

The gospel of Jesus Christ calls us time and again to test whether we are working with God for the vision of a world that includes all of us or only those of our group...  
... Being faithful to the gospel will often feel like betrayal to some who want to retain their privilege and protect the status quo. But our call to follow Jesus will sometimes involve that choice.

+ George Mason

Rejection has been the traveling companion of the Gospel from the beginning. Don't take it personally.

+ Nadia Bolz Weber



*The Brow of the Hill in Nazareth, James Tissot*

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## First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 2, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Adoration*

Jacob Hill, Organ

F. Price

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elmer Amaya

Leader: Our hope is in God all of our lives.

**All: God is a rock of refuge;  
a fortress against threat and shame.**

Leader: God has held us since our birth.

**All: So we are never in the full grasp  
of the unjust and cruel.**

Leader: In love, God saves and supports us.

**All: Trusting in God, we continually offer our praise!**

\*HYMN 425: *How Firm a Foundation*

FOUNDATION

GREETINGS FROM COOPERATIVE BAPTIST FELLOWSHIP

Jay Kieve

CALL TO PRAYER: *The Prayers I Make*

J. Marshall

Sanctuary Choir

The prayers I make will then be sweet indeed, if Thou the spirit give by which I pray; my unassisted heart is barren clay, which of its native self can nothing feed. Of good and pious works Thou art the seed which quickens where Thou sayest it may; unless Thou show us then Thine own true way, no one can find it! Father, Thou must lead! Do Thou, then, breathe those thoughts into my mind by which such virtue may in me be bred that in Thy holy footsteps I may tread. The fetters of my tongue do Thou unbind, that I may have the power to sing of Thee and sound Thy praises everlastingly.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Richard Groves

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.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Jeremiah 1:4-10

Gary Stiffler

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 4:21-30

Claudia Amaya

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Amy McClure

Leader: God calls us to speak the truth, even when it is difficult,  
to others and also to ourselves.  
Confessing our sin in prayer,  
we dare to speak the truth about ourselves to God,  
who desires to deliver us and to cast out all fear.

**All: God, our Deliverer,  
we confess that we are reluctant to speak  
and to live according to your truth.  
We grow comfortable with the way things are,  
passively condoning injustice.  
We see ourselves as "insiders,"  
excluding those we consider "outsiders."  
We find it easier to pluck up and pull down,  
to destroy and overthrow,**

**than to build and to plant.  
Forgive us, O God, for being timid disciples.  
Empty us of fear and shame,  
and fill us with love that is humble and patient and kind.  
We pray this in the name of the One who humbled himself,  
Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Amy McClure

Leader: God has loved us from eternity  
and God's love for us will never end.  
Do not fear, therefore,  
but have faith in God's steadfast love,  
God's healing power,  
and God's ability to make all things new.  
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: As grateful recipients of God's unending love  
let us share the sign of peace with these words:

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(Please share the peace with those around you.)*

## SERMON: "The Good Life: Fulfilled"

Emily Hull McGee

## CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

### \*HYMN OF RESPONSE 457: *Come and Feast, for All Are Welcomed*

REGENT SQUARE

*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

Judy Eustice

*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

Mary Kaylor

## COMMISSIONING FOR DOMINICAN REPUBLIC MISSION TRIP

**\*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: *Sortie***

T. Dubois

Jacob Hill, Organ

\*Those who are able will please stand.

**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. If you would like to contribute, please make your check payable to First Baptist Church, designated to the Benevolence Fund.

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

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**SERVING TODAY**

Deacon of the Week:

Judy Eustice and Gary Stiffler

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

**BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.**



FIRST BAPTIST  
ON FIFTH  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### **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 9

*The Good Life: Caught*

Luke 5:1-11

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

### **February 5 | Midweek Series, 11 am**

Join us for the final week in our Bible study led by David Hull of the teachings of Jesus which call us to the spiritual wholeness of "Ampersand Faith." 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 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)

### **Seeking Donations | Crisis Control**

The gift for January is Soul Foods (Canned Greens, Black-eyed Peas, Jiffy Cornbread mix, etc.). Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

### **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.

### **February 16 | Mochas with Mac, 3:00-4:00 pm**

Mochas with Mac is back! Children in 4th - 5th grades are invited to a gathering with Pastor Amy Mac at Starbucks (263 Harvey St.). Kids will get hot chocolate unless otherwise directed by parents. There is no cost to families. RSVP in your Newsletter.

### **February 18 | Young Adult Trivia Night**

Join us on Tuesday, February 18th at The Dutch Light and show off your knowledge in trivia. They have drinks and snacks available. We'll meet at 6:45pm to get teams set for trivia to start at 7pm. Let Mary know if you have questions.

### **February 23 | First Missions - Kids edition!**

Please join us on Sunday, February 23 immediately following worship from 12:15 - 2:00 pm to participate in a missions project with prayer partners. We will be building butterfly houses since they became so meaningful to the recipients of our last batch (given to folks who were recipients of a new ramp with our ramp crew!). Parents will be expected to stay with their kids throughout this project as it is very hands-on. RSVP in your newsletter.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

### 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 & Abuse Prevention Training (*Kelly*)

### MONDAY, February 3

### TUESDAY, February 4

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Baraca*)
- 10:00 am Care Notes Ministry (*Commons*)
- 5:30 pm Personnel Committee
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

### WEDNESDAY, February 5

- 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, February 6

- 10:00 am Downtown Walking Group
- 7:30 pm Theology on Tap (*offsite*)

### FRIDAY, February 7

- 7:00 pm Board Games Affinity Group (*Baraca*)

### SATURDAY, February 8

- 11:00 am Marshall Price Funeral

### SUNDAY, February 9

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am First Impressions (*Commons*)  
Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth, & Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 12:30 pm Deacons Meeting (*Kelly*)

## OFFICE HOURS

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

## CHURCH STAFF

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