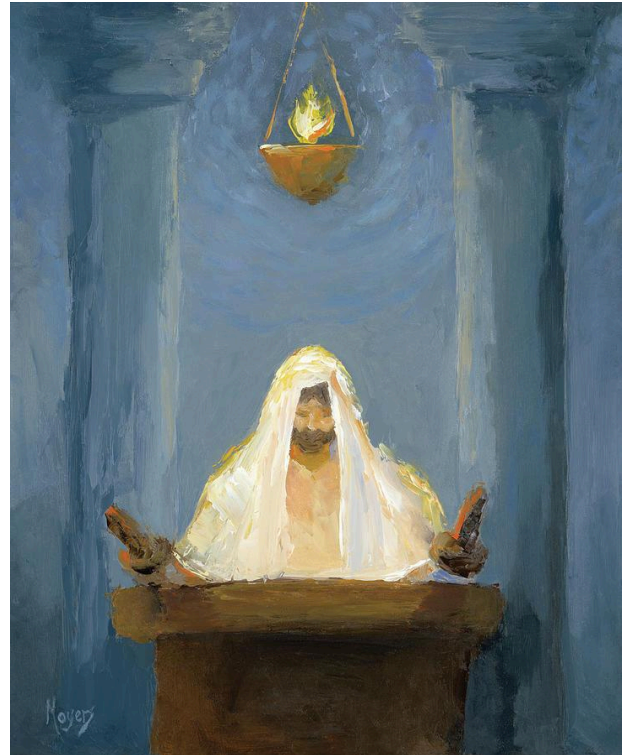


“There was this East Indian Jesuit named Tony de Mello who used to tell this story about disciples gathered around their master, asking him endless questions about God. And the master said that anything we say about God is just words, because God is unknowable. One disciple asked, ‘Then why do you speak of God at all?’ and the master replied, ‘Why does the bird sing? She sings not because she has a statement but because she has a song.’”

+ Anne Lamott, *Operating Instructions*



*Christ Reads from Isaiah*, by Mike Moyers

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## First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 26, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Aria*

Jacob Hill, Organ

H. Willan

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 19: 1-4

Mary Kaylor

Leader: The heavens are telling the glory of God,  
and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

**All: Day to day pours forth speech  
and night to night declares knowledge.**

Leader: There is no speech, nor are there words;  
their voice is not heard;

**All: Yet their voice goes out through all the earth  
and their words to the end of the world.**

\*HYMN 22: *How Great Our God's Majestic Name*

DUKE STREET

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 4:14-21

Linda Stewart

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kyle Caudle

(Please read in unison.)

**God of Good News, how often we have doubted  
your generous promise of freedom, favor, and sight.  
Instead, we have settled for the blindness of our prejudices,  
the captivity of oppressive ideas and attitudes,  
doubting that you would ever find favor with us.  
May we be so filled with your Spirit that we would  
embrace and proclaim this gospel of very good news! Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Kyle Caudle

Leader: The same promise of God made through the prophet Isaiah  
and through our Savior Jesus continues even to this generation:  
the blindness and captivity of sin have given way  
to God's boundless freedom and a new way of seeing.  
Let us receive the generous favor of our God:  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: As grateful recipients of God's grace  
let us share the sign of peace with these words:  
May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

ANTHEM: *O Great God*

arr. J. Hoelscher

Sanctuary Choir

O great God of highest heaven, occupy my lowly heart. Own it all, and reign  
supreme, conquer every rebel power. Let no vice or sin remain that resist Your  
holy war. You have loved and purchased me; make me Yours forevermore. I was  
blinded by my sin, had no ears to hear Your voice; did not know Your love within,  
had no taste for heaven's joys. Then Your Spirit gave me life, opened up Your Word  
to me, through the Gospel of Your Son, gave me endless hope and peace. Help me  
now to live a life that's dependent on Your grace. Keep my heart and guard my  
soul from the evils that I face. You are worthy to be praised with my every thought  
and deed. O great God of highest heaven, glorify Your name through me.

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: "The Good Life: Proclaimed"**

Emily Hull McGee

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 440: *Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire***

GIFT OF LOVE

*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**

Nikki Byers

*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 on our website, [firstonfifth.org](http://firstonfifth.org).*

## GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

**THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

Amy McClure

**\*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: *Chorale Prelude No. IV***

H. Willan

Jacob Hill, Organ

\*Those who are able will please stand.

### **SERVING TODAY**

Acolytes:

Thayer Smelcer and Jordynn Elizalde

Deacon of the Week:

Nikki Byers and Linda Stewart

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.



FIRST BAPTIST  
ON FIFTH

501 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101 | 336.722.2558 | [firstonfifth.org](http://firstonfifth.org)

**BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.**



**FIRST BAPTIST**  
ON FIFTH  
**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**The Good Life**

**Worship this Winter at First on Fifth**

There's something about a new year that invites a reset: reframing expectations for our life amidst the turning of a page. We hold up this annual tendency against our contemporary context, where anger and despair and unhappiness fill the hearts of so many. This winter in worship, we'll hear stories of the life revealed by God in Jesus and consider how his good life informs our own.

February 2

*The Good Life: Fulfilled*

Luke 4:21-30

Communion Sunday

February 9

*The Good Life: Caught*

Luke 5:1-11

Deacon Ordination and Installation

February 16

*The Good Life: Blessed*

Luke 6:17-26

February 23

*The Good Life: Reconciled*

Luke 6:27-38

March 2 | Transfiguration Sunday

*The Good Life: Astounded*

Luke 9:28-43a

Kyle Caudle, proclaimer

**January 28 | Quarterly Church Conference, 6:30pm**

As is our custom, we will gather by Zoom to do the regular business of the church for our Quarterly Church Conference on Tuesday, January 28, at 6:30pm. See the newsletter that week for more info!

**January 29, February 5 | Midweek Series, 11 am**

Join us for the Bible study led by David Hull of the teachings of Jesus which call us to the spiritual wholeness of "Ampersand Faith." We live in an "Either-Or" world today which is divided, polarized, and coming apart at the seams. But when we listen to the teachings of Jesus, we hear a very different word. Instead of "Either-Or" we hear Jesus calling us to a "Both-And" kind of faith. What did Jesus say about it? What would that kind of faith look like in our kind of world? This study meets in the Baraca Room.

**February 2 | Sexual Harassment & Abuse Prevention Training, 12:00-2:00pm**

All church leaders, volunteers with children and youth, and anyone else who is interested is invited to a training session on Sunday, February 2, 12:00-2:00pm in Kelly Auditorium regarding the prevention of sexual harassment and abuse in our church; lunch will be provided. Rev. Jay Kieve, CBF's Abuse Prevention and Response Advocate & Director of Ministerial Transitions, will be with us that day as our instructor and guide. Jay will lead a session specifically for parents of children and youth during the Sunday School hour in Kelly. Please RSVP for the training at the link in your newsletter! Let Pastor Emily know if you have any questions. This gathering is sponsored by the Personnel Committee.

**February 9 | First Impressions, 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 February 9 from 9:15-10:30 AM in the Commons. Please RSVP to Mary at [mary@firstonfifth.org](mailto:mary@firstonfifth.org)

**February 9, 16, 23 | The Ethics of Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Discipleship and Resistance.**

You may have heard someone call this time in American life a "Bonhoeffer Moment," but what exactly does that mean? Join Kristopher Norris, Ph.D. in Kelly Auditorium during the Sunday school hour for this timely class where we will explore the life and ethics of one of history's most fascinating theologians, and discuss what his writings and witness might mean for us today.

Session 1: Christian Ethics as Life Together

Session 2: Bonhoeffer's Black Jesus

Session 3: The Pacifist Assassin

**February 12 | Active Retiree/Older Adult Brunch**

Join our older adult/active retiree ministry team at 9:30 am in Kelly Auditorium for pastries, coffee, and juice as we gather for fellowship and a program led by Olena Withrow, Ministry Assistant and Communications Manager. Olena will focus on Realm training and other forms of communications in our church life. Bring your phone, laptop, tablet, or just your listening ears to learn more! Or just come for some good fellowship, food, and fun. Please RSVP in your newsletter or let Amy McClure know if you want to attend.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, January 26

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, & Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 4:00 pm New Member Meet & Greet (*offsite*)

MONDAY, January 27

- 3:30 pm Building Projects Task Force (*Baraca*)

TUESDAY, January 28

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Baraca*)
- 6:30 pm Quarterly Church Conference (*online*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, January 29

- 11:00 am Midweek Series (*Baraca*)
- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (*Commons*)
- 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsals (*Sanctuary & Music Suite*)
- 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, January 30

- 10:00 am Downtown Walking Group

FRIDAY, January 31

SATURDAY, February 1

SUNDAY, February 2

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, & Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 12:00 pm Sexual Harassment and Abuse Prevention Training (*Kelly*)

### OFFICE HOURS

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

## CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour  
*Accounting Manager*  
sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

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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

### Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gift for January is Beef Stew. Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you



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**BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.**