



The prophet Isaiah at the foot of the Colonna dell'Immacolata, at the end of the Piazza di Spagna, Rome (1857).



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP

FBC SANCTUARY

11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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God will find a way to let us know that he is with us in this place, wherever we are, however far we think we've run. And maybe that's one reason we worship—to respond to grace. We praise God not to celebrate our own faith but to give thanks for the faith God has in us. To let ourselves look at God, and let God look back at us. And to laugh, and sing, and be delighted because God has called us his own.

— Kathleen Norris

Gathering Music “Now Thank We All Our God” (Prelude No. 7)
Bach/ Arr. Marilyn Ham. © 1988 Lillenas Publishing Co. Used with permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude “Variations on “Kremser”” (We Gather Together)
Netherlands Folk Song/ Colin Curtis. ©2004 Lorenz Pub. Co./ The Lorenz Corp. Used with permission CCLI #20126570

* Call to Worship Chad Johnston

Leader: When all seems chaos,

People: can we look past the obvious to see something deeper?

Leader: When we feel like all is lost,

People: can we listen with our hearts instead of our ears?

Leader: When destruction appears the order of the day,

People: can we recognize an opening for something new?

Leader: In the midst of all that is around us and within us,

People: we try to imagine hope.

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

¹⁷⁸
* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 372)

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”
ST. GEORGE’S WINDSOR

* 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. 2)

“Let All Things Now Living”
ASH GROVE

His law He enforces, the stars in their courses, the sun in its orbit, obediently shine. The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains, the deeps of the ocean proclaim Him Divine. We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing, with glad adoration a song let us raise, till all things now living unite in thanksgiving to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

* Gospel Reading

Mark 12:1-3

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 we are indeed hard work. We resist your pruning, unwilling to let go of things that sap our energy even when they don't produce a harvest. We hide behind the walls and try to protect ourselves from having to mingle with others, because we don't like what the cross-pollination of new ideas might ask of us. We assume that if we've gotten close enough to our ideas about you, that's the same as faithfully following. Forgive us for allowing close-enough to count even when it is nowhere near your call. Forgive us for thinking we can fool you with a rotten harvest while we serve ourselves instead of your kingdom.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Know that God's justice and forgiveness make the impossible possible, and live in the hope of God's kingdom coming among us, even now. Thanks be to 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.

Prayer Response

"Blessed Assurance"

Choral Arr./original words and music by Joel Raney/Original words: Fanny Crosby. Original music: Phoebe P. Knapp.
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RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

God at Work: What FBC Means to Me

Offertory

"A Song of Gratitude"

Edward Broughton. © 1987 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. 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
Isaiah 5:1-7

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
“Holy Dissenters: Isaiah of the Vineyard”

* Hymn of Invitation, (CONGR 105)

“Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming”
ES IST EIN ROS'

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

“Now Thank We All Our God, Op. 65”
Sigfrid Karg-Elert. © 1941 Edward B. Marks Music Corp./Belwin-Mills Pub. Corp.
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The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God!

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Chad Johnston Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Director of Worship Music & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Glenn Prescott

Sound: Jim Lord • YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Kylee Johnston

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Morningstar Christian Church

American Baptist Churches, USA; Exe. Min., Rev. Dr. Marvin A. McMickle (Interim,)

serving churches in Northeast Ohio

International Ministries Missionaries: Ketly & Vital Pierre, serving in the Dominican Republic

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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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* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able