Who ever saw the mustard-plant, wayside weed or tended crop, grow tall as a shrub, let alone a tree, a treeful of shade and nests and songs? Acres of yellow, not a bird of the air in sight.

No, He who knew the west wind brings the rain, the south wind thunder, who walked the field-paths running His hand along wheatstems to glean those intimate milky kernels, good to break on the tongue,

was talking of miracle, the seed within us, so small we take it for worthless, a mustard-seed, dust, nothing.

Glib generations mistake the metaphor, not looking at fields and trees, not noticing paradox. Mountains remain unmoved.

Faith is rare, He must have been saying, prodigious, unique one infinitesimal grain divided like loaves and fishes,

as if from a mustard-seed a great shade-tree grew. That rare, that strange: the kingdom

a tree. The soul a bird. A great concourse of birds at home there, wings among yellow flowers. The waiting kingdom of faith, the seed waiting to be sown.

+ Denise Levertov, "On the Parables of the Mustard Seed"

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST Sunday, June 16, 2024 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: To God Be the Glory

Jacob Hill and Jill Knight, Piano



A Mustard Seed, by Piety Choi

arr. M. Ham

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

Mallory Challis

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: It is good to give thanks to the Lord, to sing praise to God Most High;

All: to declare God's steadfast love in the morning, and God's faithfulness at night.

Leader: Those who are planted in the house of the Lord flourish; no matter their age, they bear fruit and remain lush and fresh, proclaiming:

All: The Lord is righteous! God is my rock!

*HYMN 349: To God Be the Glory

GREETINGS FROM AMANI SASA

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 4:26-34

Leader: This is the word of the Lord **All: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: God will not count our trespasses against us, longing instead for us to be reconciled. We come before God, then, in honesty, humility, and hope.

All: Gracious God,

we so often miss your kingdom at work among us. Captivated by power and prestige, we overlook the mustard seeds you have planted all around. Forgive us for failing to notice where and how you are at work. Forgive us when we work against your plans and purposes – fostering division when you have called us to a ministry of reconciliation; beset by apathy when the world has such deep needs; building walls to keep people out when your branches offer generous nests. Help us to grow in faithfulness, so that we might reach our fullest height in faith. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: Hear this good news: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

All: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Let us share the sign of a forgiven people: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you

Mary Kaylor

Mary Kaylor

TO GOD BE THE GLORY

Missy Ward Angalla

Roper Halverson

Kyle Caudle

Sanctuary Choir Jacob Hill, Director Jill Knight, Piano

For fruit of the vine, for harvest of wheat, for bread and for wine, the gift of Your feast, the cup of thanksgiving I gratefully raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise. For dove in the sky, for wind in the trees, for coal in the fire, Your Spirit in me, the cup of thanksgiving I grateful raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise. For springtime's green earth, for morning's first light, for every new birth, for grace and for life, the cup of thanksgiving I grateful raise, O Lord of my living, my love and my praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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: "Defying Norms: Doing What Is Ours to Do"

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 283: Holy Presence, Holy Teacher

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

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

*DOXOLOGY

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

Emily Hull McGee

HARLAN

Carlos Mir

Emily Hull McGee

OLD HUNDREDTH

POSTLUDE: Rigaudon

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week: Children & Families Greeter: Streaming and Sound Team: Carlos Mir and Roper Halverson Kim Wilkinson 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.



CELEBRATION

The Finance Committee would like to invite the congregation to celebrate with us the recently received unrestricted will gift from Fran Stewart's Estate. We are grateful to God for this faithful servant who remembered First Baptist Church in her estate planning.



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



Defying Norms: Worship This Summer

All throughout his life, Jesus was something of a rule-breaker! Unwilling to accept the way things always had been and uncompromising in his commitment to God's dream for the world, Jesus challenged the status quo for the sake of Love. In the norm-departing season of summer, as schedules shift and responsibilities relax, we'll look to the Gospel of Mark's accounts of Jesus in a series called "Defying Norms," and consider how we can do the same.

June 23

Defying Norms: Silent and Still Mark 4:35-41

June 30

Defying Norms: Citizens of Audacious Hope Mark 5:21-43

July 7 Defying Norms: Loosening our Grip Mark 6:1-13

July 14 Defying Norms: The Risks of Getting Political Mark 6:14-29

July 21 Defying Norms: Disconnect and Heal Mark 6:30-34, 53-56

July 28

Children and Youth-Led Worship

June 17 & 24 | Gardening Affinity Group to Meet

Our friend and recent graduate, Joey Martin, will be offering two sessions of a gardening affinity group on Mondays, June 17 and 24, at 3:00pm. Joey is a Landscape Technician at Reynolda Gardens, and has much to teach us! Attendees will experience a garden tour of Reynolda Gardens, learn to plant, prune, and repot, and take home some cuttings of herbs and flowers. Each session will last 60-90 minutes, and a \$5 per person donation to the Gardens will help cover soil, plants, and supplies. Attendees should plan to meet Joey in front of the greenhouse construction next to the All Thru the House store in Reynolda Village. Signups will be capped at 15 people per session, so sign up at the link in the newsletter!

Welcome Missy Ward Angalla!

We're delighted this morning to welcome Missy Ward Angalla, CBF Field Personnel and mission partner of First on Fifth, who serves as the Executive Director of Amani Sasa in Kampala, Uganda. Missy will share in worship today about her work with refugee families, and will be available before and after worship for conversation. Welcome, Missy!

June 22 | Pride Breakfast, Parade, and Festival

All are welcome to join the group from First on Fifth at the Winston-Salem Pride Festival on Saturday, June 24! Thanks to the wonderful leadership of our Communications and Outreach Ministry Team, along with a slew of volunteers, we will be hosting a breakfast on the front lawn for any fellow churches and their members who are participating at 9:00am, followed by walking in the Pride Parade at 11:00am, and staffing a booth during the Pride Festival until 6:00pm. Sign up in the newsletter to participate!

June 26 | Older Adult Hymn sing in the park!

Join us for a Hymn Sing at Leinbach Park at 11:30am! Jake Hill will join us with his keyboard and hymnals and will take song selections from you. Start thinking about what you want to request! An RSVP is required for this event so we can make sure to have enough food for everyone. Donations on the day of the event are appreciated, but not required.

June 30 | Independence Day Brunch, 9:30 am

In lieu of Sunday school, please join us on June 30 in Kelly Auditorium for a time of fellowship, food, and singing as we celebrate Independence Day.

June 30 - July 3 | PASSPORTkids!

Please be in prayer for 11 children and 3 chaperones as they prepare for PASSPORTkids!. They will be heading to Montreat College to join with dozens of other churches for a great week of discipleship, fellowship, and growing in their relationships with each other and with Jesus. Thank you to First on Fifth for your support and prayers as we go!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for June are Condiments. (Ketchup, Mustard, BBQ Sauce, Mayo, Hot Sauce, Salad Dressing, etc.). Please drop off donations in the first-floor bins.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, June 16
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, June 17 3:00 pm Gardening Affinity Group 7:00 pm Missions Committee (online)

TUESDAY, June 18 5:00 pm Finance Committee 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, June 19 CBF General Assembly

THURSDAY, June 20 CBF General Assembly 10:00 am Older Adult Fellowship (online) 6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team Meeting

FRIDAY, June 21 CBF General Assembly

SATURDAY, June 22 9:00 am Pride Breakfast on the Lawn & Festival 11:00 am Pride March

SUNDAY, June 23
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

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