




Photo by Thomas Hawk



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
AN AMERICAN BAPTIST CONGREGATION

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2026
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SEVENTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
MAY 17, 2026

God's love initiates. Love is the overflow of God's delight that issues in creation. Love is the outreach of God's mercy that enters creation as a baby and redeems lost creatures with a cry of agony. Love is the outpouring of the transforming Spirit that permeates all things, quickening them and making them holy. God's love is first and last and utterly constant throughout the long, unmarked middle.

— Ronald Cole-Turner

Gathering Music

"Jesus Shall Reign"

John Warrington Hatton/Mark Hayes. © 2020 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp.
Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

"Alleluia"

W. A. Mozart/William Stickles. © 1959 G. Schirmer, Inc./Wise Music Group/Hal Leonard Corp.
Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Joanna Gillette

Psalm 68

Leader: Let the righteous be joyful; let them exult before God; let them be jubilant with joy.

People: We ascribe you all power and majesty, O God, and sing you our praises.

Leader: Awesome is God in the sanctuary, the same God of Israel who gives power and strength to the people.

People: We ascribe you all power and majesty, O God, and sing you our praises.

Leader: Let us worship God!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 195)

"Easter People, Raise Your Voices"

WESNATE

* 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 206 v. 3)

"Christ Is Risen! Shout Hosanna!"

W ZLOBIE LEZY, alt.

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Cristina Adams

John 15.1–5, 9

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 196)

“Alleluia No. 1”
ALLELUIA NO. 1

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Cristina Adams

Litany of Affirmation

I John 5

Leader: Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child.

People: And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Leader: By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments.

People: And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Leader: Whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it who conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

People: And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Leader: Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts.... Whoever has the Son has life.

People: And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son.

Morning Prayer and 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.

Prayer Response

“Mighty to Save”

Ben Fielding, Reuben Morgan. © 2006 Hillsong Music Publishing Australia, admin.
Hillsong Music Publishing USA. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

“Draw Me Close”

Kelly Carpenter/Marilynn Ham. © 1994 Mercy/Vineyard Pub./Alfred Music.
Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

New Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
I John 4.7-19

Ministry of Music

“He Will Hold Me Fast”

Words: Ada Ruth Habershon. New words & music: Matthew Merker. Arr. by Phillip Keveren.
© 2016 & this arr. © 2017 Matthew Merker Music (BMI)/Getty Music Publishing (BMI), both
admin. by Music Services. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

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

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
"The Movement Continues: God is Love"

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 223)

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"
DIADEMATA

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

* Postlude

"March in E Flat"
Glenn Medlock. © 1987 Lorenz Publishing Company/The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant
Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams
Liturgist: Joanna Gillette
Director of Worship Music, Worship Band & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson
Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen • Chancel Choir Cellist: Audrey Herren
Livestream Video Crew: Brandon Gillette, Steve Yoder • Sound: Scott Lamb
YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Susan Pauls

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Plymouth Congregational Church (UCC)
American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Dr. Aaron Kilbourn,
serving the American Baptist Churches of the Dakotas
International Ministries Global Servants: David & Joyce Reed, serving as global coordinators
facilitating care of IM personnel

Cover art: "God is Love Let Us Love One Another" by Thomas Hawk is licensed under CC BY-NC 2.0. To view a copy of this license, visit
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/2.0/?ref=openverse>. Downloaded 5/14/2026 at
<https://www.flickr.com/photos/51035555243@N01/53427611621>

Call to Worship reprinted by permission of the publisher from When We Gather by James G. Kirk.
© 2001 James G. Kirk, published by Geneva Press.

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

* In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able