



*Transfiguration*, Norman Adams

and there on the mountain  
they saw him, really saw him,  
saw his light.

We all know that if we really  
see him we die.

But isn't that what is  
required of us?

Then, perhaps, we will see  
each other, too.

+ Madeline L'engle

## First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY

Sunday, February 15, 2026 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Song without Words*

Emily Grissing, Cello  
Jacob Hill, Piano

F. Mendelssohn

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 99

Mary Kaylor

Leader: The LORD is king; let the people tremble!  
He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake!

**All: The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.  
Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he!**

Leader: Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity;  
you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

**All: Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!**

Leader: Moses and Aaron were among his priests,  
Samuel also was among those who called on his name.  
They cried to the LORD, and he answered them.

**All: He spoke to them in the pillar of cloud;  
they kept his decrees, and the statutes that he gave them.**

Leader: O LORD our God, you answered them;  
you were a forgiving God to them,  
but an avenger of their wrongdoings.

**All: Extol the LORD our God, and worship at his holy mountain;  
for the LORD our God is holy.**

FAMILY COVENANT

Emily Hull McGee and Amy McClure

**Clara Beverly Clark-Suter**  
Parents: Wyatt Suter and Anna Clark-Suter

Leader: Clara, for you, Christ was born into this world. For you, he taught and healed, lived and loved the people around him. For you, he died on Calvary, and for you, he was raised to new life. And little ones, you just wiggle and play and wonder and know nothing of this, which thus confirms the words of scripture, that "before we loved God,

**All: God loved us!"**

Leader: Amen!

ANTHEM: *Nearer, My God, to Thee*

arr. D. Forrest

Sanctuary Choir  
Emily Grissing, Cello

Nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee, even though it be a cross that raiseth me. Still all my song shall be, nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee. Oh, let the way appear, leading to heaven. All that Thou sendest me, in mercy given. Thy Spirit beckons me, nearer, my God, to thee, nearer to Thee. There in my Father's home, safe and at rest, there in my Savior's love, perfectly blest. Age after age to be nearer, my God, to Thee, nearer to Thee.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Scott Hudgins

Leader: Let us draw near to God, even as God draws near to us.  
My sisters and brothers, not out of dread or fear,  
but believing in the understanding and forgiveness of God,  
let us rid ourselves of what we need to carry no longer.

(Silent confession)

Eternal Maker of the endless heavens,  
lowly Christ, befriendeer of the changing earth,  
Holy Spirit, wind over the flowing waters,  
in earth, sea, and sky you are ever present.

**All: O hidden mystery,  
sun behind all suns,  
soul within all souls,  
in everything we touch,  
in everyone we meet  
you are there, and we give you thanks.  
But where we have not touched but trampled your creation,  
where we have not honored but avoided you in one another,  
where we have not received but rejected your goodness,  
forgive us and hear our plea for pardon.  
Immortal, Invisible, God only wise, have mercy on us.  
Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Scott Hudgins

Leader: Know that God is good, and that to those who are truly sorry  
God forgives what is past and enables us to begin again.  
So let us live as those who treasure God's costly generosity,  
by safeguarding God's earth, delighting in its people,  
and loving our Maker to whom be glory for ever.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us share the sign of a forgiven people:  
May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

*(Please share these words of peace with those around you.)*

\*HYMN 71: *Be Thou My Vision*

SLANE

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Emily Hull McGee

## 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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 17:1-9

Joani Hughes

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: "Leaving Home: Fearless"

Olena Withrow

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 472: *Turn Your Eyes upon Jesus*

LEMMEL

*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. 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: *Andante Appassionato*

Emily Grissing, Cello  
Jacob Hill, Piano

T. Dubois

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Kyle Caudle

## \*DOXOLOGY

## LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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: Sortie

T. Dubois

Jacob Hill, Organ

\*Those who are able will please stand.

## SERVING TODAY

Acolytes and Crucifer: Nora Arredondo, Iris Mann, and Liam McGee  
Deacon of the Week: Mary Foskett and Joani Hughes  
Streaming and Sound Team: Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder,  
Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance are reprinted by permission from the *Iona Abbey Worship Book*, ©2016, The Iona Community (Wild Goose Publications).

## 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. 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.



## EASTER LILY ORDERS

We will be decorating the Sanctuary with Easter Lillies on Easter Sunday, April 5. If you would like to give a lily in honor or memory of a loved one, you can find forms to order in the Commons or Church Office. Please fill out a form and turn it in with your payment to the church office by Sunday, March 1. The cost is \$15.00 per lily.





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **Displaced Lenten Worship at First Baptist on Fifth**

Writer Iain Chambers says, “to be a stranger in a strange land, to be lost... is perhaps the condition most typical of contemporary life.” This experience of dislocation, of displacement, of being disconnected from the familiar trappings of home is one that touches each corner of our living when we move through a season of it. From our politics to our relationships, our bodies to our emotions, perhaps none of us are exempt from seasons of displacement. This Lent at First on Fifth, we'll hear stories of people who experienced displacement – from communities, from belief, from themselves – and how God was made known to them and to us, even - especially! - when we're far from home.

February 18 | Ash Wednesday, 6:00pm  
*A People, Displaced*  
Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

Communion and the Imposition of Ashes

February 22 | The First Sunday of Lent  
*The Ones in the Wilderness, Displaced*  
Matthew 4:1-11

March 1 | The Second Sunday of Lent  
*Nicodemus, Displaced*  
John 3:1-17  
Communion Sunday

March 8 | The Third Sunday of Lent  
*The Well Woman, Displaced*  
John 4:5-29, 39-42

March 15 | The Fourth Sunday of Lent  
*The Man Born Blind, Displaced*  
John 9:1-41  
Mary Kaylor, proclaimer

March 22 | The Fifth Sunday of Lent  
*Lazarus, Displaced*  
John 11:17-45

March 29 | Palm Sunday  
*A City, Displaced*  
Matthew 21:1-11

April 2 | Maundy Thursday, 6:00 pm

April 3 | Good Friday Tenebrae, 7:00 pm

April 5 | Easter Sunday  
*The Gardener Indeed*  
John 20:1-18  
Communion Sunday

### **Writers needed for Lenten Devotional!**

If you are interested in writing a short (300-350 word) devotion for the Lenten Devotional, there are still spots left! You can read more and sign up at the link in your newsletter or contact Joy Gambill with questions.

### **Second Call for Recipes!**

Our team is hard at work getting all the recipes organized and ready for our new church Cookbook to be printed! They are asking for more recipes in the following categories: Appetizers; Breads; Breakfast; Soups; Vegetarian/Vegan; Pastas; Sauces, Rubs, Misc.; Pickles, Jellies & Jams. Please write out your recipes and turn them in to Linda Stewart, Susan Welch or the church office by the end of February.

### **February 19 | Lenten Morning Prayer, 8:15 am**

Create space this Lenten season to tap into your body, breath, and spirit by joining Lena for morning prayer on Thursday mornings at 8:15 am at the church house. Let Lena know if you plan on coming!

### **March 1 | Author Talk with Kris Norris**

The Adult Ministry Team invites you to an author talk on Sunday, March 1 at 4pm in the Commons. First on Fifth's own Kris Norris will discuss his new book “Liberating Jesus: Christian Ethics for Privileged People.” Books will be available for purchase at the event by Bookmarks. For more information please contact kyle@firstonfifth.org

### **March 1 | Safety Team Volunteer Interest Meeting**

At the encouragement of the Deacons and under the leadership of the Leadership Council, First on Fifth will be creating a new Safety Team to monitor the building when the congregation gathers, aid members and guests in entering the church house with care, and extend hospitality on behalf of the church to any neighbors around the church house. Karen Brown will be the team leader, and Pastor Emily will be the staff liaison. If you are interested in potentially serving as a volunteer on the Safety Team, join us for an Interest Meeting on Sunday, March 1, immediately following worship in Kelly Auditorium. Lunch will be provided. So that we have enough food, let Emily know if you're planning on coming at emily@firstonfifth.org.

### **March 1 | First Impressions**

All new or prospective members to First Baptist are invited to join in our First Impressions class on March 1 from 9:15-10:30 AM in the Commons. This 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. Please RSVP to Mary at mary@firstonfifth.org

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

### SUNDAY, February 15

9:30 am Churchwide Sunday School (*Sanctuary*)  
10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)  
11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)

### MONDAY, February 16

4:00 pm Membership Task Force (*online*)

### TUESDAY, February 17

7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Commons*)  
1:00 pm Older Adult Team Meeting (*offsite*)  
2:00 pm 100th Task Force (*Commons*)  
5:00 pm Finance Committee (*online*)  
8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

### WEDNESDAY, February 18

11:00 am Staff Meeting (*Conference*)  
5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsals  
    (*Sanctuary & Music Suite*)  
6:00 pm Ash Wednesday Service (*Sanctuary*)  
7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal  
    (*Choir Room*)

### THURSDAY, February 19

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

### FRIDAY, February 20

### SATURDAY, February 21

### SUNDAY, February 22

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 Pastoral Care Ministry Team (*Conference*)  
4:00 pm New Member Meet and Greet (*offsite*)

### OFFICE HOURS

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

Friday, 8:30am - 1:00pm

### Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

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

### Seeking Donations | Una Bendición

The Missions Committee invites you to donate Breakfast Cereals and Chicken Bouillon Cubes 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.

## CHURCH STAFF

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