



We are called to be fruitful - not successful, not productive, not accomplished. Success comes from strength, stress, and human effort. Fruitfulness comes from vulnerability and the admission of our own weakness.

+ Henri Nouwen

Life of Fruitfulness, Paul Chong

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, October 22, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Benedictus

Jacob Hill, Organ

A. Rowley

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Zack Jackson

Leader: God, our Creator, from nothing you made our world.

All: You formed us, love us, and give us all that we need.

Leader: God, our Redeemer, you rescued us from sin.

All: You have given us new life and hope of healing to the world.

Leader: God, our Comforter, you are with us always.

All: You comfort us, renew us, and guide us into your truth.

Leader: Almighty God, for your gracious love for us,

All: we praise you!

*HYMN 349: *To God Be the Glory*

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

THE ORDINANCE OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM OF LILAH VESTAL

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amy McClure

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

TENDING OUR STORIES

Sara Sinal

CALL TO CONFESSION: Isaiah 5:1-4

Mallory Challis

Leader: Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill.

**All: He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes.**

Leader: And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah,
judge between me and my vineyard.

**All: What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes?**

Leader: Let us confess the unfruitfulness of our lives:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mallory Challis

(Please pray in unison.)

**Loving God, you have planted us like a vineyard on a fertile hill.
You cleared away the stones, planted us with choice vines,
and kept watch over us by night and day.
But we have not yielded the good fruit that you expected or desired.
We are overgrown with sin, choked with violence and injustice.
Forgive us, we pray.
Uproot our evil, prune away our sin,
and shower upon us the gift of your grace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Devin Withrow

Leader: Our salvation does not depend on anything we have done,
but comes from the grace of God alone through faith in Jesus Christ.
This is the good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *Glory and Praise*

Buxtehude/Liebergen

Sanctuary Choir

Glory and praise to God above; let all now live in peace and love. Alleluia! Rejoice today
in great acclaim. Rise up to sing the Lord's holy name. Alleluia!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Richard Groves

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 debts
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 21:33-46

Wally Cox

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "Attending Church: Fruitfulness"

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 488: *Come, All Christians, Be Committed*

BEACH SPRING

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

Carol Wilkinson

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

Zack Jackson

*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below!
O praise God! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One.
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*BENEDICTION

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: Triumph Song

A. Rowley

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

FLOWERS

The flowers today are given by Doyce Amos in memory of her husband, Al Amos, and his twin sister, Anne Burdette. Tomorrow, October 23, is the one hundredth anniversary of their birth!

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

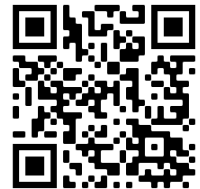
Deacon of the Week: Carol Wilkinson and Wally Cox
Children & Families Greeter: Kim Wilkinson
Streaming and Sound Team: Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers

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 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
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FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

Attending Church Season of Commitment

"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, and an online form is 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!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

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

From Judgment to Compassion: The Church and Mental Health | November 8, 15, 29, 12:00pm

Although many Christians have experienced the church as a place for spiritual healing, many others have heard negative or mixed messages from the church about their mental and emotional wellbeing. Perhaps even more commonly, many of us have experienced both - sometimes even at the same time, and from within the same church family! Church member Anna Harris will lead three group discussions focused on the relationship between Christianity and mental health, taking place in November on Wednesdays at noon (11/8, 11/15, and 11/29) in Kelly Auditorium. We'll explore topics including the stigma surrounding mental health problems, varying Christian views and messages on mental health, the church's potential as a place for mental and emotional healing, and spiritual practices as self-care. All are welcome!

First Impressions | November 12, 9:15 AM

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 on November 12 from 9:15-10:30 AM in the Commons. Please RSVP to Zack at zack@firstonfifth.org!

Zack Jackson's Ordination Service | November 12

With joyful affirmation from the Deacons, Ordination Council, and congregation, all are invited to gather for Zack Jackson's ordination to the gospel ministry on Sunday, November 12, at 4:30pm in the Sanctuary.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 5 - All Saints Sunday

November 10 - First Films

November 12 - First Impressions

November 28 - Giving Tuesday

December 3 - Advent 1 / Hanging of the Green

December 10 - Advent 2 / Children's Musical

December 17 - Advent 3 / Lessons & Carols

December 24 - Advent 4 and Christmas Eve; no Sunday School

December 25-27 - Church office closed

December 31 - No Sunday School; Church Brunch

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, October 22

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, & Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 3:00 pm Advent Children's Musical Rehearsal (*Kelly*)

MONDAY, October 23

TUESDAY, October 24

- 9:30 am Older Adult Apple Trip
- 4:30 pm Nominating Committee
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, October 25

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

THURSDAY, October 26

- 10:00 am Older Adult Book Study/Fellowship (*online*)

FRIDAY, October 27

SATURDAY, October 28

SUNDAY, October 29

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, & Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 3:00 pm Advent Children's Musical Rehearsal
- 4:00 pm First on Fifth 101 (*Kelly*)

CHURCH STAFF

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OFFICE HOURS

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



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