

"We are all called to be practitioners. Otherwise… we're audience."

+ Father Greg Boyle, *The Whole Language: The Power of Extravagant Tenderness*

"A rule of life seeks to respond to two questions: *Who do I want to be? How do I want to live?* Actually it might be more accurate to say that a rule of life seeks to address the interplay between these two questions: *How do I want to live so I can be who I want to be?*"

+ Ruth Haley Barton, *Sacred Rhythms: Arranging Our Lives for Spiritual Transformation*

"A way of life abundant: this is God's gift in the midst of the ordinary stuff of existence. This way of life – abundant not in money and possessions but in mercy and hope – is given not only for the sake of those who are its members. It is given that these might live for the sake of others and indeed for the sake of all creation. The challenge is to discern how to live this way of life within a specific context, in *your* location and at *your* moment in history."

+ Dorothy Bass & Craig Dykstra, *Practicing Our Faith: A Way of Life for a Searching People*

Jan Richardson*, Finding the Focus*

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Sunday, November 22, 2026 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Tuba Tune* — C.S. Lang

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP — Emily Hull McGee

CHORAL INTROIT: *Thank the Lord* — arr. R. Clausen

Sanctuary Choir

Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell everyone what He has done. Let everyone who loves the Lord rejoice and gladly bear His name. He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP — Amy McClure

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

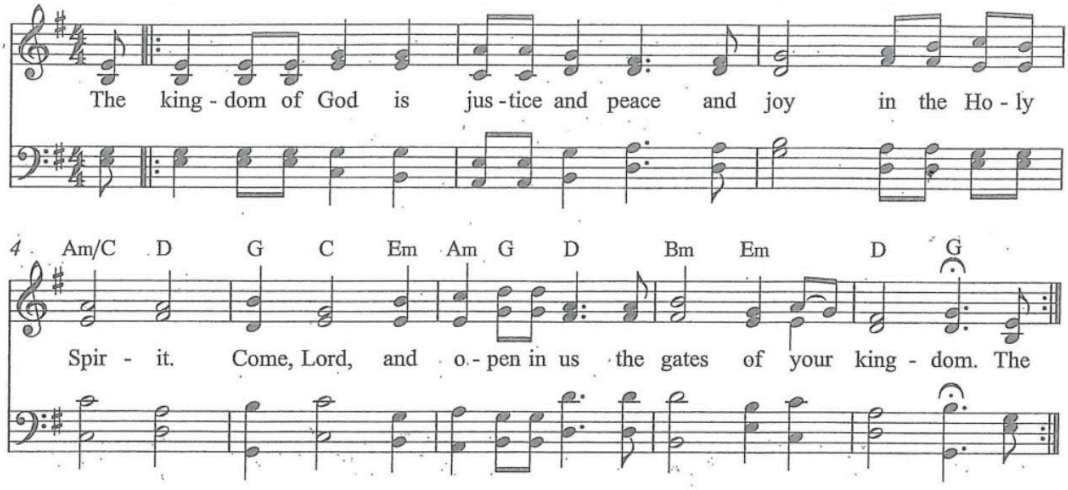
All: For it is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: Hear us, O Lord, as we pray to you:

All: Mighty and tender God,
voice of the voiceless,
power of the powerless,
we praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness,
a realm of peace, in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished,
in which the stranger is welcomed, the hurting are healed,
and the captive is set free.
Guide us by your truth and love until we and all your people
make manifest your reign of justice and compassion.
We pray in the name of your Anointed One,
the Christ who is both Servant and King. Amen.

*HYMN 63: *Lead On, O King Eternal* LANCASHIRE

CALL TO PRAYER: *The Kingdom of God* J. Berthier



PRAYER OF CONFESSION Steve Loftis

Leader: Let us acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord of all,
and confess those times when we have resisted
his rule and reign in our lives, our church, and our world.

People: Lord Jesus Christ, Judge of the nations:
we confess that we have not seen your face
among our neighbors in need.
We have not shared our food with the hungry;
we have not offered clothes to the destitute;
or shelter to the homeless.
We have not welcomed the stranger,
nor have we visited prisoners.
We have not paid attention to these, your children,
and in our neglect we have failed to serve you.
Lord, forgive us;
open our eyes to recognize your beloved family,
and give us the blessing of sincere repentance
that we may know the joy of eternal life with you and all the saints
in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE: Colossians 1:13-14 — Mary Kaylor

Leader: God has rescued us from the power of darkness
and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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: *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* — K. Goodyear

Sanctuary Choir

Rejoice, the Lord is King; Your Lord and King adore! Rejoice, give thanks and sing, and triumph ever more: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice, rejoice! Rejoice, the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love; Rejoice, praise His holy name and sing to God above: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice, rejoice! His kingdom cannot fail, He rules o'er earth and heaven; the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus given: Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Rejoice in glorious hope! Our Lord and judge shall come. Rejoice, He'll take us up to our eternal home! Lift up your heart, lift up your voice, rejoice! Again I say, rejoice!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE — Kyle Caudle

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 657: *Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life* — GERMANY

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 25:31-46 — Emily Hull McGee

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

All: Thanks be to God.

SERMON: *"A Rule of Life"* — Emily Hull McGee

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 278: We Are Travelers on a Journey — BEACH SPRING

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 — Wally Cox

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

TESTIMONY: Why I Give — Nikki Byers

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY — Amy McClure

*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: *Now Thank We All Our God* — S. Karg-Elert

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes and Crucifer:	Lucy Arredondo, Nora Arredondo, Thayer Smelcer
Deacon of the Week:	Wally Cox and Steve Loftis
Greeters:	Minerva Fox and Nancy Nathan
Safety Team:	Elizabeth Sabbagh and Terry Lefler
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 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.

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

FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Hopeful Interruption
Advent Worship at First Baptist on Fifth
Of the mission of the church, Rwandan priest and theologian Emmanuel Katongole said this: "the church is called to be a hopeful interruption in the death-bound reality of a broken world." The seeds of that stirring call were planted in the most hopeful interruption of all: Jesus of Nazareth, born as Love-made-flesh in a despairing world. In a season where heartache and fear spiral too quickly, our Advent worship will summon us with the story of Christ interrupting with light and life for all the world.

November 29 | First Sunday of Advent
Interrupting Attention
Mark 13:24-37
Hanging of the Green

December 6 | Second Sunday of Advent
Interrupting Pathways
Mark 1:1-8
Communion Sunday

December 13 | Third Sunday of Advent
Service of Lessons & Carols

Today | Extra Gift Sunday
Upon the invitation and leadership of the Deacons, all are invited today to offer an extra financial gift to God through the ministry and mission of First Baptist on Fifth. This expression of our generosity reflects God's abundant gifts for us, and in this season of giving thanks, you, beloved church, are among our very best gifts! Thank you for investing your lives and resources in our beloved community!

Today | Building Project Tour & Thanksgiving Meal
Due to some last minute shifts in work, our Building Project Dedication and Celebration will rearrange a bit. Come at 4:30pm tonight to take a tour of the space's progress and see how close we are to completion! We'll gather for dinner at 5:00pm, enjoy a program of gratitude and reflection, and shop the Christmas bazaar. We'll celebrate big upon the full completion of the project! Thank you for your patience!

December 4 | YA Christmas Dinner Party
Join our annual Christmas dinner! We'll gather at the home of Holly & Jeff Kessler on Friday, December 4 at 6:30pm. Bring a gift card, no more than $20, to your favorite local business for an exchange. Dinner will be provided. Let Mary know if you plan to attend!

December 9 | OA Annual Christmas Lunch
Please join us on Wednesday, December 9 at 11:30am in Kelly Auditorium for our annual Christmas Lunch! There will be good food, great entertainment, and even better fellowship with all of you. There is a suggested donation of $10/person and if you'd like to bring a fun Christmas dessert to share, feel free! Please sign up in your newsletter.

December 11 | Women's Ornament Exchange
Join us for the annual Ornament Exchange in The Commons on Friday, December 11 from 6:30-8:30pm. Bring a wrapped ornament and a sweet or savory snack to share. Drinks will be provided. No RSVP necessary but contact Holly Kessler at hollysolomontoo@gmail.com with questions.

December 13 | Youth Christmas Matinee
All youth are invited for a matinee screening of a Christmas movie here at First on Fifth following worship on Sunday December 13. Lunch & snacks will be served. Parent pickup at 3pm. For more information contact kyle@firstonfifth.org.

December 13 | Christmas Open House
All are welcome to share in the merriment and fellowship of the season at our Churchwide Christmas Open House on Sunday, December 13, from 4-6pm! Hosted by the Hulls and McGees at David and Jane Hull's home (1565 Audubon Village Dr.), we have a spot for everyone to enjoy our beloved community's company and the joy of Christmas.

December 18 | Tanglewood Lights!
The Fellowship Ministry Team invites YOU to join us on a wagon ride with your First on Fifth family. We'll enjoy time together on Friday, December 18 at 6 pm as we travel through the Tanglewood Festival of Lights. Cost is $5/person. Sign up today in your newsletter!

YEAR-END CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES
Thank you for faithfully supporting the ministries of First Baptist on Fifth through your financial gifts! As we approach year-end, please review the December 31 contribution deadlines for inclusion in your 2026 contribution statement. For important details regarding hand-delivered gifts, mailed contributions, and stock transfers, please see the year-end giving information in our church newsletter. Thank you for your continued generosity and faithfulness!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

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 Project Tour *(outside)*
5:00 pm Thanksgiving Potluck *(Kelly)*

MONDAY, November 23

TUESDAY, November 24
7:30 am Devotional Classics *(Commons)*
8:00 pm Evening Prayer *(online)*

WEDNESDAY, November 25
Church Office Closed

THURSDAY, November 26
Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 27
Church Office Closed

SATURDAY, November 28

SUNDAY, November 29
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

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!

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

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