Touched by an Angel, Maya Angelou

We, unaccustomed to courage exiles from delight live coiled in shells of loneliness until love leaves its high holy temple and comes into our sight to liberate us into life.

Love arrives
and in its train come ecstasies
old memories of pleasure
ancient histories of pain.
Yet if we are bold,
love strikes away the chains of fear
from our souls.

We are weaned from our timidity
In the flush of love's light
we dare be brave
And suddenly we see
that love costs all we are
and will ever be.
Yet it is only love
which sets us free.



Love One Another, Mark Lawrence

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER Sunday, May 25, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: Chorale Prelude H. Willan

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP Emily Hull McGee

PRAYER FOR THE DAY Amy McClure

(Please read in unison.)

Surprising God,

in the resurrection of Jesus Christ you make all things new.
Long ago you called your church to a love beyond
all social and cultural differences;
and gave them the gift of your Holy Spirit
to open their hearts to enact such love.
Give us that same spirit of openness,
that we too might discern new directions in our day
for your dream to reconcile and heal all creation.
We pray in the name of the One whose name is Love. Amen.

Leader: Lord of comfort and peace, we lift our hearts to you:

We praise you and we bless you, our true and loving God.

We pray for all who search for you that they may find their way in you.

Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all who are oppressed by governments or institutions:

for those whose voices are not heard or believed, those with no one on their side.

Bless us with a joy for justice and the strength to persevere as we work toward your coming kingdom. Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We pray for peace in this war-torn world.

(Silent Prayer)

Where there is envy, hatred and division,

may understanding, acceptance, and love flourish.

Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: Compassionate God, on this Memorial Day Weekend

we pray for all who suffer as a result of war:

for the injured and the disabled, for the mentally distressed,

and for those whose faith in God and in other people has been weakened or destroyed by the horrors of war.

Lord, in your mercy:

All: Hear our prayer.

Leader: We remember before you all who have died in the faith,

and pray for all who will die even this day,

that they may know the joy of the new kingdom that awaits us—when love and forgiveness triumph over war and violence.

We pray in the name of the One who is our peace,

the One who taught us to pray, saying:

All: 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.

ANTHEM: We Shall Walk through the Valley

arr. B. Harlan

Sanctuary Choir

We shall walk through the valley in peace; For Jesus Himself will be our Leader. We shall walk through the valley in peace. There will be no sorrow there. We shall meet our loved ones there. We shall meet our Savior there.

GOSPEL LESSON: John 13:31-35 Nikki Byers

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Kyle Caudle

Leader: Trusting in the love of God to make all things new, let us confess our sin to God and our neighbor.

All: God of mercy,

your command to love one another across all differences

opens us to new horizons,

yet we often respond with fear and judgment

that hinders your desires for humanity.

Forgive our sins, we pray, and give us a true repentance

that leads to life for all creation.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Kyle Caudle

Leader: God's promises are trustworthy and true; your sins are forgiven.

Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.

All: Thanks be to God.

Leader: 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.)

*HYMN 440: Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire

GIFT OF LOVE

SERMON: "How Will I Know? By the Love"

Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 272: They'll Know We Are Christians

ST. BRENDAN'S

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

Carol Wilkinson

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 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

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Prayer for the Day and Prayer of Confession are reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, ©2012.

SERVING TODAY

<u>Crucifer and Acolytes:</u> Kate Parker, Lorelei Clark and Eva Robertson

<u>Deacon of the Week:</u> Carol Wilkinson and Nikki Byers

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.



LISTENING ASSIST AVAILABLE

We are so excited to announce that our listening assist program is officially up and running. To access these services, scan the QR code to download the Listen Everywhere app to your smartphone. Make sure you are connected to the firstonfifth-guest WIFI network. Password: boldandboundless . Select the main channel on the app, ensure the sound is unmuted in the bottom left corner, and listen through your headphones or hearing aids.



ADDITIONAL GRADUATE INFORMATION!

Richard Srinivasan

RJ Reynolds High School Son of Sam Chandran & Christina Shodavaram **Kaitlyn Nelson**

West Forsyth High School Granddaughter of Jim & Twyla Nelson Josephine Elizabeth Carter

California School of Art & Design Granddaughter of Ross & Betty Griffith





ANNOUNCEMENTS

May 27 | Governance Task Force Q&A, 6pm

There will be a Zoom Q&A for anyone who has questions about the proposed Governance model for the church on **Tuesday night, May 27, from 6:00-7:00pm. There will be a called church conference to vote on these recommendations after worship on Sunday, June 8.** You can read more about the proposed model and view handouts from the April 29 QCC in your newsletter.

May 28 | Building Project Q&A, 6pm

There will be a Zoom Q&A for anyone who has questions about the proposed building project and its funding on Wednesday night, May 28, from 6:00-7:00pm. There will be a called church conference to vote on these recommendations after worship on Sunday, June 8. You can read more about the building project and funding in your newsletter.

May 29 | YA Summer Lunchin', 12:15 pm

Home for the summer or just need a break from work? Join Mary for lunch on the last Thursday of the month throughout the summer starting in May. This month, we'll meet at Quiet Pint at 12:15pm. You'll pay for your own meal. Come enjoy a lunch out & time to catch up!

May 29 | Line Dancing Fellowship, 7pm

Dust off your boots and grab your hat and join us for a rootin-tootin good time! Thursday, May 29 we'll be joined by Line Dance Instructor Jackie Phillips in Kelly Auditorium. She'll lead us through some exciting beginner line dances to some great tunes! \$5 donation is suggested. Contact Mary with any questions.

May 29 | Theology on Tap, 7:30 pm

Our Theology on Tap Affinity Group will meet at La Casa Lopez Mexican Restaurant for dinner, drinks and conversation at 7:30pm. Please let Matt Steen know today if you plan to attend so he can be sure there is enough space for everyone.

May 30 | Arts & Crafts Affinity Group, 6pm

Let out your inner Picasso or van Gogh! Meet the Arts & Crafts Affinity Group on Friday, May 30 at Uncorked Masterpiece in Reynolda Village at 6pm and unleash your creativity! You'll get to pick the piece of pottery you want to paint and your costs will depend on the piece you pick. Please let Meredith Parker or Sheri-Lyn Robertson know if you plan to join.

Last Chance to Order Church Tshirt!

All orders for new church t-shirts are due today, Sunday May 25th! Order at the link in your newsletter. Contact olena@firstonfifth.org with any questions.

June 1 | Forsyth IAF Interest Meeting, 12:15 pm

Do you want to create positive change in our community? All are invited to attend a brief information session with Megan Gregory, lead organizer for the Forsyth IAF Sponsoring Committee, on Sunday, June 1 at 12:15pm in the Baraca Room. Forsyth IAF is a non-partisan, multi-racial, multi-faith network comprising diverse civic institutions (religious congregations, nonprofits, neighborhood associations, and others) that aims to create meaningful change on a larger scale than we could achieve individually. For more information contact kyle@firstonfifth.org

June 6-7 | Guideposts to Happiness Workshop

First on Fifth will be a pilot site to host a workshop sponsored by Guideposts on the cultivation of happiness and joy in a life of faith. On Friday night, June 6 and Saturday, June 7, in Kelly Auditorium, facilitator Luke LeFevre will guide participants through sessions blending biblical wisdom, stories, reflective journaling, and practical tools to help cultivate lasting happiness. RSVP in your newsletter!

June 7 | Youth Pool Party

Splash into summer with a youth pool party at Roper's on Saturday June 7 from 2:00-4:30pm. All youth and families are invited for swimming, games, and fellowship. Please bring a drink and snack to share. For more information contact kyle@firstonfifth.org

June 8 | Churchwide Picnic

Come one, come all to our churchwide celebration picnic Sunday, June 8 - Pentecost Sunday! As we celebrate the birthday of the church, we invite you to a big ol' birthday party! We'll gather at Leinbach Park from 5:00-7:00pm. The church will provide meat and drinks; please bring a side or dessert to share! Kids can enjoy the great playground, and we'll all celebrate the gift of our church family. All are welcome!

June 14 | WS Pride Festival

The Outreach Ministry Team would love for you to help represent First on Fifth at the Winston-Salem Pride Festival on Saturday, June 14! You can find all the information you need to be a part of this meaningful day in your newsletter. Contact mary@firstonfifth.org with any questions.

Last Call To Sign Up! | Summer Supper Clubs

Back by popular demand! Whether you have been part of our community for a short time or many years, this summer the New Member Ministry Team invites you to take part in supper clubs during the months of June, July, and August. Groups will be randomly assigned. Sign up in your newsletter or reach out to Mary Kaylor by Tuesday May 27!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, May 25

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)

MONDAY, May 26

Memorial Day- Church Offices Closed

TUESDAY, May 27

6:00 pm Governance Task Force Q&A (online)

8:00 pm Evening Prayer (online)

WEDNESDAY, May 28

11:00 am Staff Meeting (Commons) 6:00 pm Building Project Q&A (online)

THURSDAY, May 29

12:00 pm Young Adult Summer Lunchin' (offsite)

4:00 pm Scholarship Committee (online)
7:00 pm Line Dancing Fellowship (Kelly)
7:30 pm Theology on Tap (offsite)

FRIDAY, May 30

6:00 pm Arts & Crafts Affinity Group (offsite)

SATURDAY, May 31

SUNDAY, June 1

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)

12:15 pm Forsyth IAF Interest meeting (*Baraca*) 6:30 pm Missions Committee Meeting (*online*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

Seeking Donations | Una Bendición

The Missions Committee invites you to donate diapers size 3, 4, 5, and 6 to Una Bendición. This ministry provides a point of connection between Spanish-speaking families and the many available resources in our city. Please place donations by the

Crisis Control bins.

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for May are Baked Beans (Pork & Beans, Beanee Weenees, etc.) Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour

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sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

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Youth, Missions, Adults

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y -

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