

"When somebody you've wronged forgives you, you're spared the dull and self-diminishing throb of a guilty conscience. When you forgive somebody who has wronged you, you're spared the dismal corrosion of bitterness and wounded pride. For both parties, forgiveness means the freedom again to be at peace inside their own skins and to be glad in each other's presence."

\+ Frederick Buechner

"I don't have a minute to hate. I'm gonna pursue justice the rest of my life."

\+ Mamie Till-Mobley

Gathering of Women, Tamara Adams

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Sunday, November 8, 2026 • 11:00 AM

PRELUDE: *Trio for Clarinet, Horn and Piano, II. Andante* — C. Reinecke

Ryan Holland, Clarinet
Justice Ratliff, Horn
Anna Thornton, Piano

INVITATION TO WORSHIP — Emily Hull McGee

CALL TO WORSHIP: Psalm 103: 1-5, 19-22 — Mary Kaylor

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul,
and do not forget all his benefits—

Leader: who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the Pit,

All: who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good as long as you live
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

Leader: The Lord has established his throne in the heavens,
and his kingdom rules over all.

All: Bless the Lord, O you his angels,
you mighty ones who do his bidding,
obedient to his spoken word.

Leader: Bless the Lord, all his hosts,
his ministers that do his will.

All: Bless the Lord, all his works,
in all places of his dominion.
Bless the Lord, O my soul.

*HYMN 310: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* HYMN TO JOY

PRAYER OF CONFESSION David Williamson

(Please pray in unison.)

My knees hurt, Lord,
because I kneel so long,
hardly daring to lift my eyes to you.
I am never enough;
out of wisdom,
out of faith,
out of you,
out of tears.
I feel like lowlife with a pride to shame all pride,
scared to be broken by you,
and broken without you.
I am neither hot nor cold,
fit to be spit out of your mouth.
I who am too wrung and willful,
I who am wrought iron,
willow me.

Spirit,
intercede for me,
for I am out of words.

(A silence is kept.)

RESPONSE: *Come and Pray in Us* arr. L. Larson

Sanctuary Choir

Come and pray in us, Holy Spirit, come and pray in us,
come and visit us, Holy Spirit, Spirit come.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Kyle Caudle

Leader: And God said to all the contrite hearts,
"I will lead you with cords of human kindness, with bands of love.
I will be to you like those who lift infants to their cheeks.
I will bend down and feed you."
If this is not love, then who is this tender God?
If this is not forgiveness, then whose cheek is brushing your tears?
(inspired by Hosea 11:4)
Friends, through this generous love of God 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: *Fairest Lord Jesus* arr. L. Larson

Sanctuary Choir

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, O thou of God and man the Son, Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou my soul's glory, joy and crown. Fair are the meadows, fairer still the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring; Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing. Fair is the sun- shine, fairer still the moonlight, and all the twinkling starry host; Jesus shines brighter, Jesus shines purer than all the angels heaven can boast. Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of man! Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and forevermore be Thine.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Amy McClure

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 264: *Where Charity and Love Prevail* RESIGNATION

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Ephesians 4:25-5:2 Emily Hull McGee

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

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

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 694: *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive* MORNING SONG

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* Rayce Lamb

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY — Kyle Caudle

*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: *Fanfare* — J. Cook

Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

SERVING TODAY

Acolytes and Crucifer:	Abigail Townsend, William Townsend, Grayson Phipps
Deacon of the Week:	Wally Cox and Rayce Lamb
Greeters:	Kelly Baker and Beth Sabbagh
Safety Team:	Caleb Sabbagh, Terry Lefler, Jeff Kessler
Streaming and Sound Team:	Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder, Jeff Burchette, Judy Eustice, Julie Hall, Amber Myers, Meredith Parker

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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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 12 | The Gospel According to Dolly Parton
Everyone's invited to join this special four-week study! Together we will delve into what we can learn about our faith from the Queen of Country herself, Dolly Parton. Each session will offer the opportunity to reflect on and discuss Scripture in conversation with one of Dolly's beloved songs. We will meet on Zoom from 12- 1 p.m. on Thursdays beginning October 29. There's no need to RSVP; just join us via the Zoom link in your newsletter. See Mary with any questions.

November 13 | First Films
This month the Arts Ministry offers a final film exploring the "Practicing Our Faith" sermon series. On November 13, we will screen Shadowlands, a look at the life of C.S. Lewis as he discovers the profound truth that "a heart awakened to great love is also opened to great pain." Showtime is 6:30 pm in Kelly Auditorium. Popcorn and refreshments are provided. Please join us!

November 15 | Chrismons with David Winkelman
Join David Winkleman 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.

Mark Your Calendars!
November 22 – First Impressions, 9:15 am
November 22 – Build. Ded. & Thanksgiving Potluck
November 29 – Advent 1 / Hanging of the Green
December 6 – Advent 2; Messiah Performance
December 11 – Women's Ornament Exchange
December 13 – Advent 3 / Lessons & Carols
December 13 – Open House at the Hulls, 4-6 pm
December 18 – Tanglewood Lights
December 21 – Longest Night Service, 6 pm
December 24 – Christmas Eve Service, 5 pm
December 25, 28-29 – Church office closed
December 27 – Christmastide 1; no Sunday School

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
Joseph Jones
Kelly King
Linda Merchant
Dana Patrick
Lynn Rhoades
Susan Smelcer
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 | 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!

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, November 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 Deacons Meeting *(Baraca)*

MONDAY, November 9

TUESDAY, November 10
7:30 am Devotional Classics *(Commons)*
8:00 pm Evening Prayer *(online)*

WEDNESDAY, November 11
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 12
10:00 am Downtown Walking Group *(offsite)*
12:00 pm The Gospel According to Dolly Parton Study *(online)*

FRIDAY, November 13
6:30 pm First Films *(Kelly)*

SATURDAY, November 14

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)*

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

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

CHURCH STAFF

Sally Barbour
Accounting Manager
sally@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1103

Olivia Blake
Ministry Assistant & Communications Manager
olivia@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1000

Rev. Kyle Caudle
Associate Pastor
Youth, Missions, Adults
kyle@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1005

Jacob Hill
Organist / Music Associate
jake@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1004

Christina Johnson
Lead Childcare Specialist
christina@firstonfifth.org

Ryan Jones
Media Contractor
ryanjones@dogoodbrands.biz

Rev. Mary Kaylor
Associate Pastor
Newcomers, Young Adults, Community Engagement
mary@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1006

Gary Knight
Transitional Facilities Manager
facilities@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1102

Rev. Dr. Amy McClure
Associate Pastor
Children, Older Adults, Pastoral Care
amy@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1002

Rev. Emily Hull McGee
Senior Pastor
emily@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1001

Rev. David Williamson
Associate Pastor
Worship, Arts, Administration
david@firstonfifth.org | Ext. 1003