



Forgiveness, Sofiya Inger

The Place Where We Are Right

by Yehuda Amichai
From the place where we are right
Flowers will never grow
In the spring.
The place where we are right
Is hard and trampled
Like a yard.
But doubts and loves
Dig up the world
Like a mole, a plow.
And a whisper will be heard in the place
Where the ruined
House once stood.

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

Sunday, February 23, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Festive Praise*

Spire Ringers

S. Geschke

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Kaylor

Leader: Let us praise God who formed the mountains
and created the wind.

**All: Let us sing to the One who made the stars,
who turns deep darkness into morning and day into night.**

Leader: Let us turn to God, hating what is evil
and loving what is just.

**All: So may justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.**

HYMN 319: *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN

THE ORDINANCE OF CHRISTIAN BAPTISM

Silas McGee

PSALM LESSON: Psalm 37: 1-11, 39-40

Kyle Caudle

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *Nothing Can Trouble*

J. Berthier

Two staves of musical notation in 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Noth-ing can trou-ble, noth-ing can fright-en. Those who seek God shall nev-er go want-ing." The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "Noth-ing can trou - ble, noth-ing can fright - en. God a - lone fills us." The music is written in a simple, accessible style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#).

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Devin Withrow

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.

GOSPEL LESSON: Luke 6:27-38

Jim Nelson

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David Williamson

Leader: Jesus promised us that God is kind
even to the ungrateful and the wicked, even to us.
Trusting in God's kindness and love,
let us confess our sin.

**All: Merciful God,
we confess that we have not followed
your ways or trusted your promises.
We love only those who love us;
we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;
we give only when we expect to receive.
Forgive us, Lord.
Fill our hearts with your selfless love.
Change our lives by your matchless grace.
In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

David Williamson

Leader: Children of God, through Jesus Christ our Lord
we have received grace in good measure –
spilling out and running over.
By God's abundant grace we are forgiven.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: Now go and live as Christ commands us:
Be merciful as God is merciful;
do not judge, and you will not be judged;
do not condemn, and you will not be condemned;
but forgive, and you will be forgiven;
give, and it will be given you.
As sign and symbol of our desire to live as Christ taught,
let us share his peace with these words:
The peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

(Please share the peace with those around you.)

ANTHEM: *Antiphonal Alleluia*

G.F. Handel/arr. P. Liebergen

Sanctuary Choir
Quartet: Lauren Winkelman, Olena Withrow, Kyle Coleman, Cyrus Bush

Sing allelu! Allelu!
Sing alleluia! Rejoice!
O lift up your voice! Alleluia!
Sing alleluia forevermore!

SERMON: *"The Good Life: Reconciled"*

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 694: *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

MORNING SONG

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

Minerva Fox

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.

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: *Allegro*

G.F. Handel

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

Acolytes:

Iris Mann and James Cook

Deacon of the Week:

Minerva Fox and Jim Nelson

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.



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

March 2 | Transfiguration Sunday
The Good Life: Astounded
Luke 9:28-43a
Kyle Caudle, proclaimer

March 2 | Celebration of Pastor Amy's 10th Anniversary

For ten years now, Amy's ministry at First on Fifth has touched the lives of children and families, senior adults and home-centered adults, folks receiving mental health counseling through the Butner Fund, and all our members who share in her hospitality and receive the gift of her pastoral care. We want to celebrate Amy's ministry among us upon the occasion of her 10th anniversary! Please join us for a reception honoring Rev. Amy McClure in the Ammons-Lolley Commons immediately following worship, Sunday, March 2. The Personnel Committee will offer Amy a gift from the church, and all will be invited to write Amy a note to express your appreciation for Amy and her ministry.

March 5 | Ash Wednesday

Ashes for the Community, 12:00-1:00pm

Our pastoral staff will offer the imposition of ashes on the church house's front steps for anyone in the community who would like to receive them.

Ash Wednesday Worship, 6:00pm

All are invited to join in our time of Ash Wednesday worship as we orient ourselves to the Lenten season with the ancient rituals of remembering 'from dust we are, and to dust we shall return.'

Lenten Devotional Books Available Now!

"What is my true hunger?" This Lent you are invited to read *A Different Kind of Fast: Feeding Our True Hungers in Lent* by Christine Valters Paintner and explore 7 different kinds of fasts for the spiritual journey. We will also offer weekly evening Zoom options to discuss the book. Copies of the book are \$10. For more information contact kyle@firstonfifth.org.

March 9 | Mochas with Mac, 3:00-4:00 pm

K-3rd grade get their chance for Mochas with Mac on March 9! Children in K - 3rd 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.

March 12, 19, 26 and April 2 | Midweek Lenten Series

Deadly Sins in a Story of Life: The Seven Deadly Sins in the Parable of the Prodigal Son - 11:00am, Baraca
All adults are welcome to join David Hull for our Lenten midweek series. This Lenten series will focus on the "Seven Deadly Sins" as seen in the Parable of the Prodigal Son. Looking through the lenses of this favorite story of Jesus, we will study the Deadly Sins as they are portrayed in the lives of the two sons. We will gaze into the mirror of our own sin and find opportunities for repentance during this holy season. We will also be reminded of the abundant grace of God that makes this story -- and our stories -- filled with life.

March 14 | First Films - Spring Series Begins!

This spring we take a glimpse of the life journeys of others. Come experience a challenging trek across Mexico to achieve the golden dream up north, the development of a new friendship between two single women in modern day Casablanca, and the forging of a common bond between distinct groups through a shared humanity. Join us at 6:30 pm to enjoy popcorn, refreshments, and an edifying experience with pew-mates and guests in Kelly Auditorium. Our first film is *The Golden Dream (La Jaula de Oro)* (2013)

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, February 23

- 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 First Missions-Kids!
Youth Lunch and Games

MONDAY, February 24

TUESDAY, February 25

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

WEDNESDAY, February 26

- 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsals
(*Sanctuary & Music Suite*)
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
(*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, February 27

- 10:00 am Downtown Walking Group

FRIDAY, February 28

SATURDAY, March 1

SUNDAY, March 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 Amy's Anniversary Celebration (*Commons*)
2:00 pm Children and Youth WFU Game (*offsite*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

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

CHURCH STAFF

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