



*Christ Leads Captivity Captive, Wayne Forte*

We welcome all guests worshiping with us today. Today is the Sixth Sunday of Easter. Beginning with Easter Sunday, the season of Eastertide celebrates the Resurrection of Jesus Christ and is the most joyous of the liturgical year. Also known as the Great Fifty Days, this period commemorates Jesus' forty days on earth, His Ascension into Heaven, and concludes with Pentecost and the beginning of Ordinary Time. The color white symbolizes the light and promise of eternal life through our Lord and Savior.

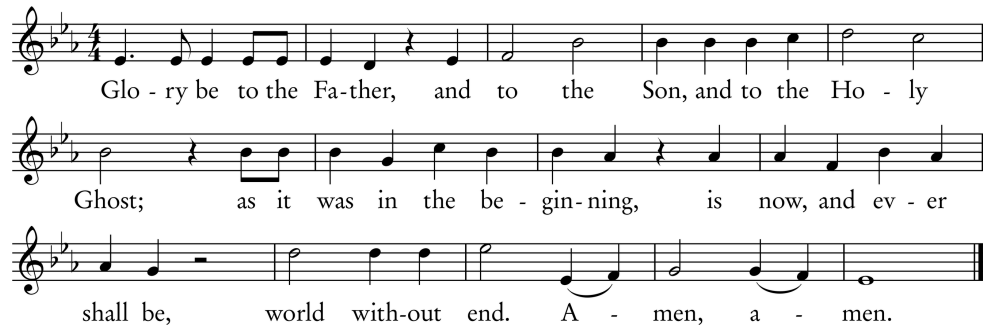
Worship care for preschool children and infants is offered during this hour in the children's building. Large print hymns and T-coil access are available at the back of the Sanctuary. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you may have.



\*GLORIA PATRI

*Glory be to the Father*

GREATOREX



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.

EPISTLE LESSON

1 Peter 3:13-22

Tammy Gorman

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“He Descended to the Dead”

Mack Dennis

**RESPONDING**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer.**

Casey Callahan

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

Asheville Youth Choirs

Jennifer Rayburn

OFFERTORY

*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

Eric Nelson

Misty Rondeau, flute; Franklin Keel, cello

\*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

OLD 100TH



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise  
God, all crea - tures here be - low; praise  
God, a - bove ye heav - en - ly host; praise  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Mandi Boyd

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN 456

*I Come with Joy*

DOVE OF PEACE

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Pilgrims Hymn*

Stephen Paulus

Even with darkness sealing us in, we breathe your name,  
And through all the days that follow so fast, we trust in You:  
Endless Your Grace, O endless Your Grace, beyond all mortal dream.  
Both now and forever, and unto ages and ages, Amen.

\*POSTLUDE

*Carillon de Longpont*

Louis Vierne

\*Those who are able please stand.

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Worship leaders include guest organist Timothy Wissler, Lay Reader Tammy Gorman, Deacon of the Week Mandi Boyd, cellist Franklin Keel, flutist Misty Rondeau, and the Adult Choir.

This morning's art is *Christ Leads Captivity Captive*, by Wayne Forte. Acrylic on canvas, 2024. Wayne Forte is a Filipino-American artist and educator based in California. He has taught at Biola University, Gordon College, and the Orvieto campus in Italy. [Wayneforte.com](http://Wayneforte.com); Instagram: [@thefortestudios](https://www.instagram.com/thefortestudios).

"Leaning on the Everlasting Arms" by Eric Nelson, ©2015 Birnamwood Publications, "Pilgrims Hymn" by Stephen Paulus, © 1997 Paulus Publications. Used by Permission. CCL License #22592236; CCLI Streaming License #22592229

### **PASTORAL STAFF**

Dr. Casey Callahan

Coordinating Pastor

Dr. Mack Dennis

Senior Pastor

Dr. Paula Garrett

Pastoral Resident

Rev. Doug Haney

Interim Minister of Music and Worship

Dr. Kendra Plating

Interim Pastor of Congregational Care

Rev. Amy Stertz

Pastor of Christian Formation and Children



## THIS WEEK

**Bible Study**  
Today at 9:45 a.m.

**Cuba Partnership  
Lunch Gathering**  
Monday at 11:30 a.m.

**Pick Up Basketball**  
Monday at 7:00 p.m.

**Wednesday  
Activities**  
(See schedule below)

**First Kids  
End of Year  
Celebration**  
Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

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

## DEACON OF THE WEEK

Mandi Boyd

# WELCOME

May 10, 2026

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 the “Connect with Us” card from your pew, and place it in the plate during the Offertory. We would love to connect with you.

## MINISTRY SPOTLIGHT

First Kids Preschool, established in 2005 as a ministry of First Baptist Church of Asheville, serves 47 children ages one through Pre-K. We nurture each child’s growth—physically, emotionally, socially, cognitively, and spiritually. We value every child as a gift from God and partner with families to support their development. Join us as we celebrate our First Kids students at their End-of-Year Celebration this Thursday at 9:00 a.m.

## PASTOR ON CALL

Casey Callahan

## WEDNESDAY NIGHT SCHEDULE

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.

### Menu

Publix Fried Chicken,  
Mashed Potatoes with  
Gravy, Green Beans,  
Biscuits, & Blackberry  
Cobbler. Kids -  
Chicken Tenders &  
Fries

*(\$5/adult, \$3/child,  
\$20/family max)*



TO  
GIVE  
ONLINE

**FBCA.NET**  
**828.252.4781**  
**5 OAK STREET**  
**ASHEVILLE, NC 28801**



*Serve Local 2026*

### **Cuba Partnership Lunch Gathering**

Monday, May 11 \* 11:30 a.m. \* Dining Room

You are invited to a special lunch gathering for those interested in supporting and learning more about our partner churches in Cuba. Six churches in Western North Carolina will gather as Kim and Stan Dotson briefly return to the U.S. This gathering will be a chance to build connections, exchange resources, and explore future opportunities for partnership. RSVP: Martha Worley or contact the church office.

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### **New and Prospective Member Breakfast**

Sunday, May 17 \* 9:00 a.m. \* The Commons

The Via Karis team invites you to join us for a time to meet other new members, connect with church leaders, and learn more about life at First Baptist. We'll introduce you to Via Karis ("Way of Grace"), the guiding theology of our church—a framework that combines the core teachings of the Christian faith with five spiritual practices to help us grow in our friendship with God and one another.

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### **Ron's Rainbow Fellowship and Allies Covered Dish**

Sunday, May 17 \* Noon \* Dining Room

Ron's Rainbow Fellowship invites all LGBTQ+ allies to a covered dish lunch after worship on May 17 in the dining room. We want to welcome you into conversation, explain a bit about what we are doing, and share a meal together. The group will provide the main dishes.

If you're able, please sign up to bring a side or dessert. For questions about Ron's Rainbow Fellowship, contact Paula Garrett.

SIGN UP

