



*"Motherhood": Sculpture at the Catacumba Park, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil  
Sculpture by Nelly Romeo Alves. Photo taken by Eurico Zimbres*



THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
NOVEMBER 12, 2023  
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP  
FBC SANCTUARY  
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD  
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
NOVEMBER 12, 2023

*God loves people because of who God is, not because of who we are.*

—Philip Yancey

Gathering Music

Thanksgiving and Praise (Medley)

Arr. Marilyn Ham. © 1988 Lillenas Publishing Co. Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Prelude

Chorale "Nun danket alle Gott"

J.S. Bach. Public Domain

Invocation

Choral Call to Worship

"O Give Thanks to the Lord!"

Based on Psalm 100 (Mary Kay Beall (ASCAP)/Lloyd Larson (ASCAP) Transcribed by Craig Courtney (ASCAP)  
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\* Call to Worship

Neal Purvis

Leader: Before we can remember,

**People: God loved us.**

Leader: Before we could respond,

**People: God loved us.**

Leader: Before we knew what any of it meant,

**People: God loved us.**

Leader: Still today, in our best and worst days,

**People: God loves us.**

Leader: Tomorrow, when we have forgotten and when we have held on,

**People: God will love us.**

Leader: Before the beginning, in every present moment, beyond the future we can imagine:

**All: God is Love.**

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

<sup>378</sup>  
\* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 378)

"We Gather Here in Grateful Praise"

TRURO

\* 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 (CONGR 379, vs. 1)

"Let All Things Now Living"

ASH GROVE

*\* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to God the Creator triumphantly raise,  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us, who guideth us onto the end of our days.  
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us, a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,  
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished, as forward we travel from light into light.

\* Gospel Reading

Mark 10:13-14

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

**People: Thanks be to God!**

Children's Sermon

### SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer (CONGR 373)

"Give Thanks"  
GIVE THANKS

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Unison Discipline of Confession

We confess that though we are made in your image, we do not behave like you. We think we want absolute freedom in order to be happy, while you show us the path of connection and community and care. We think we want to "get over" things and ignore unpleasant feelings, while you show us the path of experience and journeying with emotions. We think we want revenge and eye-for-an-eye justice, we want you to be on our side and to punish "them," while you show us the path of compassion and mercy. Forgive us, O God, and do not remember our rebellious ways. Turn our hearts to you that we may instead remember your goodness and your call to be like you.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

*Our God is a constant in this world, ever-present with love, never letting anger overwhelm, always showing up with grace. Be assured of that grace, and of the love of God.*

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.**

### RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

God at Work: What FBC Means to Me

Offertory

"Count Your Blessings"

Edwin O. Excel/Faye Lopez © 1996 The Wilds. Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

\* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

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

*\* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant  
Hosea 11:1-7

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant  
“Holy Dissenters: Hosea”

\* Hymn of Invitation, (CONGR 587)

“Amazing Grace! How Sweet the Sound”  
NEW BRITAIN

Life of the Church · Benediction · Postlude

“Triumph and Thanksgiving”  
Franklin Ritter. © 2006 Lorenz Publ. 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:  
G. Bailey & Cora Lee Beers Price*

TODAY IN WORSHIP

*Liturgist: Neal Purvis • Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen*

*Director of Worship Music & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson*

*Livestream Video Crew: Matthew Johnston, Andrew Lord*

*Sound: Glenn Prescott • YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Laura McCorkill*

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

*Local Church: Lutheran Campus Ministry*

*American Baptist Churches, USA; Rev. Dr. Gregg Hemmen, serving churches in the Central Region*

*International Ministries Missionaries: Mark & Ngoc Pham, serving in Vietnam*

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*Call to Worship & Discipline of Confession by Rev. Teri Peterson, ©2022, usage rights granted as Bible Worm Subscriber, Liturgy Worm Level on patreon.*

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](mailto:matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com)

Rev. Cristina Adams – [cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com](mailto:cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com)

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Dr. Christy Miller – [christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com](mailto:christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com)

Senior Pastor

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Administrative Support Manager

Bookkeeper

Building Manager

Digital Media Coordinator

Director of Worship Music

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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