



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 1, 2024
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

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We stave off fear in its most dangerous forms when we allow our agony to be held safely by a number of others. Turning on the light doesn't make the monsters disappear from under our beds, but it reminds us who has power over the switch. Sometimes watching someone else flip the switch liberates your own hands to do likewise.

—Cole Arthur Riley

Gathering Music

“Amazing Grace” (With Ash Grove)

Arr. Marilyn Ham. © 1985 Lillenas Pub. Co. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

“The Mountains Shall Sing”

Dale Wood. © 1996 The Sacred Music Press. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Anne Munsterman
Psalm 15

Leader: Who may abide in the presence of God?

People: Who may live on God's holy mountain?

Leader: All those who walk blamelessly and do what is right.

People: All those who speak truth from their heart.

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 352, vs. 1-4)

“All Praise to Thee”
SINE NOMINE

* 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 352, vs. 5)

“All Praise to Thee”
SINE NOMINE

Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams
John 15.12-19

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

“Celtic Laud”

Craig Courtney/Pamela Martin. © 2003, 2004, 2008 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
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** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Unison Discipline of Confession

God of light, we confess that we live in the shadows of hypocrisy and self-righteousness. We honor you with our lips, but we have not served you in our hearts. We are satisfied with human traditions and norms and avoid your liberating truth. We have confused meekness with weakness, holiness with social conformity, and anger with righteousness. Forgive us, we pray. By the power of your word save us from the prison of our conceit so that we may serve you with sincere hearts.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, do not despair; God renews us by the word of truth, that we might become the first fruits of God's creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

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 400)

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"
PRECIOUS LORD

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"Where the Spirit of the Lord Is"
Stephen R. Adams/Marilynn Ham. © 1973, 1976 Pilot Point Music, © 1985 Lillenas Pub. Co.
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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
Daniel 1.3-21

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
"This World is Not My Home: Daniel Makes a Choice"

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Bread and Cup

"Let Us Break Bread Together"
David H. Hegarty. © 1991 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp.
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* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 494)

“Take My Life, Lead Me, Lord”

LANGLEY

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

“Stand Up and Bless the Lord”

Robert J. Hughes. © 1987 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by the memorials of Miss Julia Willard & Mrs. Katherine Eddy.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams

Liturgist: Anne Munsterman • Organist: Evelyn Falen • Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Steve Yoder, Joanna Gillette • Sound: Shane Schenkel

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Laura McCorkill

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Cornerstone Southern Baptist

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Dr. Mary Day Hamel,

serving the American Baptist Churches of Massachusetts

International Ministries Global Servants: Amanda & Jon Good, serving in Italy

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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

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Holly Grassy – holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

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Neal Purvis – neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Building Manager

Susan Pauls – susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Digital Media Manager

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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