

“Peace is not the product of terror or fear.
Peace is not the silence of cemeteries.
Peace is not the silent result of violent repression.
Peace is the generous,
tranquil contribution of all
to the good of all.
Peace is dynamism.
Peace is generosity.
It is right and it is duty.”

+ Archbishop Oscar Romero



Parable of the Two Sons, Andreï Mironov

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE TWENTIETH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 15, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Rubrics, IV. *The Peace may be exchanged*

D. Locklair

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Amy McClure

Leader: Friends in Christ, we are gathered to give thanks
for all we have received from God's good hands:
to praise God's holy name; to acknowledge and confess our sins;
to hear God's holy word; and to ask those things needful for life.

**All: Let us draw near to God in all humility
and celebrate God's infinite goodness and mercy.**

*HYMN 315: *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above*

MIT FREUDEN ZART

A LAMENT

David Williamson

Leader: Let us lift up prayers for the people of Israel and Gaza,
standing in the silence of unspeakable suffering and grief,
trusting in the power of God to heal,
trusting in the surety of Love to conquer every evil.

(The people will stand in silence.)

O God who gathers what has been scattered,

All: Shelter us now in the shadow of your wings.

Leader: O Christ who binds our wounds,

All: Be our great healer.

Leader: O Spirit who enters our every grief,

All: Intercede now for a hurting people, in a broken land.

Leader: Be present in the midst of this far-reaching pain, O Lord,
for our world is reeling again at the loss of life that has touched the Middle East;
for we are connected as a people, and this hurt, this grief, touches us all.

Engage our imaginations and move our hearts to compassion, O Lord,
that we would interact with these casualties, not as news stories or statistics,
but as our own sisters and brothers, flesh and blood, divine image-bearers,
irreplaceable individuals whose losses will leave gaping holes in homes,
friendships, workplaces, communities of faith, schools, and neighborhoods.

**All: Be merciful to those now wounded, O Lord;
be present with those now bereaved.**

Leader: You do not run from our brokenness, O God.
You move ever toward those in need.
Your heart is always inclined toward those who suffer.
Now let your mercies be revealed through the hands,
the words, and the compassionate care of those
who willingly enter this ongoing sadness to console and to serve.

**All: Grant wisdom, courage, sympathy, and strength to all
who through their service become the very presence and peace of Christ
in the midst of immeasurable destruction and death.**

Leader: Even in the shadow of such tragedy, let us not lose hope.
Give us eyes to see the rapid movements of mercy
rushing to fill these newly wounded spaces.
Let us see in them the echoes of your own mercy and compassion—
a foretaste of your kingdom coming to earth.
And move our own hearts to intercede, to act, and to respond however we are able.

All: May your kingdom come, may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Leader: Arrest the hearts and stay the hands of any who even now
might be plotting further evil and violence against others.

All: Turn them from hatred, O Christ; turn their hearts to you.

Leader: You once brooded over the formless chaos of ancient waters
and brought forth the order and flourishing of creation. Move again, O Spirit God.
From the chaos of this tragedy call forth new life and order and flourishing.
Take even what terrorists meant for evil, and from it bring forth eternal good.
You alone have strength to carry the Israeli and Palestinian people.

All: Carry us now, O Lord.

Leader: You alone have wisdom and power to heal the wounds of a people, a nation, a world.

All: Heal us, O Lord

Leader: You alone have compassion enough to enter our widespread grief,
and turn it to hope.

All: Be Merciful, O Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM: *You Do Not Walk Alone*

E. Hagenberg

Sanctuary Choir

May you see God's light on the path ahead when the road you walk is dark. May you always hear, even in your hour of sorrow, the gentle singing of the lark. When times are hard may hardness never turn your heart to stone; may you always remember when the shadows fall, you do not walk alone.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

David Williamson

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

TENDING OUR STORIES

Amber Myers

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 21:28-32

Kim Wilkinson

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "Attending Church: Responsibility"

Emily Hull McGee

HYMN OF RESPONSE 658: *Let Your Heart Be Broken

WYE VALLEY

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 of which all are invited to participate. In a moment, Deacons will pass the offering plates for you to share your 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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

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: Psalm XIX, *The heavens tell out the glory of God*

B. Marcello

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Call to Worship is reprinted from *Chalice Worship*, ©1997, Chalice Press.

SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week: Fran Stewart and Kim Wilkinson
Children & Families Greeter: Kim Wilkinson
Streaming and Sound Team: Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder,
Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers

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.



TENDING: THIS YEAR AT FIRST ON FIFTH

The Christian life of tending can have us stretching toward practices and places of our care, or holding fast to that which captures our focus and tendencies. This season of energy around "tending" will center us in the God who tends nothing less than our very souls.

October 22 | Matthew 21:33-46
Attending Church: Fruitfulness
Baptism of Lilah Vestal

October 29 | Luke 12:13-21
Attending Church: Abundance |
Rayce Lamb, proclaimer

November 5 | All Saints Sunday | Matthew 22:1-4
Attending Church: Presence

November 12 | Matthew 25:1-13
Intending to Be Ready

November 19 | Matthew 25:14-30
Intending to Make It Count

November 26 | Matthew 25:31-36
Intending to Do Good



501 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101 | 336.722.2558 | firstonfifth.org

BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Attending Church Season of Commitment Begins

All through the year, members and friends of First on Fifth have shared their curiosities together. “I wonder if we could start this new ministry, or hire that kind of minister, or give more directly to our neighbors,” we’ve said. In conversations large and small, in hopes that have stirred within us, we’ve said out loud the kind of church we feel God dreaming us into being. Now, the invitation sits before us all. “Attending Church: Covenant for a New Year of Shared Dreams” is our commitment campaign this fall, where every member and friend is asked to consider how they can commit to bringing that dream to life in 2024. Commitment cards for you and your family are available to pick up today, and an online form will be available for those who’d rather share their commitment digitally. We ask for all commitment cards to be returned on or before November 5, where in worship that day, we’ll celebrate the commitments we’ve made. Thank you for prayerfully considering how you might give of your financial resources to God through First on Fifth!

Quarterly Church Conference | October 17, 6:00pm

As is our custom, we gather for a Quarterly Church Conference on Tuesday at 6:00pm in Kelly Auditorium. In addition to regular reports, this gathering will feature recommendations from the Finance Committee regarding the proposed 2024 Ministry Funding Plan. There will be a Zoom option available for those who cannot attend in person, and a light supper provided for those in attendance.

2024 Ministry Funding Plan Summary	
Missions & Outreach	\$108,451
Personnel	\$597,000
Facilities	\$174,280
Ministries & Operations	\$88,575
TOTAL	\$968,306
Less designated & endowed fund offsets	-\$60,006
MINISTRIES TO BE FUNDED	\$908,300

Older Adult Apple Trip | October 24

Join us for a fall trip to see the changing leaves, enjoy a fellowship meal on the road, and pick up some fresh apples from the orchard. We’ll travel in a 15-passenger van and a minivan. Sign up to secure your spot in the newsletter, or let Amy know you’re coming!

First on Fifth 101 | October 29, 4:00-7:00pm

First on Fifth 101 will take place on Sunday, October 29, from 4:00-7:00pm in Kelly Auditorium. This event is intended to communicate essential information about the life of our church, with specific attention given to helping members of our community know how to become more deeply involved in committees, ministry teams, small groups and Sunday School classes, and the church’s various ministries. Additional information about finance, budget, and giving will be shared as a means of further orientation to our community, and more than 10 missions partners will be with us. All are welcome to attend! Please RSVP in the newsletter by October 24. Contact Zack at zack@firstonfifth.org with any questions!

First on Fifth Seeks Communications Specialist

The Personnel Committee is delighted to begin a search for our new Communications Specialist to cultivate and manage the church’s ministry of communications, with focused energies on how we tell the story of our “community in the heart of the city called by Jesus to practice bold love of God and neighbor and boundless compassion for all people.” A job description and application details can be found on our website: firstonfifth.org/employment. Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Pastor Emily Hull McGee by November 10.

Join the Sanctuary Choir in Preparing for Christmas

The Sanctuary Choir has just begun rehearsing Christmas music for our annual Lessons and Carols Service on December 17! They will devote the first part of each rehearsal to Christmas music. All are welcome to join us for this Christmas choir! Rehearsals are on Wednesday nights at 6:30pm. Please contact David (david@firstonfifth.org) for more!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gift for October is beef stew. Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, October 15

Youth on CBFNC Fall Retreat

- 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 Advent Musical Rehearsal
- 4:30 pm Children's Fall Gallery

MONDAY, October 16

TUESDAY, October 17

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics
- 4:30 pm Finance Committee
- 6:00 pm Quarterly Church Conference
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, October 18

- 10:30 am Staff meeting (*Commons*)
- 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
- 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal

THURSDAY, October 19

- 10:00 am Older Adult Book Study/Fellowship (*online*)
- 11:00 am Older Adult Team Meeting (*online*)
- 5:45 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting
- 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting
- 7:00 pm Missions Committee

FRIDAY, October 20

SATURDAY, October 21

SUNDAY, October 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*)
- 3:00 pm Advent Musical Rehearsal

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour
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OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 4:30pm
Friday, 8:30am - 12:30pm



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