



My Lord God,
I have no idea where I am going.
I do not see the road ahead of me.
I cannot know for certain where it will end.
nor do I really know myself,
and the fact that I think I am following your will
does not mean that I am actually doing so.
But I believe that the desire to please you
does in fact please you.
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.
And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,
though I may know nothing about it.
Therefore will I trust you always though
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.
I will not fear, for you are ever with me,
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.

+ Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude*

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, March 19, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Messe, pour les Couvents, III. *Christe, Recit de Chromhorne*
Jacob Hill, Organ

F. Couperin

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CHORAL INTROIT: *Sing, Praise, and Bless the Lord*

J. Berthier

Sanctuary Choir

Sing, praise, and bless the Lord! Sing, praise, and bless the Lord, peoples, nations! Alleluia!
Praise the Lord, all you nations, praise God, all you peoples. Alleluia! Strong is God's love and mercy,
always faithful forever. Alleluia! Sing, praise, and bless the Lord! Sing, praise, and bless the Lord,
peoples, nations! Alleluia! Alleluia, let everything living give praise to the Lord!

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 145:1-13

Amelia Britt

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN 307: *All Creatures of Our God and King*

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

David Williamson

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 7:13-20

Amy McClure

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *The Kingdom of God*

Taizé Community

The king - dom of God is jus - tice and peace and
joy in the Ho - ly Spir - it. Come, Lord, and
o - pen in us the gates of your king - dom.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Zack Jackson

Leader: Friends, our God is truth and light,
yet we live among deception and shadows.
Let us ask our powerful God to illumine us
with the grace and truth of Jesus Christ.

**All: Holy and compassionate God,
your word is so clear, and your grace is so good,
but we too often close our ears to your challenging call,
and avoid the kingdom path of discipleship laid out before us.
Forgive us for entering the wide gate and taking the easy road;
forgive us for following the teachings of those who would lead us astray;
forgive us when our lives lack the good fruit of a transformed life.
Help us to live in your light, walk in your ways, and mirror your love. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE : *What Wondrous Love Is This*

L. Larson

Sanctuary Choir

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this that
caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul! When I was sinking
down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown for my soul! To God
and to the Lamb I will sing! To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM", while
millions join the theme I will sing! When from death I'm free, I'll sing on, and when
from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and through eternity I'll sing on!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Linda Jones

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: *Lessons Along the Way: Finding the Good Path*

Emily Hull McGee

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 633:** *All the Way My Savior Leads Me*

ALL THE WAY

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**

Holly Kessler

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

CBF OFFERING FOR GLOBAL MISSIONS

Mary Kaylor

***DOXOLOGY**

WONDRIOUS LOVE

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will
sing. To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while mil-lions join the
theme, I will sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!

***BENEDICTION**

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: *VI. Couplet de Gloria, Et in terra pax*

F. Couperin

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given in loving memory of J. Howell Smith and in celebration of this church family by Howell's family, Jeanette, Hilton and Susan. There will be a memorial service this Saturday, March 25 at 2:00pm at Wait Chapel on the campus of Wake Forest University.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week: Holly Kessler and Walt Wiley
Children & Families Greeter: 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.



501 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101 | 336.722.2558 | firstonfifth.org
BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LESSONS ALONG THE WAY

Worship in February & March

Jesus' most well-known and beloved moral teachings can be found right at the heart of the gospel of Matthew in the Sermon on the Mount. Here, Jesus offers his vision of God's dream for the world through these lessons along the way, lessons that guide our worship!

Congregational Conversations Build on State of the Church Presentation: March 19, April 16, May 21

Following the robust engagement with February's State of the Church presentation, all are invited to gather for three upcoming Congregational Conversations on the third Sunday of the month for lunch and conversation. These upcoming Congregational Conversations will lead us to consider how we are the church (today and tomorrow) in a thriving and sustainable way. Our topics for conversation will follow the schedule below:

March 19 *Building: Resources of Space*

April 16 *Governing and Staffing: Resources of People*

May 21 *Funding: Resources of Money*

While lunch for today's conversation has already been purchased for those with an RSVP, all are welcome! Stay tuned for more information about upcoming gatherings.

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gift for March is canned fruit. Please drop off donations in the lower level bins. Thank you!

Older Adult Brunch

Please join us for brunch on Monday, March 20 at 10:00 AM at Carriage House off Stratford Road and save- the- date for lunch on Monday, April 24 at 11:30 AM. Contact Pastor Amy for more information: amy@firstonfifth.org.

Anniversary of the Prayer Call

On March 21, we will mark the three-year anniversary of our Tuesday night prayer call. The prayer call began in March 2020 when the world shut down due to Covid. Many of you participated in the prayer call during the early stages of Covid. We would like to invite you to join us again Tuesday night, March 21, at 8:00 PM, as we celebrate the third anniversary of this

extraordinary prayer group. For more information please contact Roper Halverson.

Guest Choir Next Sunday

On Sunday, March 26, we will welcome a guest choir from First Baptist Church of Greensboro in the 11:00 AM worship service. This choir, made up of students in grades 4-8, will play handbells and sing several anthems during the worship service. They are under the direction of Baker Lawrimore, Director of Music for Children and Youth, and their visit is part of their Spring choir tour.

Poverty Simulation

St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Faith and Justice Committee) has invited us to participate in a poverty simulation, conducted by Crisis Control Ministries, on Sunday, March 26, 3:00-5:00 PM see the newsletter for more information.

Young Adult Gathering

Wednesday, March 29, 6:00-7:30 PM, at Foothills Brewery. Anyone in their twenties and thirties is invited to participate.

Sign Up for the Newsletter

Want to find out more about our church? Sign up for our weekly newsletter, we include a note from Pastor Emily, Announcements, Events, Birthdays, and more! Contact abigail@firstonfifth.org to be added.

Make Plans for Holy Week and Easter

April 2 | Palm Sunday
11:00 AM worship of palms and hosannas

April 6 | Maundy Thursday
12:00 - 1:00 PM stations of the cross and communion

April 7 | Good Friday
6:00 - 7:00 PM stations of the cross
7:00 PM service of shadows

April 9 | Easter Sunday
9:30 AM fellowship on the front lawn
11:00 AM easter worship

We hope you will join us and invite a friend!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, March 19

- 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)
- 3:00 pm Mochas with Mac (1-5 grade) (Starbucks)

MONDAY, March 20

- 10:00 am Older Adult Brunch (Carriage House)

TUESDAY, March 21

- 6:45 am Devotional Classics (online)
- 5:00 pm Finance Committee (online)
- 7:00 pm Fellow Travelers (online)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (online)

WEDNESDAY, March 22

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

THURSDAY, March 23

- CBFNC Annual Gathering (Ardmore Baptist Church)

FRIDAY, March 24

- CBFNC Annual Gathering (Ardmore Baptist Church)

SATURDAY, March 25

SUNDAY, March 26

- 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

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour
Accounting Manager
sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

Amelia Britt
Pastoral Intern
amelia@firstonfifth.org

Abigail Cook
Communications Specialist
abigail@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1101

Jacob Hill
Music Associate / Organist
jake@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1004

Zack Jackson
Pastoral Intern
zack@firstonfifth.org

Rev. Amy McClure
Associate Pastor
Children, Senior Adults, Pastoral Care
amy@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1002

Rev. Emily Hull McGee
Pastor
emily@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1001

Rev. David Williamson
Associate Pastor
Worship, Arts, Administration
david@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1003

John Young
Facilities Manager
john@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1102



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