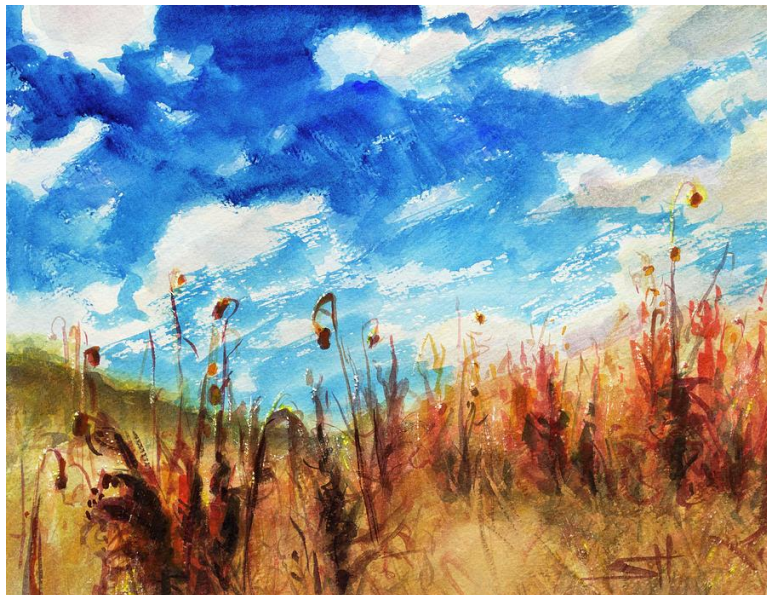


“God allows a mixed field, in other words, and whether we like it, approve of it, understand it or not, God asks us to tolerate a mixed field too – both in the church and in the world – only this is not even remotely a call to passivity. It is, instead, a call to strenuous activity (as any of you who have tried to love your enemies lately already know)... to bear good fruit.”

+ Barbara Brown Taylor



Where Wild Things Grow, Steve Henderson

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SIXTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, September 17, 2023 • 11:00 AM

ORGAN PRELUDE

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 86: 8-12

Zack Jackson

Leader: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.

**All: All the nations you have made
shall come and bow down before you, O Lord,
and shall glorify your name.**

Leader: For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.

**All: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.**

Leader: I give thanks to you, O Lord my God,
with my whole heart;

All: And I will glorify your name forever!

*HYMN 52: *O Worship the King*

LYONS

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

INVITATION TO CONFESSION: *Just As I Am*

H. Helvey

Sanctuary Choir

Just as I am, without one plea, but that thy blood was shed for me, and that thou biddest me come to thee, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, though tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt, fighting and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come. Just as I am, thy love unknown has broken every barrier down; now to be thine alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy McClure

Leader: Trusting in God's mercy,
let us acknowledge to ourselves and each other
those ways we fall short from what God intends for us,
all of which God already knows.

**All: Refining God, we come to you just as we are,
inclined too often towards evil
even as you have created us for good works.
We confess that too often the dividing line
between good and evil, between wheat and weeds,
cuts through the center of our hearts.
Forgive us and burn away all that hinders your kingdom.
Compassionate Sower of the Field,
continue to be gracious with us
that we may ripen into the children of God's realm
and live with you forever, shining like the sun
in God's heavenly home. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Amy McClure

Leader: Friends, hear the good news of our faith:
God is gracious and merciful,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love,
showing compassion to all.
Forgiven and freed, let us rise up with joy
and share our peace with one another:
May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

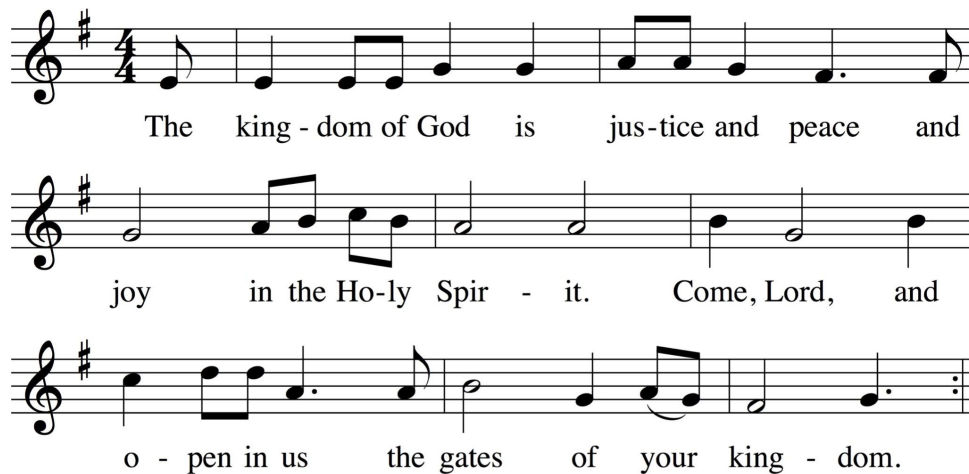
(Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.)

TENDING OUR STORIES

Anna Harris

RESPONSE: *The Kingdom of God*

Taize 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

David Hughes

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: "Tending What's Different"

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 376: *For the Fruit of All Creation*

AR HYD Y NOS

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

Jill Knight

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.

POSTLUDE

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

<u>Deacon of the Week:</u>	Jill Knight and Kevin Masten
<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 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.





FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Tending: This Year at First on Fifth

The Christian life is a life of tending. Tending can have us stretching toward practices and places of our care, or holding fast to that which captures our focus and tendencies. Yet in a season of our common life when our attention is a most significant currency, when all that pulls at us causes us to distend from God or from hope, when our earth bears the scars of all we cannot sustain, and when our church's commitments will thrive with our continued nurture, a season of energy around "tending" will center us in the God who tends nothing less than our very souls.

September 24

Tending What's Small | Matthew 13:31-33

October 1

Tending What's Priceless | Matthew 13:44-50

Join First on Fifth at Bookmarks | September 23

Join the Communications & Outreach Team for the Bookmarks Festival on Saturday, September 23, from 9AM-5PM, where we will host a booth and enjoy time with our neighbors.

First Impressions | September 24, 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 September 24, from 9:15-10:30 AM in the Commons. Please RSVP to Zack at zack@firstonfifth.org by Thursday, September 24.

Joining Sunday | September 24

Our next Joining Sunday is planned for September 24 at the end of worship. This step for newcomers to become part of a beloved community can sometimes feel intimidating, and we make it a little less so by inviting folks who are at this place in their journey to make that step together. See Zack with questions!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for September are canned greens. Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

Weekly Studies Continue

Tuesday Morning Devotional Classics

Baraca Room, Tuesdays, 7:30am,

Curriculum: A study of *Thunder in the Soul: To Be Known by God*, by Abraham Joshua Heschel. This is a sampler of Heschel's many books and can be found on Amazon; see link in the newsletter.

Leader: David Williamson, david@firstonfifth.org

Older Adult Weekly Fellowship

Zoom, Thursdays, 10:00am

Curriculum: A study of *Spiritual Direction* by Henri Nouwen. Books are \$10; see Amy to order!

Leader: Amy McClure, amy@firstonfifth.org

Fall Fellowship | October 1

As the air gets crisper and the days get shorter, it's time to gather and celebrate fall! On Sunday morning, October 1, we'll celebrate World Communion Sunday, where Christians all around the world observe communion in many forms. That night, we'll gather again at the church house for another feast! This time, we'll be outside in the back lawn and breezeway, with a cookout dinner, yard games, a photo booth, fellowship around the table, and even a time of blessing for our pets! Mark your calendars now for October 1, 5:00-7:00pm, then RSVP in the newsletter and sign up to help bring it to life! Dinner will be \$5/person (grilled beef and veggie burgers, chips, cookies, and drinks).

Volunteer Opportunities through First on Fifth

The Missions Committee calls all individuals, Sunday School classes, or small groups to be a part of missions in action with the following opportunities:

- Provide a meal for one of our Missions Partners (Pivot, Flourish, and the Street School)
- Welcome 104 refugees arriving in the triad area in August and September through World Relief.
- Consider answering the call from Crisis Control to be a front desk volunteer on Wednesdays.
- Tutor students at Ashley Academy

There is more information about each of these opportunities in the church newsletter! Email the Missions Committee (missions@firstonfifth.org) with any questions you may have. Thank you for serving our neighbors with love!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, September 17

- 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 Deacons Meeting

MONDAY, September 18

- 5:45 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting

TUESDAY, September 19

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Baraca Room*)
- 5:00 pm Finance Committee (*Conference Room*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, September 20

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

THURSDAY, September 21

- 10:00 am Older Adult Book Study/Fellowship (*online*)
- 11:00 am Older Adult Team Meeting (*online*)
- 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team (*online*)

FRIDAY, September 22

SATURDAY, September 23

- 9:00 am Bookmarks Festival Event (*Sanctuary*)

SUNDAY, September 24

- 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*)

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
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Rev. Emily Hull McGee
Pastor
emily@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1001

Rev. David Williamson
Associate Pastor
Worship, Arts, Administration
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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.