



“Lent is a time to quit running, to let ourselves be caught and embraced in love, like a sheep with safe pasture, like a traveler offered rich and unexpected food.” ✚ Walter Brueggemann

“If you cannot go into the desert, you must nonetheless ‘make some desert’ in your life. Every now and then leaving ... and looking for solitude to restore, in prolonged silence and prayer, the stuff of your soul.” ✚ Carlo Carretto

“Follow Me, Satan” (Temptation of Jesus Christ),
Ilya Repin

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT
Sunday, March 9, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *BWV. 654, Schmücke dich, o liebe Seele*

J.S. Bach

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

David Williamson

Leader: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

All: The journey begins in the wilderness.

Leader: We follow the way of Jesus
who faced trials, trouble, temptation, and testing.

**All: Like Jesus, we are not alone.
The Holy Spirit is with us.
God's Word is on our lips.**

Leader: Our call is to trust in God alone,
to do God's will in all things.

**All: For God leads us not only into the wilderness,
but through the wilderness.**

*HYMN 33: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah*

CWM RHONDDA



Leader: You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
 who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
 will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust."
 Because you have made the LORD your refuge, the Most High your dwelling place,
 no evil shall befall you, no scourge come near your tent.

RESPONSE

Leader: For he will command his angels concerning you to guard you in all your ways.
 On their hands they will bear you up,
 so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
 You will tread on the lion and the adder,
 the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.
 Those who love me, I will deliver; I will protect those who know my name.
 When they call to me, I will answer them;
 I will be with them in trouble, I will rescue them and honor them.
 With long life I will satisfy them, and show them my salvation.

RESPONSE

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

(Please read in unison.)

**O God, our refuge and our shelter,
 forgive us when we fail to trust in you.
 We fall to temptation; we are swayed by false words;
 we speak false words of our own.
 We choose our ease and comfort over your challenging
 claims upon us and upon our world.
 In turning from you, we settle for less
 than the abundant generosity you intend.
 Forgive us, merciful God.
 Hear us as we call to you and grant us your salvation.
 Through the One who was tempted and found faithful. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Amy McClure

Leader: The Lord is generous to all who call on God's name.
Let us believe this good news:
Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: As sign and symbol of our desire to live in the spirit and example of Jesus,
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: *What Wondrous Love Is This*

L. Larson

Sanctuary Choir
Susan Welch, Piano

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What wondrous love is this
that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dreadful curse for my soul! When I
was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown, Christ laid aside His crown
for my soul! To God and to the Lamb I will sing! To God and to the Lamb, who
is the great "I AM", while millions join the theme I will sing! When from death
I'm free, I'll sing on, and when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joyful be, and
through eternity I'll sing on.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Kyle Caudle

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: "*Clear Out Your Control*"

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 677: *When We Are Tested*

SLANE

*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

Mary Foskett

*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, offering plates will be passed 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

Mary Kaylor

*DOXOLOGY

WONDRIOUS LOVE

To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to God and to the Lamb I will sing. To God and to the Lamb, who is the great "I AM," while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing!

*BENEDICTION

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: *Deux Versets, sur L'Adoro Te, No. 2*

L. Boellman

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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SERVING TODAY

- Acolytes: Slate Cox and Anna Scott Masten
- Deacon of the Week: Mary Foskett and Holly Kessler
- Children & Families Greeter: Kim Wilkinson
- Streaming and Sound Team: Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers, Ash Henley

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clear Out | Worship during Lent at First on Fifth

God is a clearing God, one who wants nothing to separate, get in the way, hinder the relationship we share. Yet in our relationships with God and each other, we pile the blockades high. We crowd ourselves with stuff, with opinions, with fears, with distractions. We fence off our trauma, defend our needs, and leave our relationships full of debris. Yet the season of Lent gifts us the chance to declutter our lives, to clear out and strip away and lay bare what obstructs the Way of Life. As we come before the refiner's fire, it's in the clearing that we find what we truly long to hold, and discover the Love that never lets us go has been there all along.

March 9 | First Sunday of Lent

Clear Out Your Control

Luke 4:1-13

March 16 | Second Sunday of Lent

Clear Out Your Independence

Luke 13:31-35

March 23 | Third Sunday of Lent

Clear Out Your Impatience

Luke 13:1-9

March 30 | Fourth Sunday of Lent

Clear Out Your Shame

Luke 15:1-3b, 11b-32

April 6 | Fifth Sunday of Lent

Clear Out Your Caution

John 12:1-8

Communion Sunday

April 13 | Palm Sunday

Clear Out the Way

Luke 19:28-40

April 17 | Maundy Thursday

April 18 | Good Friday

April 20 | Easter Sunday

Looking for the Living

Luke 24:1-12

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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 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. For our first film, come experience a challenging trek across Mexico to achieve the golden dream up north. 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)

March 18 | Older Adult Lunch and Learn

Please join us at 11:30 am in the Baraca Room as we hear from the Thrivemore organization. We will have folks from Brookridge sharing more about what they offer *and* will be doing games that come with amazing door prizes! They are providing a FREE hot lunch. Please RSVP in your newsletter by March 13.

Adult Ministry Team Advocacy Opportunity

The Adult Ministry Team is hosting opportunities for interested church members to meet periodically to exchange verified information about proposed federal, state, and local policies that relate to our church's mission and ministry priorities in order to prepare individuals to be able to respond constructively to these matters. At our first meeting, we decided to focus on policies and issues, such as Medicaid, that relate to our church priorities of cultivating the well-being of children and mitigating poverty in our community. We will continue to discern key issues at our next meeting, which will be held **on Zoom on Monday, March 24 at 6:30 p.m.** If you would like to join the meeting, contact Mary Foskett or Linda Jones.

March 27-28 | CBFNC Annual Gathering

All are invited to the 2025 CBFNC Annual Gathering, March 27-28 at Pritchard Church in downtown Charlotte. Find out more and register at cbfnc.org/annualgathering

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, March 9

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*)
12:30 pm Deacon's Meeting
3:00 pm Mochas with Mac

MONDAY, March 10

11:00 am Governance Task Force (*online*)

TUESDAY, March 11

7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Baraca*)
7:00 pm Lent Book Study (*zoom*)
8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, March 12

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, March 13

10:00 am Downtown Walking Group

FRIDAY, March 14

6:30 pm First Films (*Kelly*)

SATURDAY, March 15

2:00 pm Diane Messick's Funeral

SUNDAY, March 16

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*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for March are Pancake Mix & Syrup. Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

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BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.