

*For Empathy, Meta Herrick Carlson*

The world is not lacking  
opinions simplified by hindsight,  
advice for the weary,  
subscriptions to the standardized.

But we are starving  
for love that resists these defenses,  
that can stand in the midst of suffering  
without getting too awkward  
or filling the silence with trite proverbs,  
wanting to earn its place by fixing  
what doesn't need fixing at all.

If only the instinct was to abide  
before we explain and decide!

List for the Spirit  
who guides us into showing up,  
who shows us how to feel on behalf of another,  
who urges our quiet bodies alongside  
the ones who are not broken but lonely,  
the ones God loves already and always

*Burdens Seen and Unseen, Brian Kershisnik*



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## First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, July 6, 2025 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Andante espressivo*

G. Oldroyd

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP

Olena Withrow

Leader: Let us gather within the covenant of love  
which binds us to God and one another.

**All: Let us gather at the table of the Lord  
to celebrate with thanksgiving  
the saving acts and presence of Christ.**

Leader: Let us gather as a Beloved community  
to bear one another's burdens,  
for in this way we fulfill the law of Christ.

**All: Let us gather to worship the maker of heaven and earth  
to whom be blessing and glory and honor forever!**

\*HYMN 335: *Praise the Lord! Ye Heavens, Adore Him*

HYFRYDOL

BAPTIST WITNESS: COOPERATION

David Hull

SOLO: *Ride Up in the Chariot*

B. Jackson King

Teresa Moore-Mitchell

Gonna ride up in the chariot, soon-a in the mornin'; and I hope I join the band.  
Oh Lord, have mercyonme, and I hope I join the band. Gonna walk and talk  
with Jesus soon-a in the mornin'; and I hope I join the band. Gonna chatter  
with the angels soon-a in the mornin'; and I hope I join the band.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Galatians 6:1-10

Roper Halverson

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Mary Kaylor

Leader: Friends, let us confess our sins and the sins of the world,  
for in confessing on behalf of the wider community  
we bear their burdens and share our own,  
thus fulfilling the law of Christ. Let us pray:

For our failure to appreciate and enjoy  
the good things you provide for our lives,  
in your mercy:

**All: Lord, forgive us.**

Leader: For our insensitivity to bear the burdens of others,  
and for our oversensitivity when we are hurt by others,  
in your mercy:

**All: Lord, forgive us.**

Leader: For growing weary in doing good,  
for working selfishly to our own good,  
for ignoring the common good,  
in your mercy:

**All: Lord, forgive us.  
Bend our wills to your Own  
so that we may sow to the Spirit,  
and in your grace reap the reward of eternal life.  
Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Mary Kaylor

Leader: Friends, peace is what you receive from God  
when you know that your sins are forgiven.  
Peace is what you have when you know  
that the destruction of sin cannot harm you.  
Be assured that you do not walk this journey alone;  
your burdens are shared by this Beloved Community,  
and through Jesus Christ all sin is forgiven.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us joyfully share the peace we have received:  
May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

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

**CALL TO PRAYER: *He's Got the Whole World in His Hand***

arr. M. Bonds

Teresa Moore-Mitchell

He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got the woods and the waters in His hand, He's got the sun and the moon right in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got the birds and the bees right in His hand, He's got the beasts of the field right in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand. He's got you and me right in His hand, He's got everybody in His hand, He's got the whole world in His hand.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

David Williamson

Leader: Into your hand

**All: I commit my spirit.**

**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: "*Free to Bear*"**

Emily Hull McGee

**THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION**

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 274: *As Grain on Scattered Hillsides***

MERLE'S TUNE

*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, 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](http://firstonfifth.org).*

**GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

**OFFERTORY: *Witness***

H. Johnson

Teresa Moore-Mitchell  
Jacob Hill, Piano

**THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY**

Kyle Caudle

Praise God from whom all blessings flow!  
 Praise God all creatures here below!  
 O praise God! Alleluia!  
 Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,  
 and praise the Spirit, Three in One.  
 O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

## \*BENEDICTION

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: *Prelude on Hyfrydol*

H. Willan

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:

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





FIRST BAPTIST  
ON FIFTH  
ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Summer Worship: Full: Four Weeks in Colossians**

The Christian life is one of fullness, in part because we follow Christ in whom, says the writer of Colossians, "all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell." Yet so often, we feel empty of hope, fragmented in relationship, starving for grace. This month in worship, we'll listen to Paul's letter to the church for encouragement in our discipleship of the One who said, "I came that you may have life, and have it to the full."

July 13  
*Fully Pleasing*  
Colossians 1:1-14  
Olena Withrow, Proclaimer

July 20  
*Fully God*  
Colossians 1:15-28  
Mary Kaylor, Proclaimer

July 27  
Children and Youth-Led Worship

August 3  
*Fully Alive*  
Colossians 2:6-19  
Communion Sunday

August 10  
*Fully Clothed*  
Colossians 3:1-17  
Promotion Sunday & Blessing of the Backpacks

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**Pray for our Passport Youth**

We invite everyone at First on Fifth and beyond to begin praying for our youth, along with their chaperones, as they attend Passport Youth camp at Converse University in Spartanburg, SC this week. We have 12 youth and 3 chaperones who will be traveling to camp.

**July 10 | Fore! YA Fellowship**

Bring your best swing and join us at Top Golf in Greensboro on Thursday, July 10 at 7pm. We'll reserve bays for play. Please RSVP to Mary by July 7 so she'll know how many players to reserve for.

**July 11 | First Films**

The return of a summer of musicals! Join us at 6:30 pm in the Commons with popcorn and refreshments as we enjoy a little theatre and film history through three successful film adaptations of "book" musicals. Our July film is Les Misérables.

**July 17 | Older Adult/ Active Retiree Peach Trip**

Join us for a "Peach Trip" to Gaffney July 17! We will plan to leave from the back parking lot at 9:00am. Please contact Pastor Amy to sign up or use the link in your newsletter.

**July 13, 20, 27, & August 3 | Summer Churchwide Sunday School Series**

This year's summer Sunday School for all youth and adults will focus on reflections and conversations inspired by Diana Butler Bass's book, *A People's History of Christianity*. Mary Foskett, Richard Groves, Chris Gambill, and Kyle Caudle will lead the study over four Sundays from July 13-August 3, 9:30-10:30 a.m., in Kelly Auditorium. For those who would like to read along, print copies of *A People's History of Christianity* may be ordered online from multiple sellers, including our local Bookmarks, or ordered as a Kindle or audiobook. Reading along is not required to join the class.

**July 18 | Churchwide Dash Game**

Join your church family at the Winston-Salem Dash baseball game on Friday, July 18, at 6:30pm. Tickets are \$10 each and include a seat in the shade behind the 3rd base dugout and fireworks! Food, beverages, and parking will be on your own. To reserve your ticket, please RSVP in your newsletter or online.. Should you have any questions, contact Pastor Amy.

**July 27 | Ice Cream Fellowship**

Calling all ice cream lovers! We will meet Sunday, July 27 at 4:00pm for another round of fellowship and delicious ice cream treats at Twin City Sweets! Bring a chair to use outside if you would like and all the money you want to use for this "sweet" gathering and fellowship time. Questions Kim Wilkinson 336-817-8904 or Carol Wilkinson 336-817-8901.

**July 29 | Quarterly Church Conference**

As is our custom, we will gather to do the regular business of the church for our Quarterly Church Conference on Tuesday, July 29, at 6:30pm by Zoom. See the newsletter that week for more info!

**Seeking Donations | Crisis Control**

The gifts for July are canned pastas (Spaghettios, Reefaroni, ravioli, etc.). Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

**Seeking Donations | Una Bendición**

The Missions Committee invites you to donate diapers size 3, 4, 5, and 6 to Una Bendición, which 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.

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, July 6

Passport Youth

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, July 7

Passport Youth

TUESDAY, July 8

Passport Youth

5:00 pm Nominating Committee (*online*)

6:30 pm 100th Anniversary Task Force (*online*)

8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, July 9

Passport Youth

THURSDAY, July 10

Passport Youth

10:00 am Downtown Walking Group (*offsite*)

7:00 pm Young Adult Fellowship (*offsite*)

FRIDAY, July 11

Passport Youth

6:30 pm First Films (*Commons*)

SATURDAY, July 12

SUNDAY, July 13

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

## CHURCH STAFF

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Olena Withrow

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**BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.**