

Sunday Morning Worship

May 24, 2026



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

May 24, 2026

King's Kids Choir — “My God Is Powerful”

Welcome & Announcements

Silent Prayer / Prayer of Confession

Call to Worship — Isaiah 6:1-7

Song — Holy, Holy, Holy

The Word Made Flesh

Song — I Set My Hope On Jesus

Scripture Reading — Leviticus 16:1-17

Pastoral Prayer

Song — Before the Throne of God Above

Prayer of Thanks

Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — Kevin Rogers

“Christ Our Advocate”

Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Song — Come, Ye Sinners

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — Isaiah 6:1-7 (ESV)

¹ In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. ² Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. ³ And one called to another and said:

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory!”

⁴ And the foundations of the thresholds shook at the voice of him who called, and the house was filled with smoke. ⁵ And I said: “Woe is me! For I am lost; for I am a man of unclean lips, and I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips; for my eyes have seen the King, the LORD of hosts!”

⁶ Then one of the seraphim flew to me, having in his hand a burning coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. ⁷ And he touched my mouth and said: “Behold, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away, and your sin atoned for.”

Holy, Holy, Holy

Reginald Heber | John B. Dykes

Verse 1:

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty
Early in the morning
Our song shall rise to Thee
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

Verse 2:

Holy, holy, holy!
All the saints adore Thee
Casting down their golden crowns
Around the glassy sea
Cherubim and seraphim
Falling down before Thee
Which was and is
And evermore shall be

Verse 3:

Holy, holy, holy!
Though the darkness hide Thee
Though the eye of sinful man
Thy glory may not see
Only Thou art holy
There is none beside Thee
Perfect in power
Love and purity

Verse 4:

Holy, holy, holy!
Lord God Almighty
All Thy works shall praise Thy name
In earth and sky and sea
Holy, holy, holy!
Merciful and mighty
God in three persons
Blessed Trinity

The Word Made Flesh *

We confess the mystery and wonder
of God made flesh
and rejoice in our great salvation
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit,
the Son created all things,
sustains all things,
and makes all things new.
Truly God,
He became truly man,
two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary
and lived among us.
Crucified, dead, and buried,
He rose on the third day,
ascended to heaven,
and will come again
in glory and judgment.

For us,
He kept the Law,
atoned for sin,
and satisfied God's wrath.
He took our filthy rags
and gave us
His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,
building His church,
interceding for us,
and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord;
we praise His holy Name forever.

Amen.

* The Ligonier Statement on Christology ("The Word Made Flesh") — is a summary of biblical truth intended to serve the church by encapsulating the historic, orthodox, biblical Christology of the Christian church in a form simple to confess. Info at: christologystatement.com

I Set My Hope On Jesus

Matt Boswell | Matt Papa | Keith Getty

Verse 1:

When this life of trials test my faith
I set my hope on Jesus
When the questions come and doubts remain
I set my hope on Jesus
For the deepest wounds that time won't heal
There's a joy that runs still deeper
There's a truth that's more than all I feel
I set my hope on Jesus

Chorus:

I set my hope on Jesus
My rock, my only trust
Who set His heart upon me first
I set my hope on Jesus

Verse 2:

Though I falter in this war with sin
I set my hope on Jesus
When I fail the fight and sink within
I set my hope on Jesus
Though the shame would drown me in its sea
And I dread the waves of justice
I will cast my life on Calvary
I set my hope on Jesus

Verse 3:

Though the world call me to leave my Lord
I set my hope on Jesus
Though it offer all its vain rewards
I set my hope on Jesus
Though this heart of mine is prone to stray
Give me grace enough to finish
'Til I worship on that final day
I set my hope on Jesus

Scripture Reading — Leviticus 16:1-17 (ESV)

¹The LORD spoke to Moses after the death of the two sons of Aaron, when they drew near before the LORD and died, ²and the LORD said to Moses, “Tell Aaron your brother not to come at any time into the Holy Place inside the veil, before the mercy seat that is on the ark, so that he may not die. For I will appear in the cloud over the mercy seat. ³But in this way Aaron shall come into the Holy Place: with a bull from the herd for a sin offering and a ram for a burnt offering. ⁴He shall put on the holy linen coat and shall have the linen undergarment on his body, and he shall tie the linen sash around his waist, and wear the linen turban; these are the holy garments. He shall bathe his body in water and then put them on. ⁵And he shall take from the congregation of the people of Israel two male goats for a sin offering, and one ram for a burnt offering.

⁶“Aaron shall offer the bull as a sin offering for himself and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. ⁷Then he shall take the two goats and set them before the LORD at the entrance of the tent of meeting. ⁸And Aaron shall cast lots over the two goats, one lot for the LORD and the other lot for Azazel. ⁹And Aaron shall present the goat on which the lot fell for the LORD and use it as a sin offering, ¹⁰but the goat on which the lot fell for Azazel shall be presented alive before the LORD to make atonement over it, that it may be sent away into the wilderness to Azazel.

¹¹“Aaron shall present the bull as a sin offering for himself, and shall make atonement for himself and for his house. He shall kill the bull as a sin offering for himself. ¹²And he shall take a censer full of coals of fire from the altar before the LORD, and two handfuls of sweet incense beaten small, and he shall bring it inside the veil ¹³and put the incense on the fire before the LORD, that the cloud of the incense may cover the mercy seat that is over the testimony, so that he does not die. ¹⁴And he shall take some of the blood of the bull and sprinkle it with his finger on the front of the mercy seat on the east side, and in front of the mercy seat he shall sprinkle some of the blood with his finger seven times.

¹⁵“Then he shall kill the goat of the sin offering that is for the people and bring its blood inside the veil and do with its blood as he did with the blood of the bull, sprinkling it over the mercy seat and in front of the mercy seat. ¹⁶Thus he shall make atonement for the Holy Place, because of the uncleannesses of the people of Israel and because of their transgressions, all their sins. And so he shall do for the tent of meeting, which dwells with them in the midst of their uncleannesses. ¹⁷No one may be in the tent of meeting from the time he enters to make atonement in the Holy Place until he comes out and has made atonement for himself and for his house and for all the assembly of Israel.

Before the Throne of God Above

Charitie Lees Bancroft | Vikki Cook

Verse 1:

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea
A great High Priest whose name is love
Who ever lives and pleads for me
My name is graven on His hands
My name is written on His heart
I know that while in heav'n He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart
No tongue can bid me thence depart

Verse 2:

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free
For God the Just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me
To look on Him and pardon me

Verse 3:

Behold Him there, the risen Lamb
My perfect, spotless Righteousness
The great unchangeable I AM
The King of glory and of grace
One with Himself, I cannot die
My soul is purchased by His blood
My life is hid with Christ on high
With Christ my Savior and my God
With Christ my Savior and my God

Message :: “Christ Our Advocate” :: Hebrews 4:14-5:10



Our guest preacher is Kevin Rogers—pastor of [Covenant Life Church](#) in Gaithersburg, MD, where he has served on staff since 2007. He was raised in Upper Marlboro and was a member of FBCUM with his family as a teenager. He and his wife, Jami, have six children and live in Montgomery Village.

Come, Ye Sinners

Joseph Hart

Verse 1:

Come ye sinners
Poor and needy
Weak and wounded
Sick and sore
Jesus ready stands to save you
Full of pity, love and power

Chorus:

I will arise and go to Jesus
He will embrace me
In His arms
In the arms of my dear Savior
O, there are
Ten thousand charms

Verse 2:

Come ye thirsty
Come and welcome
God's free bounty glorify
True belief and true repentance
Every grace that brings you nigh

Verse 3:

Come ye weary heavy laden
Lost and ruined by the fall
If you tarry till you're better
You will never come at all

(Chorus)

Verse 4:

View him prostrate in the garden
On the ground your maker lies
On the bloody tree behold Him
Sinner will this not suffice?

Verse 5:

Lo! The Incarnate God ascended
Pleads the merit of His blood
Venture on Him
Venture wholly
Let no other trust intrude

(Chorus)

Verse 6:

Let not conscience
Make you linger
Nor of fitness fondly dream
All the fitness He requires
Is to feel your need of Him

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, May 24

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day)

Church Office Closed

Tuesday, May 26

6:30 PM Elders Meeting

Wednesday, May 27

6:30 PM Band Rehearsal

Thursday, May 28

Friday, May 29

Saturday, May 30

Sunday, May 31

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship
12:00 PM Members' Meeting
6:00 PM Youth Night

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Sunday, May 31 — Members' Meeting following worship

Sunday, June 7

9am — Children's DiscipleLIFE Promotion Sunday
5pm — Church Picnic "Celebrating the Faithfulness of God"

Wednesday, June 17

7pm — Summer Seminar #1: "Marijuana and the Christian"

June 22—26

9am—12:15pm — Vacation Bible School: "Illumination Station" (K-6)
1pm—3pm — "Acts of Faith" (grades 2-6)

Sunday, July 12 — Graduate Recognition Sunday

Sunday, July 12 — Starting Point Seminar following worship

(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register.)

Wednesday, July 22

7pm — Summer Seminar #2: "Deacons, Part 1: Deacons and the Bible"

Praying with First Baptist Church

A Prayer Guide for the week of May 24

Prayer of the week:

One of the ways we learn to pray is by using the Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, consider using the words of the psalmist from Psalm 25:4-5. If you're praying through the church directory, consider asking God to work in these ways in those you're praying for each day:

⁴ *Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths.*

⁵ *Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation;*

We recognize our need for God's help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God's word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God's glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)

- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we have direct partnerships with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand), and Tommie van der Walt (Imprint, South Africa). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)
- Pray for the Messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention which meets June 7-8 in Orlando. Pray for wisdom and clarity as they vote on important matters that relate to the cooperative work of Southern Baptist churches around the world. (James 1:5)

Particular prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for our upcoming Members Meeting on May 31 after worship. Pray that God would continually help us to grow in unity and service to one another as fellow believers here at FBCUM and help us work together for kingdom purposes. (Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for teachers and students in our church family who are completing their final weeks of classes for the school year. Pray that God would help them to finish well and give them physical and spiritual strength to endure. See a list of our out-of-town college students toward the back of the church directory.
- Pray God brings good spiritual fruit in the lives of our children and students this summer through Vacation Bible School (June 22-26) and Youth Summer Camp (July 13-18). (Gal 5:22-23)
- Pray that God would help our church family use the summer season for unique opportunities of evangelism, to build each other up, and to love one another well (Rom. 12:9-21)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Jackie Jones, Ashley Smith (death of grandfather), Trott & Sweetman Families (death of wife/mother) , [consult church directory for a list of homebound and unable to attend]

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

Ministry Spotlight

“Ministry Spotlight” aims to highlight active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope these highlights help us all support each ministry in prayer, and also spark interest in your personal involvement in a particular ministry. *Please contact us to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM using the Digital Communication Card on the last page of this bulletin. We also encourage you to pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

Prayer Ministry

Bernice McGuire :: Ministry Leader

The Prayer Ministry is the most important ministry of our Church. Prayer is a command from the Lord to pray for one another and it is a great privilege to do so. It is a precious gift from God. Have you noticed the door to the Prayer Room and wondered why the door is always locked? Did you notice the sign beside the door that allows you to know when it is vacant or occupied? Have you seen the ‘Prayer Request’ card that is located in the back of chairs in the worship center? Did you know that there is a direct line to the Prayer Room so that you may use to submit a confidential prayer request at 301-952-8877? Did you know that prayer requests can be submitted online through the Prayer Room email Pray4mefbc@gmail.com?



The Prayer Room is a place where only members of the Prayer Ministry enter to spend time in prayer for those having submitted prayer requests. However, they also pray for members listed in the Church Member Directory, the names listed in the bulletin each Sunday, and Prayer Points, (a publication available through the International Mission Board (IMB) which brings information about unreached people and the missionaries around the world sharing the gospel and those missionaries listed in the Open Windows Devotional available at our magazine rack at the beginning of each quarter. They also pray for this church (other churches), communities, church leadership and for the gospel to go to the ends of the earth.

The Prayer Ministry humbles members because they learn how serious and impactful prayer is to all of us. The multitude of our prayer needs are as vast as the people and yet the Lord answers these prayers.

Ministry Spotlight



When members come in to pray, they may be overwhelmed by the scope of the requests and at the same time become humbled that God delights in hearing their prayers. Sometimes they may not know what to pray and that requires leaning in for the Holy Spirit's guidance as you pray for others, *intercessory prayer*. Praying that God's will be done. Time spent in the Prayer Room is sacred and should be

honored as being a time dedicated before holy God. Members are to put everything else on the back burner and focus on the purpose of praying. That is why there is a sign next to the door to prevent interruptions when members are praying to the Lord.

Praying is hard work which requires concentration, persistence and faithfulness, however, the rewards of this investment are priceless. From time to time, members will contact those that have submitted prayer requests (who have agreed to be contacted) for follow-up calls to learn whether there has been any improvement in the situation/person presented for prayer. During these calls something amazing happens, the person making the prayer request learns that the prayers are still being lifted up on their behalf which is very encouraging. The member learns that things may have improved or the best result ever, that the prayer request has been answered by the Lord. This is so very encouraging when the member writes, answered prayers on the card and moves it to the 'Answered Prayer' file. REJOICE! A prayer of thanksgiving is certainly in order!

If you are interested in joining this ministry or learning more, please contact Bernice McGuire.

Announcements

1. **Young Adult Gathering :: May 30 at 5pm :: Home of Zach and Katie Schlegel.**

2. **Church Members' Meeting :: Sunday, May 31, following worship service.**

3. **Church Picnic — “Celebrating the Faithfulness of God” — Sunday, June 7, 5pm.** Join us promptly at 5pm for a special presentation meant to reflect on God’s faithfulness in the past and share vision for the future ministry of FBCUM. Then, enjoy a catered meal and fellowship on the front lawn. As always, bring along your picnic items (lawn chairs, blankets, games, etc.) Donations of any amount will be taken to help offset the cost of food. Any excess funds will go to help our students fund their summer trip. We’re looking forward to a joyful afternoon of fellowship as a church family.

4. **VBS 2026 “Illumination Station” :: June 22-26 :: 9am-12:15pm.** Open to kids K—6th grade.

- 5/27 — Registration opens (link will be in midweek email)
- 6/7 — Volunteer Mandatory Meeting immediately following worship service
- 6/20 — VBS Decoration Day (9am-1pm, no young children)
- Contact Monica Kergel

“Acts of Faith” Performing Arts Track :: June 22-25 :: 1pm-3pm.

- Open to kids grades 3-6 (no childcare available for younger siblings)
- Emphasis on music, acting, and dance
- Performance planned for Friday during VBS Worship Rally Celebration
- VBS registration will allow you to sign up for this track.
- Contact Jason Brown

5. **Summer Seminar #1 :: “Marijuana and the Christian” — June 17, 7-8pm.** All are invited to the first Summer Seminar as the elders help us consider how to think biblically about marijuana. Q&A will follow.

6. **Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- **online:** click the link or scan the QR code,
- **in-person:** designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- **by mail:** send to the church office.



Note of Thanks:

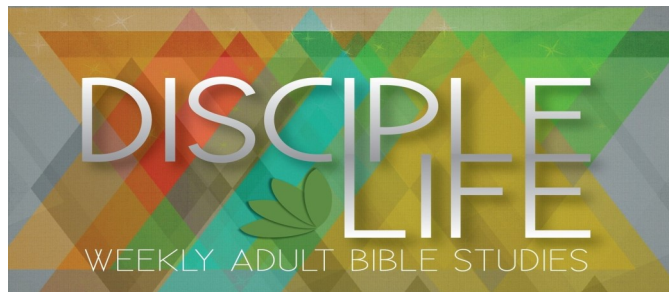
Thank you so much for your prayers, cards, and condolences as we said our earthly goodbyes to Marty’s wife and Chrissy’s mom—our beloved Bonnie. Your heartfelt kindness and love are more appreciated than words can express.

With Gratitude — The Trott and Sweetman Families

Digital Communication Card

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You’re always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.





Summer 2026 (June - August) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:

SUMMER SESSION BEGINS SUNDAY, JUNE 7 @ 9AM

To help us prepare, we are asking that everyone sign up for the class they wish to attend by [clicking here](#).

Explore the Bible – Joshua, Judges, Ruth:

The books of Joshua, Judges, and Ruth examine the highs and lows of leadership. While Joshua celebrates the blessings of leadership at its best, Judges offers a cautionary tale of leadership gone wrong. And Ruth reminds us that even in the worst of times, God is still at work, raising leaders from the most unlikely of places. By studying Joshua, Judges, and Ruth, we see leadership from every angle—and we're challenged to reserve our ultimate loyalty for our ultimate Leader. (Books will be available in room 114 Sunday, May 24th.)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) — Room 114 :: Teachers: Bill Lowry & Vince Butler**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 :: Teacher: Tanya Joy**

If you are remaining in your current Explore the Bible Class, there is no need to sign up again.

Elective Class — Suffering:

“If you live long enough you will suffer. The only alternative to not suffering is not living long enough. If that’s the case, we should labor to be ready and equipped with God’s grace and God’s truth, so we can face suffering to the glory of God. Join us as we think through what it looks like to trust God in our suffering to the glory of God.”

- **Room 117/118 :: Teachers - Zach Schlegel & TBD**

Elective Class — Titus & Philemon (Young Adults 18-35):

This class will take an in-depth look at the New Testament Paul's letters to Titus and Philemon.

- **Room 112 :: Teachers - Tre Fields & TBD**

**** DiscipleLIFE classes for all ages meet every Sunday morning at 9am. ****



Looking to God Our Provider

[Hebrews 4:14-5:10](#)

“Christ Our Advocate”– May 24, 2026



Introduction

The book of Hebrews was written to people who were dealing with suffering for all kinds of reasons. Some may have been suffering as consequences of their own sin, some because of their faith in Christ, and some simply because of a fallen world. They were tempted to fall back into their traditions - something familiar. This book was written to encourage them to persevere in following Christ.

Previously in [chapter 4](#), they were encouraged to enter into God's rest. Yet in [chapter 4 verse 13](#), they were told that God was aware of everything that they did and one day they would give an account. How could they or you feel comfortable entering God's rest knowing that every word and deed would be judged?

You and I are helpless to deal with the tragedy of sin in our own hearts and in this sin-sick world. It is only dealt with it because of our Advocate, Jesus. The peace that you can have because of this is only dependent on your confidence that He is qualified as an advocate.

Read & Discuss

1. Our Advocate is favored by God.

For someone to serve as a mediator before God, they cannot just insert themselves into the position. They must be appointed. Jesus is able to serve as our High Priest because He was appointed by God. He approaches God as a Son. The Son is not just allowed; He is specifically appointed. The appointment is special because of Who He is, but also because of the appointment itself. It is a one-of-a-kind appointment to a one-of-a-kind office. It is a priestly office combined with the office of King. He is a priest after the order of Melchizedek, the King of Salem who was also a priest, performing priestly functions. ([Genesis 14:17-20](#); [Psalm 110](#))

Jesus was appointed to a priesthood that is unique because of the **kind** of office that it is. He stands before the Father as priest **and** King of all. Why does this matter? Because the One advocating is cherished by God, rules over the world, and His appointment has no expiration date. When the enemy (Satan) comes blasting accusations, how do you feel? You probably feel like there is no hope. The Advocate, who is the Priest and King, says that the sentence has already been served. That is something in which you can rest.

2. Our Advocate is sympathetic with us.

An advocate stands in solidarity with the one he represents. Jesus stands in solidarity with us because He is human like us. He is fully man and fully God. This is extraordinarily unique with Jesus. He was first God. ([Philippians 2:5-7](#)) Many don't have difficulty believing that Jesus is a Man. They find it difficult to believe that He is God.

The early Christians had to fight against the many heresies with which they were confronted regarding Jesus' humanity and deity. Jesus was human by experience. He suffered. He experienced all that we experience. He experienced profound relational isolation. He experienced rejection and misunderstanding. He experienced grief and sorrow. As He went through these experiences, Jesus engaged God in prayer. Those prayers were prayers of anguish. ([Hebrews 5:11](#)) You can see this especially in the Garden before His crucifixion. ([Luke 22:39-45](#)) It was a painful and tempting experience. Jesus was tempted in every respect - every kind of temptation that is common. He learned what it is like to suffer and to obey God even when it is hard. Jesus has the knowledge of omniscience AND of experience. He knows suffering. He knows temptation. As He intercedes, He does so as a man of sorrows acquainted with grief.

You can talk to God about your schedule, your anxiety, your problems, your pain, your lack of relationships, your lack of what is missing in your life. When these cares come, you can try to quiet them, try, in your own strength, to get ahead of them, OR you can cry out to God. Do you presume that all you need is a little less stress? Do you think that if you try harder you can overcome trouble, stress or fear? Or do you take your needs to Jesus in prayer?

3. Our Advocate is effective for us.

Jesus knows what He is doing. Jesus not only came to us, He went out from us. Ever since the ascension, there has been a human at the right hand of the Father advocating on behalf of His own. ([Hebrews 9:24](#)) What does this mean for you? Are you ever tempted to wonder if you will make it? Jesus' intercession will never end. ([Hebrews 7](#)) What does it mean for you when you sin? How do you imagine Jesus' response? Jesus died to deal with your sin, but when you sin, what do you think Jesus does about it? ([1 John 2:1](#)) Jesus advocates on your behalf for you.

If you experience the conviction of sin, turn to Jesus immediately. Don't delay. He is ready to deal with your sin. He is the only One who can, and He is uniquely qualified to do so. What do you do when the accuser puts your sin before you? ([Romans 8:33-34](#)) Jesus bore your shame. There are NOW no condemnations to those in Christ Jesus. ([Romans 8:1](#)) It is only in Him that you have no condemnation. Come to Jesus.

You can approach God with confidence because you are rooted in what Christ has done. You will find mercy and grace to help you. This passage gives us two callings. Let us hold fast and let us draw near. Because you have an Advocate, He will enable you to hold fast to Him. Keep going. Keep walking. Don't give up. Persevere. Keep loving your spouse. Keep loving your neighbors. Keep loving your kids. Jesus keeps walking with you.

Avoiding Jesus because you are sinful is like avoiding the plumber because you have a leak or a doctor because you are sick. Dealing with sin and helping with your suffering is what Jesus is qualified to do. Come to Jesus with confidence.

Prayer of Response

- 1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to *confess*? From what do I need to *repent*?
- 2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand, believe, desire, or do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at.

Next week's sermon text: Psalm 12 "God Our Refuge"

Family Guide for week of May 24th, 2026

Deuteronomy 6:6–7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc.)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

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Bible Intake: (Listening to God)

Day 1 – 1 Samuel 1:21-28

Day 2 – 1 Samuel 2:1-11

Day 3 – 1 Samuel 2:12-21

Day 4 – 1 Samuel 2:22-26

Day 5 – 1 Samuel 2:27-36

*Read Psalm 12 in preparation for church on Sunday, May 31, 2026

Prayer: (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 20 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Ask Jesus to help you live in a way that points others to Him today. Pray for a heart that chooses humility and honors Jesus above yourself. Thank Jesus for the chances you had to show His love today. Ask Him to keep teaching you how to make more of Him and less of yourself.

Sing together

“Before the Throne” – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

Memory verses for the month

1 John 3:5 “You know that He appeared in order to take away sins, and in Him there is no sin.”

Psalms 145:11 “They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power.”

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 45: *Is baptism with water the washing away of sin itself?*

Answer: *No, only the blood of Christ can cleanse us from sin.*

¹ New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)