



"Communion of Saints" by Elise Ritter

First Baptist Church
Greensboro, North Carolina
gathers for
The Worship of God

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost, November 12, 2023

Steeple Bells 10:30 a.m.

Prelude Baker Lawrimore

Lighting the Christ Candle Davis Cox

Opening the Bible Sophy Gould

Gathering Rev. Alan Sherouse

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Call to Worship Rev. Seth Hix

by Rev. Thom Shuman

We come, for God gathers us here, with that community called faith:

where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.

We come, for God welcomes us here into that home called grace:

**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope; where the stranger is embraced
as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here in the family called love:

**where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's
peace.**

Come, let us worship God.

†Hymn 40

"Let the Whole Creation Cry" LLANFAIR

‡Passing of the Peace

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Life of the Community Rev. Buck Cochran

Family Covenanting Rev. Amy Starr Russell and Rev. Sherouse

Haddie Mae Harris, daughter of Quinn Harris and Lindsay Worsley

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

‡Hymn 593

“The Gift of Love” GIFT OF LOVE

Prayers of God’s People Rev. Courtney Willis

Scripture Lesson Rev. Chris Cherry

Sermon Rev. Sherouse

Generous Hearts | How We Give

‡Hymn of Response 569

“Living for Jesus a Life That Is True” LIVING

If you would like to become a member of this congregation,
you are invited to speak to a pastor at this time.

Stewardship Prayer Cookie Hamilton *deacon*

Offertory Sanctuary Choir, Janice Hix *pianist*

“Prayer of St. Francis” Words by St. Francis of Assisi; Music by Allen Pote

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred, let me sow love.

Where there is injury Thy pardon, Lord. Where there is doubt, let there be faith.

Oh, Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace, where there’s despair, let me bring hope.

Where there is darkness, let there be light, where there is sadness, let there be joy.

O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console.

To be understood as to understand, to be loved as to love.

Oh Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Where there is hatred let me sow love.

For it is in giving that we receive, and it is in pardoning that we are pardoned.

And it is dying that we are born to eternal life.

Lord, make me an instrument of Thy peace. Amen.

‡Benediction Rev. Sherouse

‡Postlude Baker Lawrimore

With Glad and Generous Hearts | Stewardship 2024

This year's Stewardship theme remembers the description of the early followers of Jesus, whom Acts describes as sharing together "with glad and generous hearts." We are so grateful for the generosity of our congregation and all it makes possible in our ministry, mission and growth. Throughout November our sermons will celebrate generosity, remembering what we give, how we give, and what happens when we give, leading up to Commitment Sunday, November 19. Please be prayerful and thoughtful about what you will commit to give to the life and ministry we joyfully share in 2024.

LOOKING A HEAD

- | | |
|---|--|
| 12 FBCKids Lunch and Play | 23 & 24 Church office closed |
| 14 Trail Tuesday | 29 Midweek |
| 15 Midweek | 30 Bookclub |
| 16 Feast of Caring | DECEMBER |
| 17 Merge (4th & 5th graders) | 2 FBCKids Cookies & Coco |
| 19 Commitment Sunday
Thanksgiving Meal | 3 First Sunday of Advent
AT&T Concert featuring INSPIRO |
| 22 No Midweek | 4 Senior Adult Christmas Event |



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH GREENSBORO

CONNECTIONS November 12, 2023

CATCH UP THIS NOVEMBER | Help us close the year strong

The Finance Committee is asking the Congregation to help make up our current budget shortfall and finish the year in a position of financial health. Please consider November a "Catch Up Month." We would encourage all who can to use the month of November to make up any shortfalls in year-to-date giving. If your giving is up to date and you are able, please consider making an additional gift to the church to support our continued health. Under either situation we want to say "thank you" for your generosity and prayers. Read the entire letter and financial report here.

FBCKIDS LUNCH AND PLAY | Today, November 12, Noon

FBCKids families are invited to join us at Boxcar after worship today for lunch and afternoon of fun playing games! You are welcome to purchase lunch at Boxcar or bring your own food. Questions? Connect with Amy Starr Russell.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY | Sunday, November 19

This year's Stewardship theme is "With Glad and Generous Hearts". We are so grateful for the generosity of our congregation and all it makes possible in our ministry, mission and growth. Throughout November our sermons will celebrate generosity, remembering what we give, how we give, and what happens when we give, leading up to Commitment Sunday. Please be prayerful and thoughtful about what you will commit to give to the life and ministry we joyfully share in 2024.

THANKSGIVING MEAL | Sunday, November 19 after worship

Join us after worship, Sunday November 19 for a Thanksgiving Potluck Meal! The church will provide turkey and rolls. We'd love for you to bring your favorite side or dessert to share. Why not get a jump on your meal prep by making double and freezing one for your Thanksgiving meal at home? In addition to food and fellowship, we will also hear a report on feedback from our Roundtable Conversations last spring, and next steps in strategic planning. We are looking forward to giving thanks for all the many ways we experience God's presence together.

MIDWEEK | Wednesdays starting at 5:30 pm

Join us for Midweek with regular programming for children and youth, along with new classes for adults "Children, Teens and Technology" with Tamika Davis of UNCG and "Community Connections" led by Buck Cochran with various FBC mission partners. Learn more about these classes at fbcgso.org/midweek



We will be having Cafe Pasta for dinner this week! RVSP for future meals through the end of 2023 by scanning the QR code or going to: fbcgso.org/midweek or contact Keighley Johnson (keighley@fbcgso.org) in the church office. You may also make a standing reservation, just let Keighley know. Note: Midweek will take a week break on November 22 due to the Thanksgiving holiday.

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) if you have any questions.

FEAST OF CARING | Thursday, November 16

Every year on the Thursday before Thanksgiving, the Greensboro community comes together to fight hunger by participating in the Feast of Caring. We are always honored to host this event put on by our mission partner, Greensboro Urban Ministry. Feast of Caring will take place November 16, 11:30 am - 1:30 pm Lunch or 5:00 - 7:00 pm Dinner. Learn more about the event and purchase tickets at: greensborourbanministry.org/home/blog/2023-feast-of-caring

AT&T CONCERT FEATURING INSPIRO | Sunday, December 3 at 4 pm

The North Carolina A&T State University Choir will present a free Christmas Concert on Sunday, December 3 at 4 pm in our sanctuary. Our very own INSPIRO, triad community youth choir will also be a part of this holiday tradition this year. Mark your calendars for a wonderful way to start off the Advent season.

PASTORAL STAFF

CHRIS CHERRY, YOUTH & FAMILIES

BUCK COCHRAN, MISSIONS & COMMUNITY

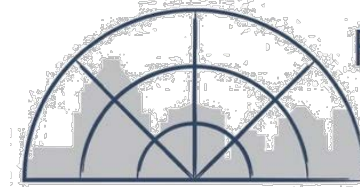
SETH HIX, MUSIC (INTERIM)

ALAN SHEROUSE, SENIOR PASTOR

AMY STARR RUSSELL, CHILDREN & FAMILIES

COURTNEY WILLIS, FORMATION & CARE

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First Baptist Church
Greensboro