

“So much of our energy, time, and money goes into maintaining distance from one another. Many if not most of the resources of the world are used to defend ourselves against one another, to maintain or increase our power, and to safeguard our own privileged position.

Imagine all that effort being put into the service of peace and reconciliation! Would there be any poverty? Would there be crimes and wars? Just imagine that there was no longer fear among people, no longer rivalry, hostility, bitterness, or revenge... We say, ‘I can’t imagine.’ But God says, ‘That’s what I imagine, a whole world not only created but also living in my image.’”

+ Henri Nouwen

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 12, 2023 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Messe pour les couvents, Tierce en taille*

Jacob Hill, Organ

F. Couperin

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 95:1-6

Zack Jackson

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

All: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

Leader: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

All: let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

Leader: For the Lord is a great God,

All: and a great King above all gods.

Leader: In his hand are the depths of the earth;

All: the heights of the mountains are his also.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it,

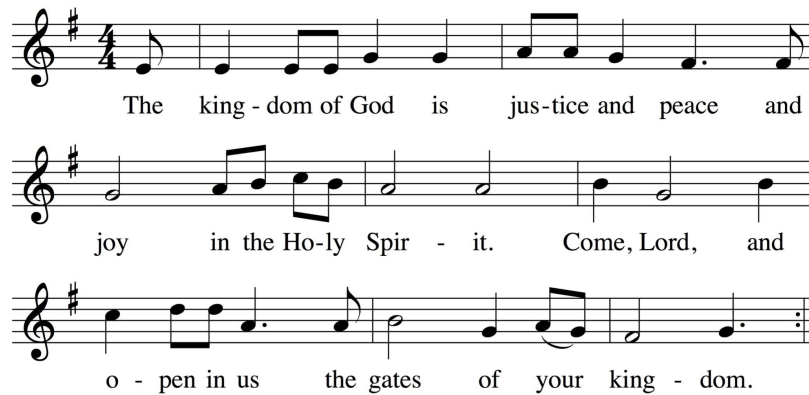
All: and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

Leader: O come, let us worship and bow down,

All: let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: *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.

GOSPEL LESSON: Matthew 5:21-37

John Baxley

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Nikki Byers

Leader: In the struggle to live well with one another,
let us confess our sin together,
for we have all fallen short of the glory of God.

**All: Gracious God, you have given us the law of Moses
and the teachings of Jesus to direct us in the way of life.
Yet, too often we have lived by the letter of the law
while ignoring the spirit of the law.
We have chosen the way that leads to death
and resisted the path that leads to life.
Forgive our foolishness, and in your mercy
lead us to a new way of living and loving.
Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Amy McClure

Leader: People of God, all of us together have received God's mercy.
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven, redeemed, and made new
to live in beloved community.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Let us share the sign of unity and peace with these words:
May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please share the peace with those around you.)

ANTHEM: *For Where Love Is, There Is God*

D. Wagner

Sanctuary Choir

Come as strangers to the altar, for where love is, there is God. Come you poor, you weak, who falter, for where love is, there is God. Song and scripture wed together bound by faith in sacred Word, sharing peace and consolation, for where love is, there is God. Let us each love one another, for where love is, there is God, and embrace as sister, brother, for where love is, there is God. Heal our hurting, lift our spirits, cease our cold, contentious ways. Spread the grace of love unending, for where love is, there is God. Alleluia, for where love is, there is God.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Amelia Britt

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: What's Hard Between Us*

Emily Hull McGee

HYMN OF RESPONSE 694: *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive

WALNUT

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**

Jim Nelson

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

***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: *Messe pour les couvents, Dialogue sur la trompette*

F. Couperin

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

Acolyte: Jordynn Elizalde
Deacon of the Week: Jim Nelson and John Baxley
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
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FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LESSONS ALONG THE WAY

Worship in February & March

Jesus' most well-known and beloved moral teachings can be found in the Sermon on the Mount, a collection of Jesus' essential lessons that the gospel writer, Matthew, places right at the heart of his good news. The Sermon on the Mount covers all manner of topics: blessings for the overlooked, words about our anxiety and worry, guidance on how to interact with money and why relationships matter, instructions on prayer and work, law and order, all couched within Jesus' vision of God's dream for the world that is coming into being. In the months of February and March, our worship services will take a deep dive into Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, looking at it in its entirety for the lessons we need along the way.

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gift for February is instant potatoes. Please drop off donations in the lower level bins. Thank you in advance for supporting this important ministry to our community!

Mark your calendar!

February 19 | State of the Church, 12-2PM

Today we meet for lunch and learning about the landscape of church life and our particular piece of it, followed by robust discussion about the horizon.

February 22 | Ash Wednesday, 6PM

All are invited to join in our time of Ash Wednesday worship as we orient ourselves to the Lenten season with the ancient rituals of remembering 'from dust we are, and to dust we shall return.'

February 22 | Lenten Pilgrimages and Study

With Pastor Emily leading us in a yearlong focus on the theme, "On the Way," the Adult Ministry Team is sponsoring a Lenten study and a series of local pilgrimages that will enable us to continue on the congregational journey we began before the pandemic of being on the way towards racial justice. Our church will engage in a devotional study, *Lent of Liberation: Confronting the Legacy of American Slavery*. Books will be available through the church for \$10, or you can order them directly on Amazon. See the full letter from the Adult Ministry Team in our

Newsletter. To get on the newsletter list, email Abigail Cook (abigail@firstonfifth.org).

February 25 | Contemplative Walking Pilgrimage

Joani Hughes will lead a pilgrimage exploring the spiritual life one encounters as they walk in the world. We will gather at the gazebo outside of Reynolda House at 10:30 AM. Before walking, we will briefly take a look at what Scripture teaches us about the importance of walking in God's presence. As well, we will examine mindfulness in walking and how the two ideas dovetail with each other so well. Friedrich Nietzsche, Walt Whitman, Wendell Berry and others will also be our guides. After some brief instructions, we will set out and walk the approximately 45 minute path through the gardens and woods. All are invited, including those with four legs. This is not a difficult walk, but it is guaranteed to be beautiful and soul feeding, regardless of the weather. Hope to see you there!

March 11 | All Creatures Birding Pilgrimage

Roper Halverson will lead a pilgrimage capturing the gift of birds in nature and opening our eyes more fully to all we see. We will meet at Miller Park (near the tennis courts) at 8:30 AM, and come prepared with good walking shoes, binoculars (if you have them), and a camera. Open to all ages! Rain date is March 25.

April 1 | International Civil Rights Center Pilgrimage

We will travel to Greensboro to tour the International Civil Rights Museum. Look for more details to follow in the newsletter.

May 6 | Reynolda House Museum of American Art

We will travel to see the exhibition, "Stephen Towns: Declaration & Resistance," which "examines the American dream through the lives of Black Americans from the late eighteenth century through the present time."

CBFNC Annual Gathering

This year, the CBFNC Annual Gathering is at Ardmore Baptist in Winston-Salem! CBFNC encourages ministers and lay leaders to attend this two day event. The theme, Living Together, is based on a theology of cooperation.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, February 12

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, and Children (*in person*)
- 9:30 am Parent Fellowship (*Commons*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)

MONDAY, February 13

- 5:30 pm House & Grounds Committee (*online*)
- 6:00 pm Personnel Committee (*online*)

TUESDAY, February 14

- 6:45 am Devotional Classics (*online*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, February 15

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

THURSDAY, February 16

- 10:00 am Older Adult Fellowship (*online*)
- 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Team (*online*)

FRIDAY, February 17

- 4:00 pm Nominating Committee (*online*)

SATURDAY, February 18

SUNDAY, February 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*)
- 12:00 pm State of the Church presentation (*Kelly & online*)

OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Thursday, 8:30am - 5:00pm
Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

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