



We are confronted in this text not with a flood, but with a heavy, painful crisis in the dealings of God with creation. It is popularly thought that the crisis of the flood is to place the world in jeopardy. But a close reading indicates that it is the heart and person of God which are placed in crisis. The crisis is not the water, which now has become only a dramatic setting. Rather, the crisis comes because of the resistant character of the world which evokes hurt and grief in the heart of God.

The narrative is centered in the grief of God, whose heart knows about our hearts. This daring assertion about God is problematic in every static theology which wants God always acting the same and predictably. But the text affirms that God is decisively impacted by the suffering, hurt, and circumstance of his creation. God enters into the world's "common lot."

+ Walter Brueggemann

*The Dove Returns to Noah, James Tissot*

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## First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, June 25, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Adagio

Jacob Hill, Organ

F. Verhelst

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 46:1-7

Carol Wilkinson

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**All: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**All: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

Leader: The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
God utters the divine voice, the earth melts.

**All: The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

\*HYMN 418: *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

EIN FESTE BURG

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amy McClure

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Genesis 6:9-22, 8:14-19, 9:8-17

Amber Myers

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Zack Jackson

(Please pray in unison.)

**God, our rock and our refuge,  
there are plenty of things that we allow to erode our faith in you.  
When life gets stormy, we let our uncertainty cloud our trust in you.  
We think we know better and start relying on ourselves  
to be able to weather the rain.  
Forgive our lack of hope and the disbelief that drowns us.  
Allow us to hold on to you, our rock,  
and to build our lives on the foundation of your covenant of love,  
in the name of Jesus Christ, our fortress and our shelter. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Zack Jackson

Leader: Through rain and thunder, through storm and lightning,  
God is with us.  
Even when we turn our backs, God's patience, tolerance,  
and forgiveness abound.  
Through Jesus Christ God pours grace over us;  
through Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM: *Canon of Praise*

arr. H. Hopson

Sanctuary Choir

All within me bless the Lord; all within me bless God's holy name. Bless the Lord, O my soul, all within me, bless God's holy name. O hear, you righteous, know that the Lord is good. God the Lord is gracious, the same forever. As a father loves his children, so the Lord loves his own. Bless the Lord, O my soul; remember God's mercy, remember God's love. O bless the Lord, O my soul; O bless God's holy name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Abigail Cook

## 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: "Then and Now: Alienation and Reconciliation"

Emily Hull McGee

## \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 41: *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy* (Stanzas 1-3, 5)

WELLESLEY

*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

Fran Stewart

*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](http://firstonfifth.org).*

## THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Emily Hull McGee

## CELEBRATING ABIGAIL COOK'S MINISTRY AMONG US

Emily Hull McGee

## \*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

D. Johnson

Jacob Hill, Organ

\*Those who are able will please stand.

## Then and Now: Summer Preaching at First on Fifth | June 11 - August 27, 2023

This summer in worship, we'll return to the very beginning of our shared story in Genesis. For in our world's current season where the fabric of our life together has frayed, we look to the mothers and fathers of our faith to illumine human complexities, all within the light of a good God who is our beginning and end!

July 2 | Genesis 12:1-9  
*Then and Now: Promise*  
(The Story of Abram)

August 6 | Genesis 25:19-34  
*Then and Now: Conflict*  
(The Story of Rebekah, Jacob, & Esau)

July 9 | Genesis 16:1-16  
*Then and Now: Oppression*  
(The Story of Hagar)

August 13 | Genesis 32:22-31  
*Then and Now: Struggle*  
(The Story of Jacob)

July 16 | Matthew 4:17  
Children & Youth-Led Passport Worship

August 20 | Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28  
*Then and Now: Power*  
(The Story of Jacob's sons)

July 23 | Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7  
*Then and Now: Laughter*  
(The Story of Sarah) | Amy McClure, proclaimer

August 27 | Genesis 45:1-15  
*Then and Now: Purpose*  
(The Story of Joseph)

July 30 | Genesis 22:1-14  
*Then and Now: Testing and Providing*  
(The Story of Isaac) | Zack Jackson, proclaimer

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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### SERVING TODAY

<u>Acolytes:</u>	Jordynn Elizalde and Eleanor Cook
<u>Deacon of the Week:</u>	Fran Stewart and Carol Wilkinson
<u>Children &amp; Families Greeter:</u>	Kim Wilkinson
<u>Streaming and Sound Team:</u>	Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Ash Henley

### 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 through pre-K 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

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### **Churchwide Summer Sunday School Continues**

*June 11 - August 27, 2023*

We're so delighted to offer two churchwide Sunday School options this year, and encourage all – newcomers and long-termers alike! – to find your place. Read more about these and other weekday class options in the newsletter!

#### **Summer Conversations**

*Kelly Auditorium, 9:30-10:30am*

Curriculum: Worship scriptures from Genesis

Leaders: Ka'thy Gore Chappell, Chris Gambill, David Hughes; hosted by the Conversations Class

Contact: Joy Gambill, gambiljm@wfu.edu

#### **Topics in Faith**

*Baraca Room, 9:30-10:30am*

Curriculum: Topics that overlap with and inform our life of faith, centered around spiritual care

Leaders: Variety of teachers from within and outside our church

Contact: Emily Hull McGee, emily@firstonfifth.org

### **CBF General Assembly This Week**

Friends from across our Cooperative Baptist Fellowship community will gather in Atlanta this week for the annual General Assembly. With the theme, "Holy Ambition," attendees will be equipped, encouraged, and challenged in spaces for learning, worship, and fellowship. Please pray for the 19 staff and laity from our church who will be there!

### **Passport Kids & Youth Camp Next Week**

We celebrate our children, youth and their chaperones who will travel to Passport Kids and Passport Youth next week! Please pray for all as they prepare for a meaningful, transformative week ahead.

Kids: Lorelei Clark, Jordynn Elizalde, Annabelle McGee, Liam McGee, Kate Parker, Karly Parker, Naomi Smith, Lydia Smith, Flynn Vestal

Kids Chaperones: Wally Cox, Jill Knight, Amy McClure

Youth: John Elrod, Hailey Greene, Ash Henley, Kara Parker, Jacob Patrick, Lilah Vestal

Youth Chaperones: Joanne Henley, Zack Jackson, Emily Hull McGee

### **Independence Day Brunch | July 2, 9:30AM**

We will gather on Sunday, July 2 in Kelly Auditorium for a churchwide time of fellowship, food, and singing as we celebrate Independence Day. Refreshments will be available beginning at 9:30 AM. Please make your plans to be with us for brunch!

### **Summer Sanctuary Choir**

The Sanctuary Choir will simplify their rehearsal schedule for the summer season and you are invited to join them. The Summer Sanctuary Choir rehearses the first Wednesday of each month (July 5 and August 2) to prepare music for all the Sundays of the month. Rehearsal time is 6:30pm. For more information please contact David Williamson, david@firstonfifth.org.

### **Newsletter Reminder**

Don't forget: we are shifting to a new summer rhythm with our email newsletter! Our full newsletter that you've come to expect each Thursday will now be sent monthly on the 1st of the month. A brief weekly update called "This Week at First" will give you the most pertinent information for that week. As always, you can find stories, pictures, and videos from the life of our First on Fifth community on our social media sites – Facebook and Instagram, both @firstonfifth. Thanks for your continued care in our ministry of communications!

### **Seeking Donations | Crisis Control**

The gift for June is canned meat (salmon, beef, tuna, spam). Please drop off donations in the bins marked at the bottom of the staircase by the elevator. Thank you in advance for your support of this important ministry to our community.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, June 25

- 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*)
- 4:00 pm New Member Meet and Greet (*offsite*)

MONDAY, June 26

- 1:00 pm Funeral for Sylvia Gilley (*Sanctuary*)

TUESDAY, June 27

- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, June 28

CBF General Assembly in Atlanta

THURSDAY, June 29

- CBF General Assembly in Atlanta
- 10:00 am Older Adult Book Study/Fellowship (*online*)

FRIDAY, June 30

CBF General Assembly in Atlanta

SATURDAY, July 1

SUNDAY, July 2

- 9:30 am Independence Day Brunch (*Kelly*)
- 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

Jacob Hill  
*Music Associate / Organist*  
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Rev. David Williamson  
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