

# STAFF

Hannah Bradley  
Rev. Kellie Denton  
Bonnie DeVos  
Alicia Donnell  
Tami Easterday  
Rev. Dr. Glenn Eernisse  
Susan Eernisse  
Rev. Mark Green  
Rev. Dr. Ron Grizzle  
Della Ruth Johnson  
Rev. Dr. Tony Lankford

Organist  
Associate Pastor: Faith Formation  
Financial Admin. Assistant  
Children's Ministry Assistant  
Pianist  
Associate Minister: Music  
Associate Minister: Music  
Associate Pastor: Music  
Pastoral Care  
Organist Emeritus  
Executive Pastor

Carrie Wood Owens  
Ben Pack  
Charles Phelps  
Bo Rodgers  
Kate Sandlin  
Amy Sheridan  
Rev. Dr. Jeremy Shoulta  
Rev. Christopher Simonton  
Kayanne Smith  
Rev. Brian West  
Tammy Wikholm  
April Wood

Office Administrator  
Food Services/Chef  
Ministry of Caring & Sound Tech  
Director of Maintenance  
Student Ministry Assistant  
Communications  
Senior Pastor  
Associate Pastor: Students  
Music Admin. Assistant  
Interim Director of the Family Life Center  
Director of Children's Ministries  
Financial Administrator

## WORSHIP NOTES

Restrooms are located in the Foyer and in the hallway behind the Sanctuary (please exit through the piano-side door).

Childcare is available for infants, toddlers and PreK in the nursery. An usher will be glad to lead you to the nursery area (below the Banquet Hall).

**Clergy of the Week:** Glenn & Susan Eernisse (glenn.eernisse@fbcgainesville.org or susan.eernisse@fbcgainesville.org)

**Deacon Team of the Week:** Cindy Bryant, Richard Weaver and Julie Weaver

If you have any safety concerns or needs this morning, please feel welcome to speak with our security officer, Ret. Lt. Nina Harkins, who usually can be found in the church foyer.

First Baptist Church is a **Stephen Ministry congregation**. Stephen Ministers are caregivers trained to provide one-to-one care to those experiencing a difficult time in life. If you would like to be put in touch with a Stephen Minister, please call **770-534-7354**.

If you are visiting us today, please scan the QR code to complete our Guest Connect Form. We would love to hear from you!



Your financial support gives First Baptist Church the opportunity to share the love of Christ in Gainesville and beyond. **To give online or to set up a recurring donation, please visit [www.fbcgainesville.org/give](http://www.fbcgainesville.org/give) or scan the QR code.** Apple pay is also available on your giving screen



**FIRST BAPTIST**  
*of* **GAINESVILLE**

751 Green Street, N.W. | Gainesville, GA 30501  
Church Office: **770-534-7354** | Family Life Center: **770-535-0478**

[www.fbcgainesville.org](http://www.fbcgainesville.org)

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**FIRST BAPTIST**  
*of* **GAINESVILLE**

Grace discovered.  
Traditions renewed.

Welcome to worship! We encourage all guests to complete a Connect Card (located in the pew ) and drop it in the offering plate during the service. You are also invited to stop by the Guest Table (located in the Foyer) to receive further information about First Baptist Church.

“God of the Wilderness”

First Sunday of Lent  
**March 9, 2025 | 11:00 AM**

**First Sunday of Lent**  
**March 9, 2025 at 11:00 AM**  
 First Baptist Church Sanctuary

**Gathering Music** *In Christ Alone* arr. Sorenson  
 Carrie Owens, Piano

**Chiming of the Hour**

**Prelude** *Be Still My Soul* Sibelins  
 Curtis Malcom, Violin

“Be still my soul; the Lord is on thy side; Bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;  
 Leave to thy God to order and provide; In every change He faithful will remain.  
 Be still my soul! Thy best, thy heavenly Friend...Thro’ thorny ways leads to a joyful  
 end.”-words by Katharina Von Schlegel

**Processional of the Cross and Lighting of the Altar Candles** Charlie VanLandingham  
 James Aklotsoe and Adelynn VanLandingham, Acolytes

**Call to Worship SCB#10** *He Will Hold Me Fast* Haberson/Merker  
**Everyone please sing on the chorus.** Trio: Mark Green, Carrie Owens and Tim Corbin  
 Carl Bedingfield, Double Bass; Hannah Bradley, Cello

**Recognition of FBC Acolytes +** Christy Malcom  
 Scripture Reading: Adelynn VanLandingham  
 Prayer: Kamden Tafel

**\*Hymn of Praise No. 361** *My Jesus, I Love Thee* Featherston  
 Stanzas 1 & 2

**Invocation, Welcome & Opportunities to Serve** Rev. Dr. Tony Lankford

**Missional Partner Spotlight** Javier Perez from  
 CBF Global Missions

**Pastoral Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer** Rev. Dr. Ron Grizzle  
 Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name  
 Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.  
 Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses  
 As we forgive those who trespass against us.  
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**\*Offertory Hymn No. 641** *Higher Ground* Oatman  
 Stanzas 1 & 3

**\*Offertory Prayer** Janice Hale

**Offertory Praise** *God of Grace and God of Glory* arr. Dunn  
 Exaltation Orchestra; Rev. Dr. Glenn Eernisse, Director

**\*The Doxology (No. 706)** Ken  
 (Children K through 5th grades are invited to Children’s Church in Room 108)

**Children’s Prayer** Tammy Wikholm

**Choral Worship** *Goodness of God with God Is So Good* arr. McDonald  
 Sanctuary Choir; Exaltation Orchestra; Rev. Mark Green, Director

*God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He’s so good to me. I love You, Lord. O your mercy never fails me, All my days I’ve been held in Your hands; From the moment that I wake up until I lay my head, O I will sing of the goodness of God.*  
*Chorus: And all my life You have been faithful, And all my life You have been so, so good; With ev’ry breath that I am able, O I will sing of the goodness of God.*  
*I love Your voice, You have led me through the fire, And in darkest nights You are close like no other; I’ve known You as a Father, I’ve known You as a Friend, And I have lived in the goodness of God. Chorus*  
*‘Cause Your goodness is running after, running after me, You goodness is running after, running after me; With my life laid down, I surrender now, I give You ev’rything, ‘Cause Your goodness is running after, running after me. Chorus*

**Sermon** *“God of the Wilderness”* Rev. Dr. Jeremy Shoulta  
 (Isaiah 43:16-21; Pew Bible No. 1127)

*Thus says the Lord,  
 who makes a way in the sea,  
 a path in the mighty waters,  
 who brings out chariot and horse,  
 army and warrior;  
 they lie down; they cannot rise;  
 they are extinguished, quenched like a wick:  
 Do not remember the former things  
 or consider the things of old.  
 I am about to do a new thing;  
 now it springs forth; do you not perceive it?  
 I will make a way in the wilderness  
 and rivers in the desert.  
 The wild animals will honor me,  
 the jackals and the ostriches,  
 for I give water in the wilderness,  
 rivers in the desert,  
 to give drink to my chosen people,  
 the people whom I formed for myself  
 so that they might declare my praise.*

**\*Hymn of Response No. 491** *Wherever He Leads I’ll Go* McKinney  
 Stanzas 1 & 4

**\*Benediction** Rev. Dr. Jeremy Shoulta

**Postlude** *Toccata on Hyfrydol* arr. Raney  
 Hannah Bradley, Organ

+ FBC Acolytes being honored today:  
 James Aklotsoe\*, Henson Brock, Fiona Connell\*, Tripp Davis, Jax Hammons, Maddox Hammons, Lyla Kate Hartness\*, Dub Jones\*, Lucy Koskovich, Abbie Lathem, Clifton Malcom, Ollie Malcom, Macy Shoulta, Hudson Tafel\*, Kamden Tafel, Adelynn Vanlandingham, Ella Wheeler and Madelyn Wheeler\*. (\* New Acolytes)

\*Denotes congregation to stand.