

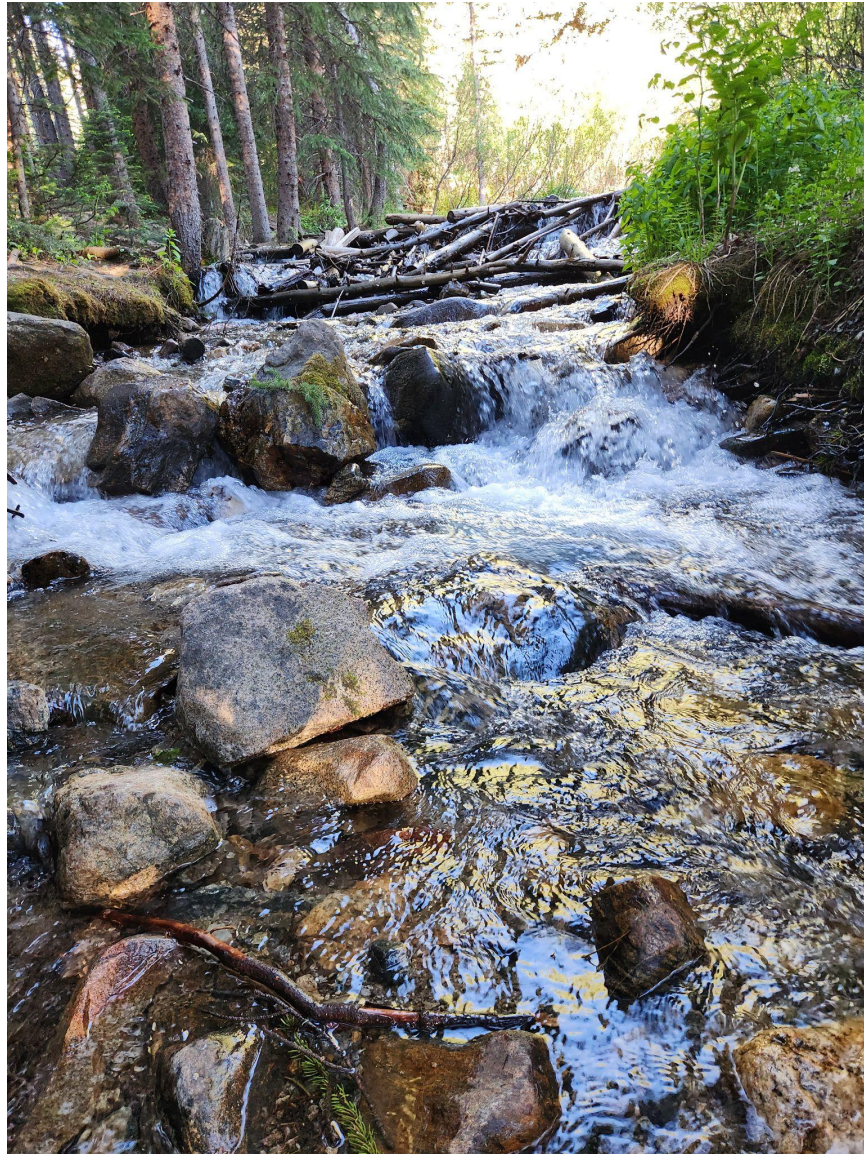


Photo by Steve Yoder, an FBC Earthworks Team Blue leader



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
SEPTEMBER 6, 2026
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
FIFTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
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When despair for the world grows in me | and I wake in the night at the least sound | in fear of what my life and my children's lives may be, | I go and lie down where the wood drake | rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds. | I come into the peace of wild things | who do not tax their lives with forethought | of grief. I come into the presence of still water. | And I feel above me the day-blind stars | waiting with their light. For a time | I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.

– Wendell Berry, “The Peace of Wild Things”

Gathering Music

“Holy Ground”

Christopher Beatty/Mark Hayes. © 1982 Birdwing Music/Alfred Music.
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. John Williams

Prelude

Suite from "Water Music," I. Allegro Vivace & III. Hornpipe
G. F. Handel/Carl McKinley. © 1926 J. Fischer & Bros./Belwin-Mills Pub. Corp. Public domain.

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Rev. John Williams
Psalm 8

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 561)

“Shall We Gather at the River”
HANSON PLACE

* Passing of the Peace

Neal Purvis

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 326)

“How Majestic Is Your Name”
HOW MAJESTIC

* Old Testament Reading

Sandra Marlatte, Mandy Yoder
Ezekiel 47.1–12

Reflection

Rev. Connie Williams
Ezekiel 47.8

Children's Sermon

Ministry of Music

“Overwhelmed”

Michael Weaver/Phil Wickham. © 2011 Phil Wickham Music; Seems Like Music; Sing My Songs;
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** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Cristina Adams

Unison Discipline of Confession

We are a part of your creation, O God, and we confess that sometimes we think our part is bigger than it is. We take up more space than we were given, believe we have more power than we do, demand that everything revolve around us and our needs and wants. Forgive us when we forget that creation is yours, you loved it and called it good before sculpting us from the dust. Forgive us when with our words we claim to love what you have made but with our actions we do it harm.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The psalmist proclaims "Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before God, who will come, who will judge the...world with righteousness and the peoples with truth." Our Creator and Judge has proclaimed that we are forgiven and free!

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.

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Reflections

Dava Cooper, Scott Lamb

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

Suite from "Water Music," II. Air

G. F. Handel/Carl McKinley. © 1926 J. Fischer & Bros./Belwin-Mills Pub. Corp. Public domain.

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving (remain standing)

(There is no Children's Church today.)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

* Gospel Reading

Melisa Lord
John 7.37-38

Sermon

Rev. John Williams
"Season of Creation: Living Waters"

Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Bread

"Shall We Gather At the River"
Robert Lowry/Mark Hayes. © 1988 GlorySound/Shawnee Press, Inc.
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Celebration of the Cup

"Near to the Heart of God"
Cleland McAfee/Mark Hayes. © 1988 GlorySound/Shawnee Press, Inc.
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* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 448)

"Come to the Water"
KELERIN

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

Suite from "Water Music," V. Allegretto Giocoso & VI. Allegro Maestoso
G. F. Handel/Carl McKinley. © 1926 J. Fischer & Bros./Belwin-Mills Pub. Corp. Public domain.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given for the greater glory of God.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

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

Guest Preacher: Rev. John Williams

Liturgists: Neal Purvis, Earthworks Team Blue Members

Organist: Evelyn Falen • FBC Worship Band

Director of Worship Music & Worship Band Leader: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Becky Harrison • Sound: Brandon Gillette

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Melisa Lord

Many thanks to Carson Stoops for his video editing assistance for today's worship service.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Vintage Church

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Min. Rev. Corey Laughary,
serving the Mission Northwest Association of Churches

International Ministries Global Servants: Katrina & Kyle Williams, serving in Southeast Asia

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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

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