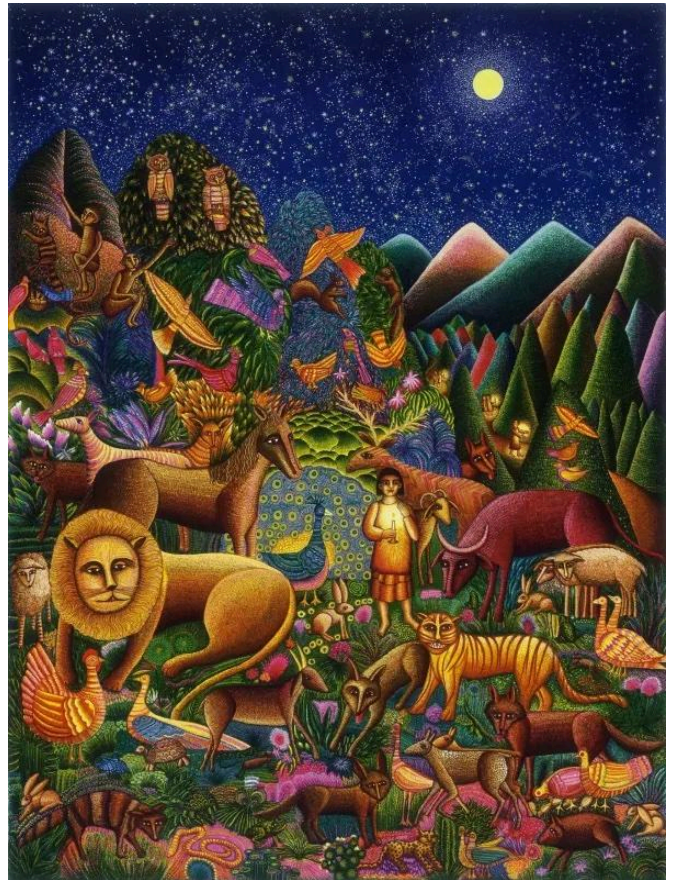


“Until we understand what the land is, we are at odds with everything we touch. And to come to that understanding it is necessary, even now, to leave the regions of our conquest - the cleared fields, the towns and cities, the highways - and re-enter the woods. For only there can a man encounter the silence and the darkness of his own absence. Only in this silence and darkness can he recover the sense of the world's longevity, of its ability to thrive without him, of his inferiority to it and his dependence on it. Perhaps then, having heard that silence and seen that darkness, he will grow humble before the place and begin to take it in - to learn from it what it is. As its sounds come into his hearing, and its lights and colors come into his vision, and its odors come into his nostrils, then he may come into its presence as he never has before, and he will arrive in his place and will want to remain. His life will grow out of the ground like the other lives of the place, and take its place among them. He will be with them - neither ignorant of them, nor indifferent to them, nor against them - and so at last he will grow to be native-born. That is, he must reenter the silence and the darkness, and be born again.

+ Wendell Berry, *The Art of the Commonplace: The Agrarian Essays*



First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Sunday, May 5, 2024 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *There is a Happy Land*

Jacob Hill, Organ

G. Shearing

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Audrey Mann

God, thank you for the land. Thank you for the animals like the lions, tigers, giraffes, and cows. Land can help us in lots of ways. We grow the food we eat and it makes us stronger. The land also helps us see all different colors through things like flowers and plants. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Written by the PreK - Kindergarten Class

***HYMN 310: Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

HYMN TO JOY

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Amy McClure

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

INTERLUDE: *Joyful Rhythm*

Chancel Ringers Handbell Choir

K. McChesney

THE WONDER OF CREATION: *Land*

John Baxley

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Nancy Baxley

(Please pray in unison.)

**Lord Jesus Christ,
through whom and for whom the whole universe was created,
we mourn with you the death of forests,
fruitful lands that have become deserts,
wild animals left without grass,
plants, insects, birds, and animals threatened with extinction,
lands ravaged by war, people left homeless.
As the earth cries out for liberation,
we confess our part in bringing it toward the brink of catastrophe.
Through ignorance, but often willfully,
we thought we could serve both you and our material possessions,
with little thought of the consequences for future generations.
Savior of the world, you call us to repentance:
to be transformed by your love, to deny ourselves,
to take up the cross and follow in your way. May it be so. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Zack Jackson

Leader: Through the forgiveness of sin
we are reconciled to God and to one another.
The holy meal we are privileged to share today
is the sign and symbol of this forgiveness.
Let us celebrate with thanksgiving;
for where two or three are gathered, Christ is present.
Hear this good news: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM: *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether*

H. Friedell

Sanctuary Choir

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in thy name, two or three are met together, Thou art in the midst of them: Alleluia! Touch we now thy garment's hem. As the brethren used to gather in the name of Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup, Alleluia! So knit thou our friendship up. All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of thee, that by caring, helping, giving, we may true disciples be. Alleluia! We will serve thee faithfully.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Psalm 104:1-24

Joe Bircher and Lynne Brown

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: "All Nature Sings: Land"

Emily Hull McGee

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

HYMN OF RESPONSE 24: *Creator God, We Give You Thanks

CANONBURY

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**

Susan Welch

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: *Processional*

D. Johnson

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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

BENEVOLENCE OFFERING

At the conclusion of the worship service today you will be given an opportunity to contribute to the Benevolence Fund. This fund provides confidential financial assistance for individuals in times of crisis and is made possible by designated contributions. Deacons will be available at all three exit doors to receive your contribution. Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church, designated to the Benevolence Fund.

SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week:

Susan Welch and Joe Bircher

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 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.



SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

The Scholarship Committee is accepting applications for the 2024-25 academic year for the following scholarships; the deadline is May 17. You can find the applications on our website.

- The Blackwell Memorial Fund Scholarship, providing scholarships for North Carolina students preparing for a career in ministry within the Baptist tradition.
- The Ida Tilson Scholarship, providing scholarships to students enrolled at institutions of learning and study, not limited to 4-year colleges. Applications for vocational training programs will be accepted.



501 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101 | 336.722.2558 | firstonfifth.org

BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Announcing Rev. Kyle Caudle,
Associate Pastor for Youth, Missions, Adults**

With abiding hope, the Associate Pastor Search Committee joyfully and unanimously presents to the church Rev. Kyle Caudle as candidate for our Associate Pastor for Youth, Missions, and Adults. Kyle comes to us with vast experience in the local church, having served in a number of roles from church planter, to youth minister, to his most recent place of service in ministry as Senior Pastor of Piney Grove Baptist Church in Mt. Airy, North Carolina. Among the varied outposts of Kyle's life and ministry is a season of life he shared on our staff at First Baptist between 2006-2016. What a joy to welcome Kyle, along with Charla and Kyla, back to lead First on Fifth in a new season ahead! The congregation will formally consider his candidacy in a call weekend, May 17-19, concluding in a vote of the church on May 19 to affirm him as our next Associate Pastor for Youth, Missions, and Adults. For more information about Kyle and the call weekend, visit firstonfifth.org.

May 9 | Community-wide Book Study

Would you like a deeper dive into the ideas presented by Dr. Bettina Love? Join with other participants on four Thursday evenings in May to discuss, plan, and imagine equitable educational opportunities in Winston-Salem and Forsyth County. The conversation will center on Dr. Love's latest book: *Punished for Dreaming: How School Reform Harms Black Children and How We Heal*. The Study will meet on May 9, 16, 23, & 30, from 6:00-7:00pm in Kelly. Sign up at the link in your newsletter, spots are limited!

**May 15 | Older Adult Lunch - Meet our
Communications Team!, 11:30 am**

Please join us for lunch, fellowship, and a great program led by our new Communications Team, Ryan Jones and Olena Withrow! A meal will be provided with a recommended donation (Cash or check). A basket for donations will be available, and as always, payment is not required, but appreciated! RSVP in your newsletter

May 15 | Pride Festival Planning

The Communications/Outreach Ministry Team is delighted to begin our planning for this year's Pride Parade and Festival, to be held downtown on Saturday, June 22. We need your help! All who are

interested in helping to shape our church's presence at Pride this year are invited to a planning meeting on Wednesday, May 15, from 5:00-6:15pm in the Commons. Snacks and drinks will be provided. Come with your ideas and excitement!

May 18 | Ordination Service for Jill Knight

With joyful affirmation from the Deacons, Ordination Council, and congregation, all are invited to gather for Jill Knight's ordination to the gospel ministry on Saturday, May 18, at 4:00pm in the Sanctuary. Congratulations, Jill!

May 19 | Church Picnic at Leinbach Park

Come one, come all to our churchwide celebration picnic on Sunday, May 19 - Pentecost Sunday! As we celebrate the birthday of the church, we invite you to a big ol' birthday party! We'll gather at Leinbach Park on Sunday, May 19, from 5:00-7:00pm. The church will provide meat and drinks; please bring a side or dessert to share! Kids can enjoy the great playground, and we'll all celebrate the gift of our church family. All are welcome! RSVP in your newsletter.

Deacon Recommendation Forms Due May 19

All active members of First Baptist on Fifth should have received a letter in the mail this week, asking you to recommend a slate of eight deacons for their consideration and election to serve in the 2025-2027 term. Deacons at First on Fifth are our church's primary servant leaders, offering guidance for our beloved community on matters of spiritual discernment and doing so with a collaborative spirit. Each Deacon is assigned a handful of individuals and families in our church to offer compassion, care, and help when needed. Please read over the letter carefully and submit your Deacon Recommendation Forms to the boxes in the Sanctuary, narthex, and church office **no later than Sunday, May 19**. Thank you for your participation in recommending these beloved friends to the service of Deacon!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for May are Spices. (Cinnamon, Cumin, Salt, Pepper, Vanilla extract, Basil, Tajin, etc.). Please drop off donations in the first-floor bins. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, May 5

- 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*)
- 12:00pm Deacon's Meeting
- 3:00 pm Arts and Crafts Affinity Group

MONDAY, May 6

- 5:30 pm Slow Flow Yoga (*Kelly*)

TUESDAY, May 7

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Baraca Room*)
- 10:00 am Care Notes (*Conference Room*)
- 5:30 pm Personnel Committee
- 6:30 pm Walking Affinity Group (*offsite*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, May 8

- 10:00 am Staff Meeting
- 12:00 pm *Making Peace with the Land Study* (*Baraca*)
- 1:00 pm Building Projects Task Force (*Baraca*)
- 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, May 9

- 10:00 am Older Adult Fellowship (*online*)
- 12:00 pm Downtown Walking Affinity Group
- 6:00 pm Bettina Love Book Study (*Baraca*)
- 6:00 pm Running Affinity Group (*offsite*)
- 7:00 pm Vinyasa Yoga

FRIDAY, May 10

SATURDAY, May 11

- 8:30 am Birding Affinity Group (*offsite*)
- 10:00 am Dog Park Affinity Group (*offsite*)

SUNDAY, May 12

- 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
sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

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

Rev. Zack Jackson
Pastoral Resident
zack@firstonfifth.org

Ryan Jones
Media Contractor
ryanjones@dogoodbrands.biz

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 & Communications Manager
olena@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1000

Gary Knight
Transitional Facilities Manager
facilities@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1102



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