

The Wind, One Brilliant Day

The wind, one brilliant day, called
to my soul with an odor of jasmine

“In return for the odor of my jasmine,
I’d like all the odor of your roses,”

“I have no roses; all the flowers
in my garden are dead.”

“Well then, I’ll take the withered petals
and the yellow leaves and the waters
of the fountain.”

The wind left, And I wept. And I said to myself:

“What have you done with the garden
that was entrusted
to you?”

+ Antonio Machado

Glen Strock, *Parable of the Talents*



First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, November 19, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Chorale Prelude on *Now Thank We All Our God*

Jacob Hill, Organ

R. Powell

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Amy McClure

CALL TO WORSHIP

Zack Jackson

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God’s steadfast love endures forever;

**All: Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those God redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.**

Leader: Let them thank the Lord for his steadfast love,
for his wonderful works to humankind.

**All: For God satisfies the thirsty,
and the hungry he fills with good things.**

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;

All: God’s steadfast love endures forever.

*HYMN 371: *Now Thank We All Our God*

NUN DANKET

A PSALM OF THANKSGIVING: Psalm 65

Twyla Nelson

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy McClure

Leader: Generous God, you have lavished on us gifts of life abundant.
But we must confess that we have often used your gifts carelessly,
and acted as though we were not grateful.
When we enjoy the fruits of harvest, but forget they come from you,
Lord, in your mercy,

All: Forgive us and help us.

Leader: When we are full and satisfied,
but ignore the cry of the hungry and those in need,
when we are thoughtless, and do not treat with respect or care
the wonderful world you have made,
Lord, in your mercy,

All: Forgive us and help us.

Leader: When we store up goods for ourselves alone,
as if there were no God and no heaven,
Lord, in your mercy,

All: Forgive us and help us.

Leader: Grant us thankful hearts and a loving concern for all people;
for you have created us to be bearers of your blessing for this world.

All: Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Amy McClure

Leader: Friends, let us rejoice and be glad,
for God's generosity extends even to our sin.
God's promise is to forgive, restore,
and strengthen us eternally in Christ.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Such good news of forgiveness is the foundation
of the peace we experience in Christ;
and it is our joy to share that peace
with both friend and stranger:
May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.)

ANTHEM: O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

M. Hayes

Sanctuary Choir

O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise; the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name. Let every creature join to praise the one eternal God, ye heavenly hosts the song begin and sound His name abroad. Jesus, the name that calms our fears, that bids our sorrows cease, 'tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace. He breaks the power of canceled sin, He sets the prisoner free. His blood can make the foulest clean; His blood availed for me. He speaks and listening to His voice, new life the dead receive; the mournful, broken hearts rejoice, the humble poor believe. To God all glory, praise, and love be ever, ever given by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven. O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise; the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of His grace. My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim, to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of Thy name. Let every creature join to praise the one eternal God, ye heavenly hosts the song begin and sound His name abroad.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 25:14-30

Colin Loftis

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

David Williamson

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: "Tears and Thanks"

David Hull

1 Thessalonians 5:16-18

HYMN OF RESPONSE 372: *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

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**

Steve Loftis

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

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: *Now Thank We All Our God*

S. Karg-Elert

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Prayer of Confession is reprinted by permission from *Chalice Worship*, ©1997, Chalice Press.

SERVING TODAY

<u>Deacon of the Week:</u>	Twyla Nelson
<u>Children & Families Greeter:</u>	Kim Wilkinson
<u>Streaming and Sound Team:</u>	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 it into the offering plate. 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. Welcome!

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.



Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for November are Sugar, Flour, and Baking Items. Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!





FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

To Dwell Among Us: Advent at First on Fifth

God's promise to dwell among us in Jesus is a promise to tend: tending creation, tending humanity, tending our relationships, tending our fears, tending our loneliness, tending our presence in all time and space. God's dwelling place among us is a gift in every season, and Advent in particular! Further details about each event are in our newsletter. Plan to join us!

Sanctuary Poinsettias

If you would like to give a poinsettia in honor or in memory of a loved one, please pick up a form on the table across from the Ammons-Lolley Commons and return it to the church office with payment by December 3. The cost is \$15 per poinsettia.

November 28 | Decorating the Church House, 9:00am. Help prepare our space for the Advent and Christmas season as we deck the halls together! Contact David (david@firstonfifth.org) with questions!

December 2 | Women's Holiday Fellowship, 2-4pm
Join us for an ornament exchange for the holidays! We will meet in the Commons to share some snacks, fellowship, and gifts. Please bring a wrapped Christmas ornament for the exchange and a sweet or savory snack to share. Register in the newsletter, and contact Holly Kessler with questions!

December 3 | Hanging of the Green
This morning in worship, we'll hang the greens in the Sanctuary and conclude our morning together by creating Advent kits for use at home.

December 6 & 13 | More than a Season: Advent and the Christian Life, 12:00pm

What does Advent mean in a world whose suffering seems never ending? As we enter the liturgical season of Advent, some will feel the joyous anticipation of Christmas, others may feel unsettled by all the pain this hurting world is facing, and many will feel both at exactly the same time. The Gospel understands this paradox of pain and promise, the very reality to which Advent bears witness. Mary Foskett will lead two Wednesday noontime sessions focused on this dimension of Advent. Bring lunch if you'd like, and join us as we reflect on the meaning of Advent and how it can help us understand the Christian life.

December 10 | St. Francis Tells the Christmas Story Children's Advent Musical, 4:00pm

The first nativity scene was enacted by St. Francis of Assisi to remind the people of the Savior's humble birth in a time when Christmas celebrations centered on the materialistic. Come join our children as they enact this delightful musical featuring St. Francis, his friends and the animals in this telling of the Christmas story! A dessert and coffee reception will follow.

December 16 | Christmas Open House, 4-6pm
All are welcome to share in the merriment and fellowship of the season at our Churchwide Christmas Open House! Hosted by the Hulls and McGees at David and Jane Hull's home (1565 Audubon Village Dr.), we have a spot for everyone to enjoy our beloved community's company and the joy of Christmas.

December 17 | Service of Lessons & Carols
The Sanctuary will fill with song and joy in morning worship, as our Sanctuary choir and guest orchestra proclaim the story of Jesus through our beloved Service of Lessons & Carols.

December 17 | Tanglewood Lights, 5:00pm
We invite people of all ages to join us on a wagon ride with your First on Fifth family as we travel through Tanglewood for the Festival of Lights. Cost is \$5/person. Spaces are limited to the first 75 people to sign up, so don't miss your chance - sign up in the newsletter today! Contact Amy with questions.

December 20 | Caroling at Brookridge, 4:00pm
Please join us as we sing and celebrate with our friends at Brookridge Retirement Home. Come ready to sing some of our favorite Christmas carols!

December 21 | Longest Night Worship, 6:00pm
All are invited to mark the Longest Night with a quiet and reflective time of worship, particularly intended for those grappling with grief and loss this season.

December 24 | Christmas Eve Worship | 5:00pm
To Dwell Among Us: For Good News of Great Joy
Our annual Christmas Eve service for all ages combines communion, candlelight, and carols to orient us toward the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, November 19

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults and Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 12:00 pm Youth Group/Parents Gathering (*Baraca*)
- 2:30 pm Messiah Rehearsal (*Kelly*)
- 3:00 pm Advent Musical Rehearsal

MONDAY, November 20

- 5:45 pm Children's Ministry Team

TUESDAY, November 21

- 7:00 pm Messiah Rehearsal (*Kelly*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, November 22

THURSDAY, November 23

Thanksgiving Holiday- Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 24

Thanksgiving Holiday- Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, November 25

SUNDAY, November 26

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults and Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 2:30 pm Messiah Rehearsal (*Kelly*)

CHURCH STAFF

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

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

Zack Jackson
Pastoral Resident
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

Olena Withrow
Ministry Assistant
olena@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1000

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

OFFICE HOURS

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



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