



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
ELEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
AUGUST 24, 2025
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

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Spring does not just arrive because the earth's axis tilts toward the sun. The warmth of God's presence arrives because God turns toward us in love. Forgiveness arrives because of the wideness of God's mercy. Joy arrives because we see a glimmer of our new life in God in our own. As Isaiah proclaimed so long ago, the word that goes out from the mouth of the Lord will not return empty, but shall accomplish its purpose and succeed in just the thing for which it was sent.

—Thomas W. Blair

Gathering Music

"Sing to the Lord"

Robert Sterling/Mark Hayes. © 1988 GlorySound/Shawnee Press, Inc.
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

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

John Pauls

Leader: Let us seek God, who can be found.

People: Let us call upon God, who is near.

Leader: As the thirsty soil receives rain from heaven,

People: let us receive the word of God offered in this place.

Leader: Let us praise God joyfully with a loud voice!

People: For if we are silent, the stones would shout out.

Leader: Let us burst into song with the mountains

People: and clap our hands with the trees.

All: Let us worship God together with joy.

* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 341)

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

DIX

* 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!

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 20)

"Creation Sings"

CREATION SINGS

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Luke 19.37-40

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Response to the Gospel

"God Gave Us Music"

Words by Carlton C. Buck, music by Dale Wood. © 1987 The Sacred Music Press.
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Children's Sermon

Rev. Cristina Adams

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer (CONGR 17)

"This Is My Father's World"

TERRA PATRIS

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prayers of the People

Leader: For your whole, hurting world, lead us in the ways of peace, especially in places where tyrants reign and people eat the bread of conflict every day.

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For your church, whose body is strong in some places, and frail in others, nourish your church in the world, O Lord, that those who are flourishing might proclaim your word with power and those who are weak might be strengthened to do your work.

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For your earth, that suffers at the hands of your own people, pour out your healing mercy on this planet you have made, and prod us to be worthy stewards of its beauty and its gifts, that in honoring the earth we may also honor you.

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who suffer because of disease or injury, the addicted, the abused, the feeble, and the ill, soothe our suffering and heal our wounds. Protect us from evil and calm our anxious hearts. Make us whole in you.

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For those who are dying and the ones who care for them, receive them into your arms of mercy and welcome them into the company of the saints in light.

People: God of mercy, hear our prayer.

Leader: For all those whose burdens we carry in our hearts, and those known only to you, bestow your good gifts as you see fit, supplying every need by the power of your Spirit. Accept all these prayers we offer in faith, even as you continue to teach us to pray, as your Son taught us, saying:

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 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

"Ministry Not Mortgage" Moment

MNM Team

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"La Gracieuse (Grace) Op. 100 No. 8"

Friedrich Burgmuller. © 1931 G. Schirmer, Inc. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Isaiah 55.6-13

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

"Peace with Creation: Rejoicing with Creation"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 323)

"How Great Thou Art"

HOW GREAT THOU ART

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

"With Timbrel and Dance"

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*The flowers on the altar are given for the greater glory of God by the memorials of
Leta Bruchmiller, Stella Zimmer & Mrs. Ollie Bruchmiller.*

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

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

Liturgist: John Pauls • Organist & Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Joanna Gillette • Sound: Jim Lord

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Kylee Johnston

Brass Quartet, Trumpeters: Scott Robinson, Will Cooper • Trombonists: Chris Reynolds, Neal Purvis

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Bridge Pointe Community Church

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Minister Rev. Dr. Mike Sisson,

serving churches of the West Virginia Baptist Convention

International Ministries Global Servants: Barbara & Dwight Bolick, serving in Chile

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* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able

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 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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1330 KASOLD DRIVE, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66049

PHONE: 785/843.0020 • FAX: 785/843.0021 • EMAIL: OFFICE@FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM

WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM