



Steve Prince, *The Gospel Lesson*

Welcome to First Baptist Church of Asheville. Today is the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time. The season of Ordinary Time refers to the Sundays of the year that fall outside the periods of Advent, Christmas, Lent, and Easter. The word Ordinary refers to the ordinal numbers of each Sunday as we count the weeks between the Church's seasons. Ordinary time can be understood in terms of living out the Christian faith and the significance of Christ's resurrection in our daily lives. The color green represents the life and growth of the church and its ministry.

Worship care for preschool children and infants is offered during this hour in the children's building. Large print hymns and T-coil access are available at the back of the Sanctuary. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you may have.

GATHERING

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *A Jubilant Procession* G.F. Handel
arr. Mark Ardrey-Graves

INTROIT *Zion's Walls* Aaron Copland
arr. Glenn Koponen

Come fathers and mothers,
Come sisters and brothers,
Come join us in singing the praises of Zion.
O fathers, don't you feel determined
to meet within the walls of Zion?
We'll shout and go round
the walls of Zion.

GREETING Amy Stertz

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy One, we call upon you as we gather here.
Remind us that we may call upon you always and everywhere.
Holy One, we sing your praises together this day.
Make all of our utterings sound as pleasing songs to you.
Holy One, bring our hearts together as one body to worship you.
Help us live now and always as one body in Christ.
Holy, holy, holy one,
Grant us courage to live as you have taught us. Amen.

*HYMN 345 *When Morning Gilds the Skies* LAUDES DOMINI

RESPONSIVE READING Leah Brown

Sing to the Lord a new song.
We will declare God's glory among all people.
God is great and worthy to be praised.
We marvel at God's works all around us.
All the earth sings praises to you, O God.
We join all creation in singing unto you.
We bless your name among all people.
We tell stories of your wonder and your grace.
All the earth trembles in wonder at your splendor.
The heavens, the seas, the fields and forest join us in praise.
For you, O, Lord, hold the world in righteousness
and your people in truth.

*SHARING PEACE The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

*HYMN 478

God Is Calling Through the Whisper

W ZLOBIE LEZY

PASTORAL PRAYER

Laura Addis

PROCLAIMING

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Ivy Briggs

SERMON

“You, For Example”

Mack Dennis

RESPONDING

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Centennial Moment

Randall Barnett

OFFERTORY

Improvisation on LAND OF REST

*GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

GLORIA PATRI

Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly
Ghost; as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev - er
shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for "Glo - ry be to the Fa-ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly". The second staff continues with "Ghost; as it was in the be - gin-ning, is now, and ev - er". The third staff concludes with "shall be, world with-out end. A - men, a - men." The notation includes various note values (quarter, eighth, and half notes) and rests, with lyrics written below the notes.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Carleton Collins

RECOGNIZING AMY STERTZ’S TEN YEARS OF SERVICE

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

*HYMN 425

How Firm a Foundation

FOUNDATION

*BENEDICTION

God be in my head and in my understanding.
God be in mine eyes and in my looking.
God be in my mouth and in my speaking.
God be in mine heart and in my thinking.
God be at my end and in my departing.
– Sarum Primer, 1558

*Those who are able please stand.

Worship leaders include Deacon of the Week Carleton Collins, Lay Reader Ivy Briggs, the Adult Choir, and the Handbell Ensemble.

About this morning’s art: Steve Prince, *The Gospel Lesson*. Linocut, 2016. Steve A. Prince is a mixed media artist, master printmaker, educator, and art evangelist. A native of New Orleans, the crescent city’s rich tradition of art, music, and religion pulsate through his work. Steve’s art is inherently narrative and metaphorically complex. Through the language of line, he develops a visual vocabulary of signs and symbols to tell stories that express his unique vision founded in hope, faith, and creativity. *The Gospel Lesson* © 2025 Steve Prince | Eyekons

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PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Laura Addis

Associate Pastor of Youth

Mr. Tate Addis

Associate Director of Music and Organist

Rev. Leah Brown

Pastor of Congregational Care

Dr. Casey Callahan

Coordinating Pastor

Dr. Mack Dennis

Senior Pastor

Dr. Paula Garrett

Pastoral Resident

Rev. Doug Haney

Interim Minister of Music and Worship

Rev. Amy Stertz

Pastor of Christian Formation and Children



THIS WEEK

A Time of Prayer
Peacemakers Team
Today 9:15 a.m.

Bible Study
Today at 9:45 a.m.

Handbells
Today at 3:00 p.m.

Asheville Youth Choirs
Today
4:00 p.m. Youth Chorale
4:30 p.m. Concert Choir

Youth Friendsgiving
Today at 5:00 p.m.

Peacemakers
Book Club
Wednesday at 5:00 p.m.

Wednesday Activities
(See schedule below)

Free Market &
Lunch at the
Crossroads
Thursday at 11:00 a.m.

WELCOME

November 16, 2025

If you are a guest with us today, greetings! We joyfully proclaim the sacred worth of all people and welcome you with glad hearts. Please complete a guest card from your pew, and place it in the plate during the Offertory. We would love to connect with you.

MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

Since 2020, we have live-streamed the Sunday worship service in order to allow more members and guests to worship online. In addition to necessary A/V equipment, this ministry requires at least four technicians to serve in our broadcast room during the service. Half of these technicians volunteer their time each week, ensuring our worship can reach those who are not able to be physically present in the Sanctuary.

DEACON OF THE WEEK

Carleton Collins

PASTOR ON CALL

Mack Dennis

WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

Menu

Meal: 5:00 p.m.
Junior Choir: 5:40 p.m.
Adult Chapel Study: 6:00 p.m.
AgapeKids: 6:00 p.m.
Youth Koinonia: 6:00 p.m.
Cherub Choir: 6:10 p.m.
Adult Choir: 7:00 p.m.

Chicken Parmesan,
Pasta Marinara &
Alfredo Sauces, Green
Beans, Garlic Bread,
Caesar Salad (no salad
bar), & Dessert
Kids – Pizza
(*\$5/adult, \$3/child,
\$20/family max*)



TO
GIVE
ONLINE

FBCA.NET
828.252.4781
5 OAK STREET
ASHEVILLE, NC 28801



Youth Fall Retreat

Wednesday Night in the Chapel: Mission Stories

Wednesday, November 19 * 6:00 p.m. * Chapel

Come and hear from our team that traveled to Immokalee, Florida, last week! This group had the opportunity to engage firsthand with the Farmworker Community Ministry, alongside CBF Field Personnel Rick Burnette. They witnessed the challenges faced by those living with food insecurity and extreme poverty and the hope that grows through community partnership and faith.

Peacemakers Book Club

Wednesday, November 19 * 5:00 p.m. * Conference Dining Room

Join us for a discussion of *Star-Spangled Jesus* by April Ajoy—a candid, humorous look at faith, identity, and separating Christianity from nationalism. Discover how detaching faith from patriotism can lead to a truer, more loving expression of Christianity. Grab a meal to go from the Dining Room.

Hanging of the Green & Sharing Christmas Dinner

Sunday, November 30 * 6:00 p.m. * Sanctuary

Our annual Hanging of the Green service is almost here—a festive, family-friendly time to decorate the Sanctuary, sing carols, read scripture, place chrismons, and enjoy a holiday reception. We also continue our tradition of collecting food gifts for local families. Donate according to your Bible study class list (available at the entrances). Collections run through Sunday, November 30. Thank you for helping share Christ's love.

FOOD NEEDS



Advent Devotions Sign Up

The theme of this year's devotion is Held Deep. After the shepherds' visit Scripture tells us that "Mary treasured all these things and pondered them in her heart." The Message paraphrase says she "held these things dear, deep within herself." Each devotion will share a reflection on things held dear and deep - people, stories, moments, practices that draw us closer to the heart of Christmas. Sign up to receive these daily devotions by email.

DEVOTIONS

