

First Baptist Church



Growing Toward Christ

February 23, 2025

THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

Sunday

February 23, 2025

Morning Worship

Eleven o' clock

He sustained him in a desert land, in a howling wilderness waste; He shielded him, cared for him, guarded him as the apple of His eye. As an eagle stirs up its nest, and hovers over its young; as it spreads its wings, takes them up, and bears them aloft on its pinions, the Lord alone guided him; no foreign god was with him.

Deuteronomy 32:10-12 NRSV

Prelude

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Mrs. Pat Slomanski
arr. Diane Bish

Greeting and Announcements

Dr. Christopher Hillman

Choral Call to Worship

Spirit of the Living God

Chancel Choir

WMU Emphasis

Mrs. Hilda Ray

Invocation

Dr. Hillman

Hymn of Praise, No. 231

Congregation

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

Come, let us sing for joy to the lord. Psalm 95:1 NIV

Responsive Reading

Mrs. Mary Alice Stanley

Leader: God loved the world so much that He became human, suffered with us, and offered us new life.

People: **Jesus says, "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another."**

Leader: Yes, Jesus came to us in order that we might be the very definition of His love.

People: **And it was for us that He demonstrated exactly what love is.**

Leader: Oh, for the love of God!

People: **He shows us how to live it.**

Leader: He shows us how to do it.

People: **And He also shows us how to always be His love.**

Leader: Father, our world needs Your love right now!

All: PUT US TO USE, OH LORD! THAT WE MIGHT BECOME CARRIERS OF YOUR GREAT LOVE!

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Dr. Fred Senter

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:11-14

Mrs. Kate C. Lee

Offertory Hymn, No. 52 Congregation
He Leadeth Me! O Blessed Thought
He leadeth me beside the still waters. Psalm 23:3 KJV

Offertory Prayer Mrs. Janie Briggs

Offertory *My Tribute* Mrs. Slomanski
arr. John Innes

<i>How can I say thanks For the things You have done for me? Things so undeserved Yet You gave to prove Your love for me; The voices of a million angels Could not express my gratitude All that I am and ever hope to be I owe it all to Thee.</i>	<i>To God be the glory, To God be the glory, To God be the glory, For the things He has done.</i>
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Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Congregation
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavn'ly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Children's Sermon Mrs. Donna Prince

Epistle Reading Jude 20-25 Mrs. Genie Carter

Worship through Song Chancel Choir
We Are Called To Be God's People

Scripture Reading 1 John 4:16 Dr. Hillman

Sermon "God Is Love" Dr. Hillman

Hymn of Invitation, No. 275 Congregation
I Surrender All
"We have left all we had to follow You!" Luke 18:28 NIV

Benediction Dr. Hillman

Postlude *Who Is On the Lord's Side?* Mrs. Slomanski
arr. John Innes

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The flowers today are given to the glory of God and
in memory of Jean Suggs Patterson, honoring her birthday,
February 24, by Paula Gore McLelland



UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Sunday, February 23
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Wednesday, February 26
10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Service
5:45 p.m. Heck-Jones Meal and Program with
Dr. Wayne and Mrs. Joy Brown

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, March 2, 9, 16, 23
9:45 a.m. Sunday School
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship

Wednesday, March 5
10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Service
6:30 p.m. Ash Wednesday Service in the Sanctuary

Wednesday, March 12, 19, 26
10:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Prayer Service
12:00 a.m. Lenten Services at Methodist Church
6:30 p.m. Wednesday Evening Prayer Service

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Christopher T. Hillman, Pastor
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804-301-2580

Support Staff

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant
Mrs. Patricia Slomanski, Organist

Church Office Hours 8:30 a.m.—4:30 p.m.
Monday—Thursday
Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874

Deacons of the Week

2/23 Willis Pinnell / Mary Alice Stanley
3/02 Donna Prince / Betty Jo Prevatte
3/09 Gina Morningstar / Kirby Sanderson
3/16 Leigh Cook / Mel Ray