

“If you cannot go into the desert, you must nonetheless ‘make some desert’ in your life. Every now and then leaving ... and looking for solitude to restore, in prolonged silence and prayer, the stuff of your soul.” † Carlo Carretto

“Lent is a time to quit running, to let ourselves be caught and embraced in love, like a sheep with safe pasture, like a traveler offered rich and unexpected food.”
† Walter Brueggemann



I Delight in You, Lisle Gwyn Garrity

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, February 18, 2024 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: BWV. 622, *O Mensch, bewein dein Sünde groß*
Jacob Hill, Organ

J.S. Bach

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pat Thompson

Leader: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

All: The journey begins in the wilderness.

Leader: We follow the way of Jesus
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

**All: Like Jesus, we are not alone.
The Holy Spirit is with us.
God's Word is on our lips.**

Leader: Our call is to trust in God alone,
to do God's will in all things.

**All: For God leads us not only into the wilderness,
but also through the wilderness.**

*HYMN 33: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

David Williamson

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANTHEM: *Festival of Praise*

M. Ijames

Sanctuary Choir
Jacob Hill and Jill Knight, Piano

O come and sing unto the Lord, shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Come before His presence with blessing in your heart; O come and sing unto the Lord. In His hand are the deep places of the earth, the heights of the hills and the sea. He is our God and we are His people, O come before Him in song. O come and sing unto the Lord, shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation. Come before His presence with blessing in your heart; O come and sing unto the Lord.

GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 1:9-15

Jordynn Elizalde

Leader: This is the word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Zack Jackson

Leader: Remember that our Lord Jesus is able to sympathize with us in our weaknesses. In every respect he was tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

**All: God of mercy,
we begin this Lenten season in confession.
We do not live according to your ways, but according to our own.
We condone violence, participate in systems of injustice,
and use power to our own advantage at the expense of others.
Forgive us when we are tempted to follow paths
other than those you set before us.
Lead us on this Lenten journey to a greater awareness
of your kingdom of justice and peace, your rule and your reign,
ever present in us and among us.
Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

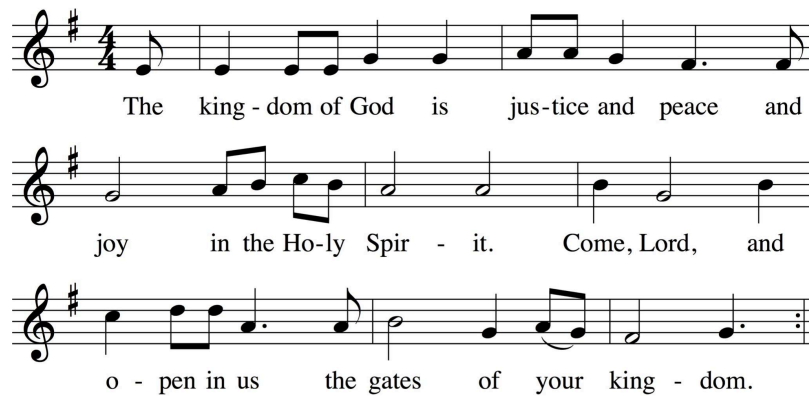
Zack Jackson

Leader: Let the Good News be proclaimed that the kingdom of God has indeed come near. Receive God's generous gifts of forgiveness, justice, joy, and peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE: *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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rayce Lamb

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: "Again and Again: Near and Far"

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 169: *Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days*

ST. FLAVIAN

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

Cyrus Bush

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**

WONDROUS LOVE

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will
sing. To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while mil-lions join the
theme, I will sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!

***BENEDICTION**

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: Suite Gothique, I. Introduction-Choral

L. Boëllman

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

<u>Deacon of the Week:</u>	Cyrus Bush and Pat Thompson
<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 after worship. This allows us to extend our hospitality and connect you deeply within the life of 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 kindergarteners is available in the nursery on the first floor. The balcony continues to be reserved for those preferring extra distance. We're so glad you're here!

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK OF LOVE THROUGH FIRST BAPTIST ON FIFTH

Thank you for giving faithfully to God through the ministries of our church! Should you desire to give today, you can do so by placing your gift in the offering plates 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
BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Again & Again: Worship this Lent

In Lent, we're reminded that, again and again, suffering and brokenness find us. We doubt again, we lament again, we mess up again. Again and again, the story of Jesus on the cross repeats. And yet, in the midst of the chaos of our lives, God tends to us by offering a sacred refrain: "*I choose you, I love you, I will lead you to repair.*" Again and again, God breaks the cycle and offers us a new way forward. Join us this Lent in worship and in study as again and again, we bring all of who we are to God and trust that God will meet us, time and again, along the way.

February 25

Again & Again: Gaining & Losing
Mark 8:31-38

March 3

Again & Again: Tearing Down & Raising Up
John 2:13-22

March 10

Again & Again: Perishing & Living
John 3:14-21

March 17

Again & Again: Losing & Finding
John 12:20-33

March 24 | Palm Sunday

Again & Again: Emptying & Filling
Mark 11:1-11

March 31 | Easter Sunday

Again & Again: Here & There & Everywhere
Mark 16:1-8

Wednesdays in Lent | Adult Ministry Study

Our Adult Ministry Team will lead shared reflections on Walter Brueggemann's *A Way Other than Our Own: Devotions for Lent* on Wednesdays in Lent (February 21-March 27, except for February 28) from 12:00-12:45 p.m. in the commons. Books can be purchased online through the link in your newsletter or through the church office for \$10.

Easter Lilies

If you would like to give a lily in honor or memory of a loved one, please pick up a form in front of the commons and return it with your payments to the church office no later than Sunday, March 3. The cost is \$15.00 per lily.

February 28 | Tending to the End: How to Prepare & Keep Your Estate Executor Calm

Our Older Adult Ministry Team continues their 2-month series to help people of all ages prepare for unexpected illnesses, medical mishaps, and even death. Lunch is provided starting at 11:45 (donations accepted if able), followed by a coffee break between sessions. Sessions will be held in Kelly Auditorium and will conclude at 2:15 pm. Please RSVP in the newsletter!

Session 2: Wednesday, February 28, 11:45am
Funeral Home (Salem Funeral Home)
Church (Church Staff)

Let's Launch Realm Connect!

We are delighted to launch Realm Connect for our congregation. If you have not received an email inviting you to log in to Realm Connect for the first time, send Olena an email (olena@firstonfifth.org.) Realm Connect can be accessed by way of our website, by clicking the Members button in the top right-hand corner of the page. Should you desire to participate in Realm Connect training sessions, Olena will be offering those on **Tuesday 2/20** (in person) and **Tuesday 2/27** (on zoom) at **12:00pm. RSVP in your newsletter.**

March 2 | Women's Spring Fellowship, 9:30 am

Join us in the Commons for Spring Women's fellowship on Saturday, March 2 at 9:30. Light refreshments will be provided and we will discuss upcoming fellowship and service opportunities. All women of First are invited. Contact Holly Kessler with questions.

March 3 | First Missions - Kids edition!

Please join us on Sunday, March 3 immediately following worship from 12:15 - 2:00 pm to participate in a missions project led by our two fabulous team leaders, Mr. Wally and Ms. Kim! We will be building bird and/or butterfly houses. Once completed, these will be used to give to our ramp ministry as they build ramps for people in our community. Parents will be expected to stay with their kids throughout this project as it is very hands-on. We need to know how many to plan for, so please RSVP in your newsletter.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, February 18

- 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*)

MONDAY, February 19

- 5:00 pm Missions Committee Meal at Flourish

TUESDAY, February 20

- 5:00 pm Finance Committee
8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, February 21

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
12:00 pm Shared Lenten Reflections (*Commons*)
12:00 pm Communications and Outreach Team Meeting (*online*)
5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, February 22

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

FRIDAY, February 23

SATURDAY, February 24

SUNDAY, February 25

- 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*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour
Accounting Manager
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Rev. Emily Hull McGee
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Rev. David Williamson
Associate Pastor
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Olena Withrow
Ministry Assistant & Communications Manager
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John Young
Facilities Manager
john@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1102

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for February are soul foods (canned greens, black-eyed peas, cornbread mix, etc.). Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!



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