to get distracted and lost, taking exit ramps off the road, following whatever new shiny sign is present. It's part of being human. In the prayer of confession, we acknowledge that more often than
A we'd like to admit, we find ourselves following the wrong star. Fortunately for us, God is the map maker, and God's map is measured in grace, so we have nothing to fear. Let us pray together. Let us seek God together.

Please join me in the prayer of confession:

**All: God of starlight,
we know that faith isn't a vending machine.
Good news can't be bought or manufactured.
It does not arrive with a push of a button.
Instead, in this noisy world, we have to look for you in our midst.
We have to walk toward you, just as the Magi did.
We have to believe that love really can change the world.
We have to seek the stars beyond the city lights.
Forgive us for forgetting that.
Forgive us for seeking you with only part of our hearts.
We long to be more like the Magi; may we walk your way every single day.
Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: *Sweet Little Jesus Boy*

R. MacGimsey

Teres Moore-Mitchell

Sweet little Jesus Boy, they made you be born in a manger. Sweet little Holy Child, didn't know who You was. Didn't know You'd come to save us, Lord, to take our sins away. Our eyes was blind; we couldn't see. We didn't know who You was. Long time ago You was born, born in a manger low, sweet little Jesus Boy. The world treat You mean, Lord; treat me mean, too. But please, Sir, forgive us, Lord. We didn't know 'twas You.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Emily Hull McGee

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.

SERMON: *Home By Another Way*

Richard Groves

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

HYMN OF RESPONSE 96: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

HOUSTON

God calls all to respond! Our church welcomes you to share a new desire to follow Jesus or to join our congregation as a member. As we sing, please come to the front and share your commitment with one of our ministers.

PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS WE GIVE

Chris Gambill

The giving of our material possessions, as well as our very lives, is an important part of active, vibrant worship. At the conclusion of the worship service you will find offering plates at the exit doors for those who would like to make a financial contribution to support the ministries of First Baptist Church. If you would like to give online, you will find additional information in this worship guide and at our website, firstonfifth.org.

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Emily Hull McGee

***DOXOLOGY**

GREENSLEEVES

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own Him;
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!

***BENEDICTION**

Emily Hull McGee

ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The artwork on the cover, *Three for the Road*, by Martin Benka, is used by permission of sanctifiedart.org. The poem on the cover, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are written by Rev. Sarah Speed and are used by permission of sanctifiedart.org.

IF YOU ARE NEW, WELCOME!

If you are visiting with us today for the first time, we welcome you! Please fill out a Connection Card located in the back of the pews, and give it to a minister or drop into the offering plate after worship. This allows us to extend our hospitality and connect you deeply with our church. If you're visiting with young children, we welcome them in whatever way is best for your family! Creative resources for our little ones guide their experience of worship in the Sanctuary, and worship care for infants – kindergarten is available in the nursery on the first floor. Masking is optional in the Sanctuary. The balcony continues to be reserved for those preferring an even greater distance. Extra masks and hand sanitizer are available at all three entrances to the sanctuary. We're glad you're here!

HOW WE SUSTAIN MINISTRY THROUGH FBC

Thank you for giving faithfully to God through the ministries of our church! Should you desire to give today to God's work of Love through First on Fifth, you can do so by placing your gift in the offering plates upon your exit from the room, or by scanning the QR code to give online. Because you will need to enter your personal financial information when registering online, we encourage you to set up your account on a secure network at home before using the app for the first time.





FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, January 1

9:30 am New Year's Day Brunch (*Kelly*)

11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)

MONDAY, January 2

OFFICE CLOSED FOR NEW YEAR'S HOLIDAY

TUESDAY, January 3

10:00 am Care Notes Ministry (*Commons*)

8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, January 4

THURSDAY, January 5

10:00 am Older Adult Fellowship (*online*)

FRIDAY, January 6

SATURDAY, January 7

SUNDAY, January 8

9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)

9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth,
and Children (*in person*)

10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)

11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

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BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.