



*"The Apostle Paul," by Rembrandt
c. 1657. Oil on canvas.
National Gallery of Art, Washington, DC.*



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 7, 2023
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 7, 2023

Who wants to live in an ivory tower when there is fresh air to breathe anyway? I want to be outside with the misfits, with the rebels, the dreamers, second-chance givers, the radical grace lavishers, the ones with arms wide open, the courageously vulnerable, and among even – or maybe especially – the ones rejected by the Table as not worthy enough or right enough.

- Sarah Bessey

Gathering Music

“His Eye Is On the Sparrow”

Charles H. Gabriel / Mark Hayes. © 1998 GlorySound. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

“Preludio Religioso”

Beethoven / William M. Felton. © 1940 Theodore Presser Co. / Carl Fischer LLC.
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LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Shane Schenkel

Leader: To all God’s beloved in Lawrence and beyond: grace and peace to you!

People: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ guide us in faithfulness,

Leader: may the peace that passes all understanding guard our hearts and minds,

People: and may we all, together, hear and follow the Spirit’s call to be saints.

* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 222)

“Thine is the Glory”
MACCABEUS

* Passing of the Peace

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace (CONG 196, vs. 4)

“Alleluia No. 1”
ALLELUIA NO. 1

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

Come, let us praise the living God, joyfully sing to our Savior.

Alleluia, alleluia! Give thanks to the risen Lord. Alleluia, alleluia! Give praise to His name.

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams
Matthew 9.10-13

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Children’s Sermon

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

Gracious and loving God, you have made us your own, given us a people to belong and a purpose to pursue, and your faithfulness makes our faith possible. We confess that we aren't very good at belonging together in community. We don't like to be vulnerable. Encouragement is not our first instinct. We rarely think of how to nurture our own spirits, let alone those of others. Forgive us, O God, for missing opportunities to build up one another, and so be strengthened ourselves. Forgive us when we think faith is our achievement rather than your gift. Remind us of our responsibility to one another, and renew our faithfulness with yours, that we may live.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

God's promises are trustworthy and true; your sins are forgiven. Be at peace to serve the Lord, and may you always be known by your love.

Morning Prayer and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Prayer Response (CONGR 389)

"Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
CHILDREN PRAYING

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"It Is Well with My Soul"

Philip P. Bliss / Arr. Jerry Ray. © 1992 Alfred Publishing Co. Used with permission OneLicense.net A-401550

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those wishing to attend Children's Church may leave now)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

New Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
Romans 1.1-17

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
"Nobody Loves a Loser"

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Call to Communion

"In Remembrance"
Words & Music Mark Weston (ASCAP). © 1999, Belwin-Mills Publishing Corp.
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** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Bread and Cup

George Blake. © 1987, Lorenz Publishing Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

"Communion Meditation"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 293)

"O for a Faith, a Living Faith"

ASHLEY

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

"The Church's One Foundation"

Samuel S. Wesley/ Arr. Lani Smith. ©1984, Lorenz Publishing Co./The Lorenz Corp.
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*The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God by the memorial fund of
Mrs. A.E. Sluss & Mrs. E.L. Hayes*

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Shane Schenkel Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist/Director Substitute: Evelyn Falen

Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Brenda Schenkel Sound: Glenn Prescott

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Laura McCorkill Welcome Table: Kimberly Sturtevant

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: River City Church

American Baptist Churches, USA; Region Exe. Min. (Assoc.) Rev. Ruth Skar, serving churches in North Dakota

International Ministries Missionary: Mercy Gonzalez-Barnes, serving in IberoAmerica & the Caribbean

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<https://openverse.org/image/1524fd04-e1aa-46db-9858-436fc351f525?q=apostle%20paul>

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Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.
The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Senior Pastor

Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Administrative Support Manager

Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Bookkeeper

Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Building Manager

Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Digital Media Coordinator

Mark Robinson – mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Director of Worship Music

Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist

Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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