

“Nicodemus understood this was no easy mantra. It was, rather, an invitation to be reborn – innocent, vulnerable, dependent – open to the wind, fixed on the one with the cross. He found his world had been opened and his old world contradicted. He wondered, ‘how could this be?’ He wondered whether his old self would be turned to new self. And we, alongside him, also wonder.”

+ Walter Brueggemann

“My weight is my love. Wherever I am carried, my love is carrying me.”

+ Augustine

Nicodemus Visiting Christ, Henry Ossawa Tanner



First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
Sunday, March 1, 2026 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Choralvorspiele, V. Schmucke dich, o liebe Seele*
Jacob Hill, Organ

J. Brahms

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

CHORAL INTROIT: *Ukuthula*

Sanctuary Choir
Olena Withrow, Soloist

Traditional South African

Ukuthula kulom hlaba wesono, Alleluia, igazi lika Jesu linyenyez ukuthula.
Peace in this world of sin the blood of Jesus brings.

Usindiso kulom hlaba wesono, Alleluia, igazi lika Jesu linyenyez ukuthula.
Redemption in this world of sin the blood of Jesus brings.

Induduzo kulom hlaba wesono, Alleluia, igazi lika Jesu linyenyez ukuthula.
Comfort in this world of sin the blood of Jesus brings.

THE MINISTRY OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 121

Amy McClure

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills— from where will my help come?

All: My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Leader: He will not let your foot be moved; he who keeps you will not slumber.

All: He who keeps Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.

Leader: The LORD is your keeper; the LORD is your shade at your right hand.

All: The sun shall not strike you by day, nor the moon by night.

Leader: The LORD will keep you from all evil; he will keep your life.

**All: The LORD will keep your going out and your coming in
from this time on and forevermore.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

David Williamson

Leader: We cannot earn God's grace or favor.
It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given.
Confident in God's love for us, let us offer our confession to the One
who is slow to chide and swift to bless.

**All: Forgiving God,
from the beginning you have been teaching us what goodness is,
and how human beings should live together: with integrity, justice,
and compassion – each of us a refuge for the other.
You have shown us through the life and ministry of Jesus
that you are the One who ransoms, heals, restores, and forgives;
and you call us to this same ministry in our homes, churches, and community.
Forgive our indifference and our hardness of heart.
Help us to be born again into the very life of Christ,
that this world you so love may know his peace. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

David Williamson

Leader: Friends, God is for us and not against us!
For that very reason, God sent the Son into the world
not to condemn the world,
but that the world might be saved through him.
Believe this good news: in Jesus Christ we are forgiven..

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.)

ANTHEM: *Everlasting Life*

D. Rasbach

Sanctuary Choir

God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, His only begotten Son, that
whosoever believeth in Him hath life, everlasting life. God sent not His Son
into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Jesus might
be saved.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Richard Groves

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.

*HYMN 76: *If You Will Only Let God Guide You*

NEUMARK

GOSPEL LESSON: John 3:1-17

Emily Hull McGee

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: "*Nicodemus, Displaced*"

Emily Hull McGee

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 461: *Let Us Break Bread Together*

BREAK BREAD

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

Roper Halverson

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.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Mary Kaylor

MISSION MOMENT: Crisis Control

Margaret Elliott

*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: *III. O Welt, ich mus dich lassen*

J. Brahms

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

SERVING TODAY

<u>Acolytes and Crucifer:</u>	Alfredo Colon, Eva Robertson, and Jacob Patrick
<u>Greeters:</u>	Youth
<u>Deacon of the Week:</u>	Roper Halverson and Judy Eustice
<u>Streaming and Sound Team:</u>	Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers

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. Any cash offering received that is not designated in an envelope will be allocated to the Benevolence Fund.

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.





FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

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.

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

Thursdays | 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 in the Commons. 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 this 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

100 on Fifth: March Service Emphasis

Over the years this place has given birth to many missional organizations that continue to do life-changing work in our city. Throughout the month of March we look forward to welcoming and highlighting these organizations in worship! The Task Force also challenges YOU, the members of First, to serve a combined total of 100 hours of service to these organizations and others within our community throughout the month. You can submit your hours of service at the link in the newsletter.

March 8 & 15 | Hospitality Sale

Do you want a piece of history from First on Fifth? On Sundays, March 8 and March 15, we will be selling hospitality items left from our old buildings. Come to the Commons directly following worship. These items include plates, cups, serving trays, small bowls, and more! These are quality items and suggested donations are \$1 per item and will go directly to our building costs for our new projects. Payment options are cash, check, or card on the day of purchase.

March 12 | Older Adult Lunch

Join us for lunch on Thursday, March 12, at 11:30 at Southern Family Restaurant as we connect together for good food and fellowship! RSVP in your newsletter.

March 13 | First Films

This spring we celebrate 20 years of our First Films series. Enjoy popcorn, refreshments, and an edifying experience with pew-mates and guests watching **Network** (1976) in Kelly Auditorium at 6:30pm.

Last 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.

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.

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

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

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, March 1

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:15 am First Impressions (*Commons*)
- 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 Safety Interest Meeting (*Commons*)
- 4:00 pm Author Talk - Kris Norris (*Commons*)

MONDAY, March 2

- 6:30 pm Nominating Committee (*online*)
- 7:00 pm Community Engagement Team (*online*)

TUESDAY, March 3

- 7:30 am Devotional Classics (*Commons*)
- 10:00 am Care Notes (*Commons*)
- 5:30 pm Personnel Committee (*Conference*)
- 6:00 pm Children's Ministry Team Meeting (*online*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, March 4

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

THURSDAY, March 5

- 8:15 am Lenten Morning Prayer (*Commons*)
- 10:00 am Downtown Walking Group (*offsite*)

FRIDAY, March 6

- 7:00 pm Board Games Affinity Group (*Commons*)

SATURDAY, March 7

SUNDAY, March 8

- 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 (*Baraca*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

CHURCH STAFF

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BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.