



*“Goodness All Around”*

*Like a winged thing in its cocoon,  
Hard to trust will open soon.  
Like the air we cannot see, but breathe,  
God is always there, making goodness everywhere.*

*There is goodness all around us,  
There is goodness in our hearts,  
There is goodness in the other,  
Binding together what once was apart.*

*Like the daily sun in dark of night,  
Cannot see it shining bright.  
Like the moon, invisible at day,  
God is always there, making goodness everywhere.*

*Like a tiny turtle in its shell,  
Is it there? We cannot tell.  
Like a mountain hidden in the clouds,  
God is always there, making goodness everywhere.*

Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

People of God, as it is in heaven, we come to worship the God who transforms the shadows of our lives into full and vibrant light.

**Come, Creator, and enliven our imaginations.**

Siblings, as it is in heaven, let all living things now flourish.

**Come, Spirit, and give us the breath of life.**

Friends, as it is in heaven, let hope and joy be the sustenance of our souls and bodies.

**Come, Jesus, and walk before us that we might follow you.**

Family of faith, as it is in heaven, may God be present with us now.

**We lift our hearts to God! Amen!**

†Hymn 43

*“A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”* EIN FESTE BURG

†Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

Life of the Community Rev. Courtney Willis

Time for Children Rev. Amy Starr Russell

Children (first grade and younger) may attend Junior Church and will return to the sanctuary during the Hymn of Response.

†Hymn 702

*“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”* ST. THOMAS

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Chris Cherry

Gospel Lesson Rev. Buck Cochran

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

†Hymn of Response 710

*“We Are Called to Be God’s People”* AUSTRIAN HYMN

All are invited to use this time to renew commitment to Christ and to Christian service.  
If you would like to become a member of this congregation,  
you are invited to speak to a pastor at this time.

Missions Moment Baker Lawrimore *Director, INSPIRO: The Triad Youth Choir*

Stewardship Prayer Scott Culclasure *deacon*

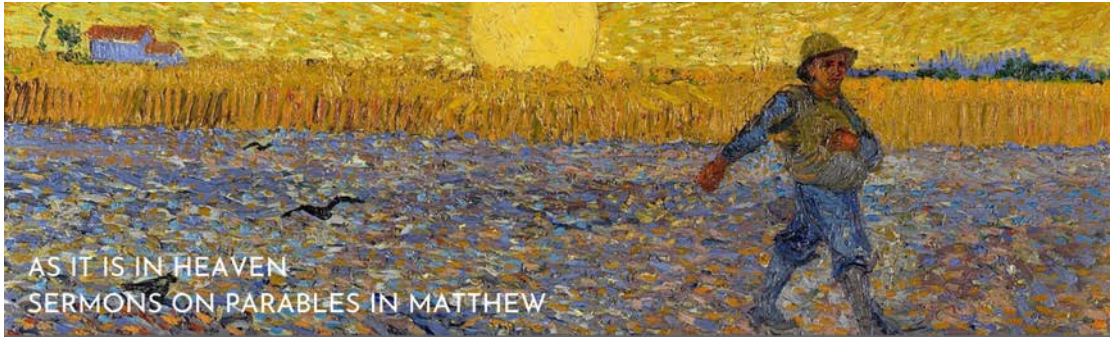
Offertory Matt Messick

*“A Mighty Fortress”* arranged by Tedd Smith

†Benediction Rev. Sherouse

†Postlude Matt Messick

*“A Mighty Fortress”* arranged by Don Hustad



**AS IT IS IN HEAVEN  
SERMONS ON PARABLES IN MATTHEW**

In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus speaks of the "kingdom of heaven." But in describing it, he never asks people to leave their own world. He tells parables, referencing the grandest of visions with the most common and familiar elements, almost as if to remind his listeners that it is possible here and now. As he announces at the beginning of his ministry in Matthew, "the kingdom of heaven has come near."

Throughout October, our sermons will focus on some of the parables Jesus tells in Matthew, and how they point us to a vision for our world that Jesus spoke about, worked for, and taught us to pray for — a kingdom that he believed can come "to earth as it is in heaven."

## LOOKING AHEAD

1 | Midweek Break  
(Resumes November 8)

5 | All Saints Sunday  
Westerwood 5k

6 | Lunch and Learn

14 | Trail Tuesday

16 | Feast of Caring

17 | Merge

19 | Commitment Sunday  
Thanksgiving Meal

22 | No Midweek

DECEMBER

2 | FBCKids Cookies and Cocoa



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO  
**CONNECTIONS**

October 29, 2023

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY | Sunday, November 5**

Join us for worship next Sunday, November 5 for All Saints Sunday. We will celebrate our First Baptist Greensboro Saints who have died in the past year. We hope you join us for this special day in the life of our church.

**WESTERWOOD 5K VOLUNTEERS | Sunday, November 5**

We have an opportunity to love our neighborhood through participation in the annual Westerwood 5K. First Baptist Greensboro will provide a water station for the race, which begins and ends on Mendenhall between the church and Double Oaks Bed & Breakfast. If you're interested in being a part of this community event, please contact Buck Cochran. Volunteers of all ages are welcome. Help is needed to setup the water table at 1:30 pm and we are finished by 2:30 pm. Proceeds from the event go to support our Missions Partner, Backpack Beginnings!

**LUNCH AND LEARN | Starting November 6 at Noon**

The Senior Adult Council is pleased to offer a series of "Lunch and Learn" events featuring various topics for adults of ALL ages! Our first event, "How to Spot and Avoid Scams" will be held on Monday, November 6 from Noon - 1:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Cost is \$10 per person. Sign up now to reserve your lunch by going to: [fbcgso.org/lunch-and-learn](http://fbcgso.org/lunch-and-learn)

**MIDWEEK | Midweek break, Wednesday November 1**

Midweek will be on a one week break next Wednesday November 1, returning November 8 with our regular schedule and new classes for adults. "Digital Wellness" with Tamika Davis and Community Connections with various FBC mission partners.



We will be having BBQ when we return on November 1. RVSP for future meals through the end of 2023 at: [fbcgso.org/midweek](http://fbcgso.org/midweek) or contact Keighley in the church office to make a standing reservation.

### ADVENT MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES

We have two opportunities to get involved in the Music Ministry as we prepare for the Advent season! Join the Sanctuary Choir for the Advent and Christmas season! Rehearsals are Wednesdays at 7:15 pm. Handbell Choir will resume rehearsals starting Sunday, October 29 at 3 pm. If you would like to be a part of the Handbell Choir, we'd love to have you! Any questions, connect with Seth Hix ([seth@fbcgso.org](mailto:seth@fbcgso.org))

### TRAIL TUESDAY | Tuesday, November 14 at 7:30 am

Join us for the last Trail Tuesday of the year! We will be enjoying the Atlantic + Yadkin Greenway (5815-5889 Bur-Mill Club Rd, Greensboro, NC 27410). Meet at the end of Bur-Mill Club Road. We'll have a brief faith based conversation then hike the trail! Everyone is invited. Connect with Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org)) if you have any questions.

### FALL BOOK CLUB | Thursday, November 30 at 5:30 pm

Our November book will be "Saving Grace: Speak Your Truth, Stay Centered, and Learn to Coexist with People Who Drive You Nuts" by Kirsten Powers. You can purchase books at Scuppernong Books downtown ([scuppernongbooks.com](http://scuppernongbooks.com)). If you need help getting a copy of the book, connect with Courtney Willis ([courtney@fbcgso.org](mailto:courtney@fbcgso.org)). Learn about future books at: [fbcgso.org/fall-bookclub](http://fbcgso.org/fall-bookclub)

### MUSIC MINISTRY SEARCH

Our Music Ministry Search Committee continues their work, searching for the next leader of Music & Worship of First Baptist Greensboro. The Committee is currently in the stage of receiving candidates. Interested candidates can visit [fbcgso.org/musicsearch](http://fbcgso.org/musicsearch) to apply, learn more about the position, and read information about the congregation developed by our Committee after recent Congregational Listening meetings. The Committee can also be reached by email at [search@fbcgso.org](mailto:search@fbcgso.org).

Music Ministry Search Committee: Will Crawford, Sarah Frye, Elizabeth Holleman, Laura Lomax, Maggie Martin (Secretary), Mark McCracken, Matt Messick (Chair), Levone Tobin Scott, Tommy Starnes and Pastor Alan Sherouse.

### PASTORAL STAFF

**CHRIS CHERRY**, YOUTH & FAMILIES

**BUCK COCHRAN**, MISSIONS & COMMUNITY

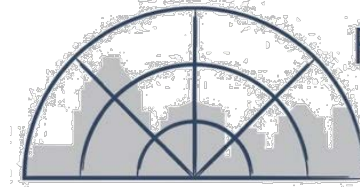
**SETH HIX**, MUSIC (INTERIM)

**ALAN SHEROUSE**, SENIOR PASTOR

**AMY STARR RUSSELL**, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

**COURTNEY WILLIS**, FORMATION & CARE

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First Baptist Church  
Greensboro