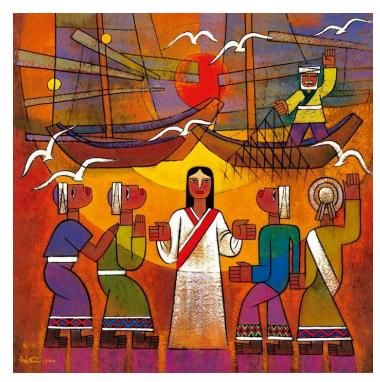
"A life's work is not a series of stepping-stones, onto which we calmly place our feet, but more like an ocean crossing where there is no path, only a heading, a direction, in conversation with the elements. Looking back we see the wake we have left as only a brief glimmering trace on the waters."

"A true vocation calls us out beyond ourselves; breaks our heart in the process and then humbles, simplifies and enlightens us about the hidden, core nature of the work that enticed us in the first place."

 David Whyte, from "Ambition" in Consolations: The Solace, Nourishment, and Underlying Meaning in Everyday Words



Jesus Calls His Disciples, He Qi

# First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY Sunday, January 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Sonata No. 3, II. Intermezzo

J. Rheinberger

Jacob Hill, Organ

# INVITATION TO WORSHIP

**Emily Hull McGee** 

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 27:1

**Gary Stiffler** 

Leader: The Lord is our light and our salvation!

People: Why should we be afraid?

Leader: The Lord is the stronghold of our life!

**People: What have we to fear?**Leader: Let us shout with joy to God!

All: Let us sing and make music before our God.

\*HYMN 353: Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness

**JUBILEE** 

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Zack Jackson

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 4:12-22

**Sheree Jones** 

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Amy McClure** 

(Please read in unison.)

God of light, we live in the darkness of despair:
worried about our lives,
concerned for our health,
fearful that we are lost from you.
The yoke of our burdens lies heavy upon us:
our unwillingness to forgive,
our fears of one another,
our reluctance to share what we have.
We long to turn from the shadows of shame
and live in the light of your calling.
We yearn to leave behind vain ambition and cautious living
and follow in the Way of Jesus with joy.
Shine the light of your love upon us
and transform us with your calling,
that your abundant dream for this world may draw near. Amen.

#### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

**Amy McClure** 

Leader: The light of God's love

shines into the dark places of our world,

healing its brokenness,

bringing hope to places of despair, and making us a forgiven people.

The light of God's love

calls to us anew!

All: Thanks be to God.

#### ANTHEM: We Are Called

B. Mayo

# Sanctuary Choir

Arise, O church of God! We are called to be God's people, going forth in love and grace. We are called to shine in darkness as we journey from this place. We are called to serve each other, called to be God's hands and feet. We are called to show compassion, sharing Christ with all we meet. We are called to love our neighbor, called to help a world in need. We are called to be disciples, sharing Christ in word and deed. Arise, O church of God, proclaim in one accord the story of redeeming love, the message of our Lord.

## 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: Called Emily Hull McGee

#### LITANY OF COMMISSIONING

Emily Hull McGee, Kim Wilkinson Chris Gambill, Carlos Mir

Leader: Through the gifts of the Spirit, God calls men and women within Christ's church to serve as deacons.

Congregation: All ministry emerges from the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We celebrate that God is always calling us to join in this great work of Love in the world!

Leader: Deacons, the church has prayerfully considered your gifts for ministry and has called you to be a deacon. Each of you has accepted this call as God's intention for your life. In light of your calling to this responsibility, do you reaffirm your faith in Jesus Christ and commit yourselves to following in his way of Love?

Deacons: We do, God being our helper.

Leader: During your tenure as a deacon, will you seek the peace and unity of this church? Will you covenant to be present and faithful to our life together?

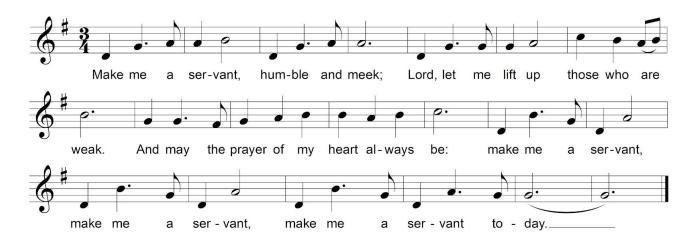
Deacons: We will, God being our helper.

Leader: Will you fully commit your life and gifts to sharing in the pastoral care and generous stewardship of our Beloved Community? Will you covenant to lead with courage and compassion?

Deacons: We will, God being our helper.

Leader: Do you, the members of this church, receive these sisters and brothers as deacons within the shared ministry of Christ's work of Love, and do you covenant to encourage and support them in the fulfillment of their responsibilities?

Congregation: We do, God being our helper.



# THE LAYING ON OF HANDS AND ORDINATION PRAYER

Emily Hull McGee, Kim Wilkinson Chris Gambill, Carlos Mir

#### CANDIDATES FOR ORDINATION

Holly Kessler Jim Nelson Lynn Rhoades

Leader: Gracious God, we thank you for these servants

who you have newly called to be deacons in our beloved community.

As we set them apart for this special ministry,

we ask you to fill them with all the grace and courage needed

to fulfill their responsibilities.

All: Grant them boundless compassion for human needs,

boldness in their servant leadership,

and devotion to the well-being of your church,

that together we may follow Jesus more fully in the way of Love.

Leader: We thank you for Holly Kessler,

and ask that you fill her with all the good graces of your Spirit

that she may faithfully fulfill the ministry of Christ.

All: Hear us, O God, as we pray for your servant.

Leader: We thank you for Jim Nelson,

and ask that you fill him with all the good graces of your Spirit

that he may faithfully fulfill the ministry of Christ.

All: Hear us, O God, as we pray for your servant.

Leader: We thank you for Lynn Rhoades,

and ask that you fill her with all the good graces of your Spirit

that she may faithfully fulfill the ministry of Christ.

All: Hear us, O God, as we pray for your servant.

Leader: Friends, we receive these deacons, commissioned and ordained,

as servant leaders in our life together,

and we celebrate with thanksgiving the shared responsibilities

for Christ's ministry which is ours as the church.

All: We give thanks for these brothers and sisters in Christ,

and covenant to hold all our deacons in prayer as they serve you this year.

We pray these things in the name of your son Jesus,

our leader and guide, Amen.

#### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 473: Will You Come and Follow Me

KELVINGROVE

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

Joseph Jones

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** 

# BLESSING FOR THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC VOLUNTEERS

Emily Hull McGee, Nikki Byers Lee Anne Stiffler, Kim Towles

\*DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God all creatures here below! Praise God above Ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

\*BENEDICTION Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: Processional in Eb D. Johnson

Jacob Hill, Organ

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Acolytes for this service are Audrey Mann and Liam McGee.
The Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, and Words of Assurance are adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual* edited by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu, Copyright © Abingdon Press.

<sup>\*</sup>Those who are able will please stand.

#### **SERVING TODAY**

<u>Deacon of the Week:</u> Joseph Jones <u>Children & Families Greeter:</u> Kim Wilkinson

Streaming and Sound Team: Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette

#### 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.



#### A WORD FROM THE COVID TASK FORCE

As most of you know, there is a new covid variant lurking in our midst. Its official name is XBB.1.5. It is another Omicron variant. We will continue to see new variances as the virus continues to mutate globally. Numbers are rising, and hospitalizations have increased. It is hard to tie down the numbers, because so many people are testing at home and not reporting to the health department. Only 15% of Americans have received the latest bi-valent booster. We have all let our guard down as we are all tired of Covid. Most of the counties in North Carolina are classified "red," which means infection rates are up. This variant does not appear to be causing significant illness at this point in time. Since the beginning of Covid, First Baptist Church has followed the recommendations of our local health department and our governor, and we will continue with that practice. Currently there are no mandatory masking guidelines in place. However, there have been recommendations from the CDC to mask when you are out in public or in large gatherings, not only due to the Covid rise but also due to flu and RSV especially if you have significant health issues. (The recommendation for masks to wear are the KN95s.) While masking is optional at FBC, it is highly encouraged. The church will continue to make hand sanitizer available where age appropriate. – Roper Halverson, on behalf of the Covid Task Force

## AN UPDATE ON PARKING

For the past several weeks, we have noticed that the Winston-Salem Journal parking lot (at the corner of 5th and Spruce) has been closed on Sunday mornings. We have permission to park in this lot on Sundays, and have been working toward a solution. In the meantime, remember that parking is available on Spruce, Poplar, and Fifth, in the back gravel lot, and at the John 3:16 building. Thank you for your patience!





# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

HOME BY ANOTHER WAY: Worship in January This January, we'll follow along with the early days of Jesus' life and ministry, noticing the connection between beginning and return, all the while journeying home by another way.

January 29 Home By Another Way: Sent Matthew 4:23-25

#### **LESSONS ALONG THE WAY**

Worship in February & March Jesus' most well-known and beloved moral teachings can be found in the Sermon on the Mount, a collection of Jesus' essential lessons that the gospel writer, Matthew, places right at the heart of his good news. The Sermon on the Mount covers all manner of topics: blessings for the overlooked, words about our anxiety and worry, guidance on how to interact with money and why relationships matter, instructions on prayer and work, law and order, all couched within Jesus' vision of God's dream for the world that is coming into being. In the months of February and March, our worship services will take a deep dive into Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, looking at it in its entirety for the lessons we need along the way.

# January 29 | First Impressions, 12:00-1:30pm

All new or prospective members to First Baptist are invited to join in our First Impressions class. First Impressions familiarizes newcomers with an in-depth look at First Baptist, including ways in which people can connect, get involved in ministry, and join the church. This First Impressions gathering will be held from 12:00-1:30PM in the Ammons-Lolley Commons. Please RSVP to emily@firstonfifth.org by Friday, January 27.

# January 31 | Quarterly Church Conference

As is our custom, we will gather to do the regular business of the church for our Quarterly Church Conference (QCC) Tuesday night, January 31, 2023, at 6:30PM via Zoom.

# February 19 | State of the Church, 12-2PM

Mark your calendars for a time of lunch and learning about the landscape of church life and our particular piece of it, followed by robust discussion about the horizon ahead.

# Seeking Donations | Dominican Republic Trip

Kim Towles and Lee Anne Stiffler will leave for the Dominican Republic on Saturday, January 28, 2023. As in the past, there are some ways you can support the trip. There is a DR collection box on top of the donation bins where we would gladly accept the following items: travel size soap, lotion. shampoo, wash cloths, and small stuffed animals (like Beanie Babies). Each of these items go in the beans and rice bags that we deliver in the community. If any of you loom, knit, or crochet baby hats, we will take those too. We are blessed by First Baptists generous support of the beans and rice program. If you have any questions, please contact Lee Anne Stiffler (Istiffle70@gmail.com). Thank you in advance for supporting these two women and their commitment to this ongoing ministry.

# **Seeking Donations** | Crisis Control

The gifts for January are canned soup and crackers. Please drop off donations in the lower level bins. Thank you in advance for supporting this important ministry to our community!

#### **New Study Opportunities**

Devotional Classics has begun! This discussion group meets Tuesday mornings on Zoom at 6:45-7:45 AM to study Richard Rohr's <u>Eager to Love: The Alternative Way of Francis of Assisi</u>. For more contact pastor David at <u>david@firstonfifth.org</u>.

A Survey of the Bible has also begun! This class will meet Wednesdays in person at 11:00AM to study books of the Bible with Dr. David Hull. For more information please contact <a href="mailto:davidwhull42@gmail.com">davidwhull42@gmail.com</a>. All are welcome.

# THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, January 22

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) 12:00 pm Leadership Lunch (Commons)

MONDAY, January 23

TUESDAY, January 24

6:45 am Devotional Classics (online) 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (online)

WEDNESDAY, January 25

11:00 am A Survey of the Bible (*Kelly*)
1:00 pm Staff Meeting (*Commons*)
5:30 pm Adult Handbells (*Sanctuary*)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, January 26

10:00 am Older Adult Fellowship (online)

FRIDAY, January 27

SATURDAY, January 28

SUNDAY, January 29

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) 12:00 pm First Impressions (Commons)

#### **OFFICE HOURS**

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 5:00pm Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

# **CHURCH STAFF**

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