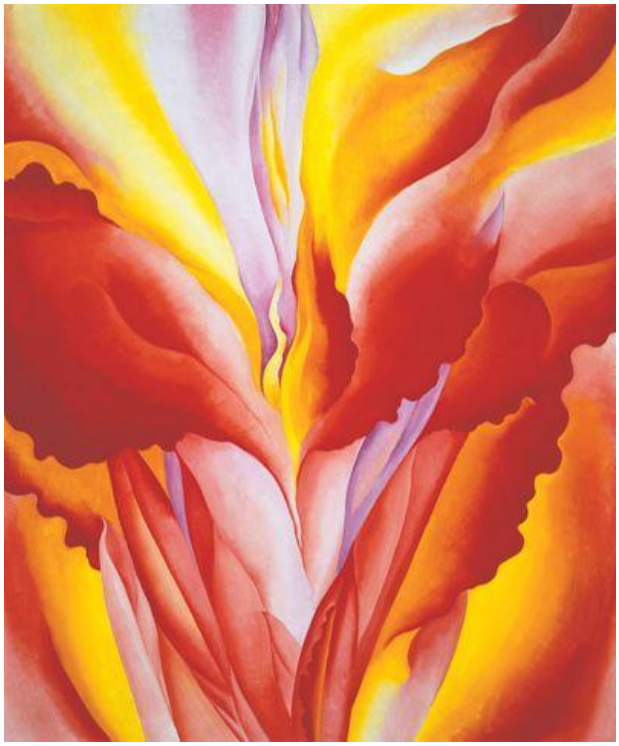
"Nobody sees a flower – really – it is so small – we haven't time, and to see takes time."

+ Georgia O'Keeffe

"My Lord God, I have no idea where I am going. I do not see the road ahead of me. I cannot know for certain where it will end. Nor do I really know myself. And the fact that I think I am following your will does not mean I am actually doing so. But I believe that the desire to please you does in fact please you. And I hope I have that desire in everything I am doing. I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire, and I know that if I do this, you will lead me by the right road, though I may know nothing about it. Therefore I will trust you always though I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death. I will not fear, for you are ever with me, and you will never leave me to face my perils alone."

+ Thomas Merton, *Thoughts in Solitude*



Georgia O'Keeffe, *Red Canna*

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, November 15, 2026 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Luxe in Tenebris* — T. Pumfrey

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP — Emily Hull McGee

CHORAL INTROIT: *Jesus, Stand Among Us* — F. Filitz

Sanctuary Choir

Jesus, stand among us in your risen power; let this time of worship be a hallowed hour. Breathe the Holy Spirit into every heart; bid the fears and sorrows from each soul depart. Amen.

THE MINISTRY OF SILENCE

CONGREGATIONAL INVOCATION — Kyle Caudle

Leader: Spirit God, in the beginning you gave life and movement, color and harmony to the universe.

All: Everything moves by your power and is one through you. And in your grace you move in the minds and spirits of people.

Leader: You give vision and insight, speaking spirit to spirit.

All: You stir the sleeping conscience, rouse the dormant mind, to seek justice, express beauty, declare truth.

Leader: You beckon us into the resurrection power of Jesus,
bringing love and joy and peace,
patience, kindness, goodness,
faithfulness, gentleness, self-control.

**All: So move us now in mind and conscience,
stir and quicken us with beauty and truth,
that we may honor you in this hour of worship
and serve you with our very lives. Amen.**

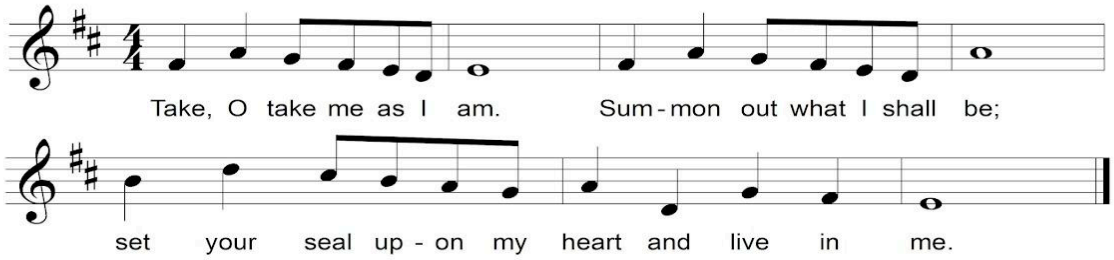
*HYMN 33: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* CWM RHONDDA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION Amy McClure

Leader: Let us pray.

**All: O Great Jehovah, help us to confess our sins.
You intend that we live in love with all that you have made;
yet, by our thoughts, actions, and the meditations of our hearts,
we show how easily we stray from your will.
Far from being led by your Spirit
we stumble along paths that lead us to death.
O guiding Spirit, have mercy on us.
Teach us to discern clearly your will and your ways.
Rekindle our desire to follow in the path of Jesus,
whose passion for obeying you leads us to our inheritance,
which is your promised kingdom.
Bear us safely there that we may rest in your grace
and sing your praise forever. Amen.**

RESPONSE: *Take, O Take Me as I Am* J. Bell



WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Proverbs 3:5-6 Karen Lefler

Leader: "Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight.
In all your ways acknowledge God, and he will direct your paths."
Let us rest in the assurance of God's promise;
for the Lord is ever faithful to lead us on right paths
and ever faithful to forgive us when we go astray.

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.)

TESTIMONY: Why I Give Anna Harris

ANTHEM: *For the Beauty of the Earth* J. Rutter

Sanctuary Choir

For the beauty of the earth, for the beauty of the skies, For the love which from our birth over and around us lies: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise. For the beauty of each hour, of the day and of the night, Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise. For the joy of human love, brother, sister, parent, child, Friends on earth and friends above, for all gentle thoughts and mild: Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise. For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given, Graces human and divine, flowers of earth and buds of heaven: Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Mary Kaylor

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 15: *God of Dawn, Each Day's Renewal* JOYFUL SINGING

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Galatians 5:16-26 Emily Hull McGee

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.
All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *"Practicing Our Faith: Discernment"* Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 68: *He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought* HE LEADETH ME

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 Susan Welch

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 David Williamson

SPECIAL PRESENTATION: BWIM "Church of Excellence" Award Barbara Lavarin

CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE

*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

POSTLUDE: *Toccata* — E. Gigout

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able, please stand.

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes and Crucifer:	Sloane Fairchild, Dylan Fairchild, Eli Willingham
Deacon of the Week:	Susan Welch and Karen Lefler
Greeters:	Steve Smith and Linda Merchant
Safety Team:	Elizabeth Sabbagh, Dean Culler, Karen Brown
Streaming and Sound Team:	Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Jeff Burchette, Judy Eustice, Julie Hall, Amber Myers, Meredith Parker

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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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 worship experience 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.

LISTENING ASSIST AVAILABLE

To access the listening assist system, please scan the QR code to download the Listen WIFI 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

November 15 | Chrismons with David Winkelman
Join David Winkelman for a special opportunity to learn how to make chrismons, the beautiful Christian symbols traditionally used to decorate Christmas trees. This hands-on session will be held Sunday, November 15, from 3:00–4:30 p.m. in the Conference Room. Space is limited to 8 people. Email mary@firstonfifth.org to reserve your spot!

November 16 | Special Program with Lunch!
Please join us on Monday, November 16, at 11:30 for lunch, followed by a special program from Randell Jones, an award-winning author and storyteller. To learn more about Randell, you can visit his website at https://www.randelljones.com. Sign up for this event in your newsletter!

November 22 | First Impressions
All new or prospective members of First Baptist are invited to join in our First Impressions class. First Impressions provides newcomers with an in-depth look at First Baptist, including ways in which people can connect, get involved in ministry, and join the church. This First Impressions gathering will be held on November 22 from 9:15-10:30 am in the Commons. Please RSVP to Mary at mary@firstonfifth.org.

November 22 | Building Dedication & Potluck
Join us on Sunday, November 22, for a special evening of fellowship, gratitude, and celebration! We'll begin at 4:30 pm with a dedication of our newly completed building project, celebrating the opening of our back lot and the new spaces it will provide. At 5:00 pm, stay for our Thanksgiving potluck! The church will provide the meat and drinks, and we invite you to bring sides and desserts to share. Our Christmas Bazaar will also be open, featuring handmade goods from church members and mission partners. Whether you're joining us to celebrate the new space, share a meal, browse the bazaar, or enjoy time together as a church family, we hope you'll join us for this special evening! RSVP in your newsletter by **TODAY**, November 15th, so we have an idea of how many to plan for!

Seeking Donations | Una Bendición
The Missions Committee invites donations of cereal and bouillon cubes for Una Bendición, which connects Spanish-speaking families with community resources. Place donations by the Crisis Control bins. Thanks!

November 15 | Called Church Conference
Below is the summary of the 2027 Ministry Funding Plan as recommended by the Finance Committee and Deacons as presented at the conference on October 27. This plan will be presented for church vote on November 15, 2026, at the end of worship. Detailed copies are available in the church office.

2027 Ministry Funding Plan Summary	
Missions & Outreach	$127,133
Personnel	$750,635
Facilities	$200,700
Ministries & Operations	$117,830
TOTAL	**$1,196,298**
Less designated & endowed fund offsets	-$101,500
MINISTRIES TO BE FUNDED	**$1,094,798**

The church will also vote on the following deacon nominees to serve from 2027-2029. These are presented by the Nominating Committee as recommended by membership.

Chris Gambill	Dana Patrick
Joseph Jones	Lynn Rhoades
Kelly King	Susan Smelcer
Linda Merchant	Steve Smith

Lastly, the church will vote on the Proposed Bylaw Change (Article V, Section 7): [Remove Spiritual Watchcare Section and replace with the following:] Affiliates are non-members who participate in the work, love, mission, and vision of First Baptist Church on Fifth. Affiliates are eligible to serve on ministry teams, but are ineligible to vote, serve as a deacon, or serve on committees. Affiliates receive ongoing care and connection from the faith community. Affiliates do not include a deacon assignment.

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control
The gift for November is Baking Items. Please drop off donations in the first-floor bins. Thank you!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, November 15
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 Safety Team Huddle *(Kelly)*
12:15 pm Missions Committee *(Baraca)*
3:00 pm Chrismons with D. Winkelman *(Conference)*

MONDAY, November 16
11:30 am Older Adult Special Lunch Program (*Kelly*)
6:00 pm Leadership Council *(Commons)*

TUESDAY, November 17
7:30 am Devotional Classics *(Commons)*
4:30 pm Finance Committee (*Conference)*
8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online)*

WEDNESDAY, November 18
11:00 am Staff Meeting *(Conference)*
5:30 pm Chancel Ringers Rehearsal (*Sanctuary)*
5:30 pm SPIRE Ringers Rehearsal (*Music Suite)*
6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room)*

THURSDAY, November 19
10:00 am Downtown Walking Group *(offsite)*
12:00 pm The Gospel According to Dolly Parton Study *(online)*
6:30 pm Youth Ministry Team (*Youth Room)*

FRIDAY, November 20

SATURDAY, November 21

SUNDAY, November 22
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)*
4:30 pm Building Dedication *(outside)*
5:00 pm Thanksgiving Potluck *(Kelly)*

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

CHURCH STAFF

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sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

Olivia Blake
Ministry Assistant & Communications Manager
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Youth, Missions, Adults
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Christina Johnson
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