



FBC's Nicaragua team, AMOS staff, MINSA medical personnel, & Nueva Luz community members at Nueva Luz health post



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
THE THIRTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 7, 2025
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
11:00 A.M.

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It is not enough to read books about poverty; commitment means encountering poor people. It is not enough to learn about the "root causes of poverty," though that is obviously important; it is a matter of learning about, and entering into, and making common cause with, persons who are being destroyed by those root causes, and seeking for legislative—or more drastic—ways to dispose of the causes. And it is the almost universal witness of those who do so, that in encountering the poor they are somehow encountering God, learning that whoever else God is, God is "the God of the poor," the one who takes their part, who works with and for them.

—Robert McAfee Brown

Gathering Music

"Living Hope"

Phil Wickham & Brian Johnson/Mark Hayes. © 2022 Bethel Music Publishing/Hal Leonard.
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Prelude

"Faith"

Camil Van Hulse. © 1951 R.D. Row Music Co./Carl Fischer LLC. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

* Call to Worship

Aaron Walker

Leader: Around the world, water brings life.

People: Seek us out, O God, and take us to the water.

Leader: In the Word of God, the good news gives light.

People: Seek us out, O God, and fill us with understanding.

Leader: In the bread and the cup, the body of our Savior nourishes everyone.

People: Seek us out, O God, and give us yourself.

Leader: Here is the water of life, the word that feeds, the food of eternity. Come and praise the vine that gives all goodness.

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 477)

"We Are Called to Be God's People"
AUSTRIAN HYMN

* 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 482, chorus only)

"Here I Am, Lord"
HERE I AM, LORD

Children's Sermon

Rev. Cristina Adams

Our Journey

Dava Cooper

New Testament Reading

Kimberly Sturtevant
Romans 8.22–28 (The Message)

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

Faith in Action: How We Encountered God

Susan Pauls and Scott Lamb
"Waiting"

Call to Prayer

Mark Hall. © 2003 Be Essential Songs/My Refuge Music, admin. Essential Music Publishing LLC.
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"Who Am I"

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Dava Cooper

Unison Discipline of Confession

Almighty God, You ask us to take courageous steps of faith. We want to follow You, but when the way is unknown, we often hold back. Sometimes we are afraid. Other times we would rather stay in control, thinking we know better than You. Forgive us for choosing to rely on our own understanding instead of Your wisdom.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Lord, you call on us. You comfort us and remind us that You are always with us.

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.

New Testament Reading

Kimberly Sturtevant
Philippians 4.11-13

Faith in Action: How I Encountered God

Jim Lord
"Simplicity"

Sentences of Stewardship

Caleb Lord

Offertory

Robert Lowry/Harold DeCou. © 1964 Singspiration, Inc./Capitol CMG Amplifier.
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"Something for Thee"

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

* Gospel Reading

Kimberly Sturtevant
Luke 4.14-21

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.
People: Thanks be to God!

Faith in Action: How I Encountered God

Steve Yoder
"Liberation"

Call to Communion (CONGR 463)

"From Every Race, from Every Clime"
ST. PETER

Invitation to the Table

Dava Cooper

Celebration of the Bread and Cup

“Quietude Op. 68, No. 8”
Camil Van Hulse. © 1951 R.D. Row Music Co./Carl Fischer LLC.
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* Hymn of Invitation, (CONG 263)

“To Worship, Work, and Witness”
WEBB

Life of the Church

Benediction

Scott Lamb

Postlude

“Finale”
W. Wolstenholme/Ruth Barrett Arno. © 1939 Carl Fischer LLC. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

*The flowers on the altar are given for the greater glory of God 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

Worship Band Leader: Mark Robinson • Organist & Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Livestream Video Crew: Brandon Gillette, Joanna Gillette • Sound: Shane Schenkel

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Laura McCorkill

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Centenary United Methodist Church

*American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Minister Rev. Dr. Gregg Hemmen,
serving the American Baptist Churches of the Central Region*

International Ministries Global Servants: Deliris & Moise Carrión-Joseph, serving in Mexico

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*Unison Discipline of Confession: by Memorial Drive Presbyterian Church pastoral staff, Houston, TX. This 7/13/2025 prayer was found at
<https://www.mdpc.org/media/prayers-of-confession/>; accessed 9/3/2025. Used by written permission.*

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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Director of Worship Music

Evelyn Falen – evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist

Dr. Christy Miller – christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Worship Pianist

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