



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, December 20th, 2020

Fourth Sunday in Advent

**Indicates congregation is invited to stand as able*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Creator of heaven and earth, source of all life, who chose Mary to be the mother of Jesus and to be conceived within her, may we likewise seek to do your will and to welcome Jesus into our lives. Amen.

Seasonal Music for Gathering

Christmas Glory Reflections

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

Choir, Congregation, Bev Dyck, Mark Anderson

"Christmas Medley"

Diane Speirs, Gordon Gietz & John Nelson

Christa Walsh

Opportunities for Life and Service

Joel Russell-MacLean

Morning Chimes

Mark Anderson

*Song of Gathering

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

**Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

The Fourth Advent Candle "The Candle of Love"

Adoniram and Angeline Holtslander

*Carol of Gathering “Light the Light, the Fire of Life” (Tune - Il Est Ne)

(Refrain:)

Light the light, the fire of life; light the candle reveal his glory.

Jesus Christ has come to earth and for us shall come again.

Light the candle of his love, light the light of Bethlehem’s stable,

Light the candle of his love, light the light by which we see.

(Refrain)

*Call to Worship and Prayer

Joel Russell-MacLean

Leader: Let your steadfast love, O Lord, be upon us,

All: Even as we hope in you.

Leader: Jesus Christ is coming.

All: Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

We Approach God

*Carol of Praise

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

#132

Children’s Blessing

Joel Russell-MacLean

Gift of Music

Christa Walsh

Confession of Sin

Chris Senger

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

*Carol of Preparation “Sing We Now of Christmas”

**Sing we now of Christmas, Noël, sing we here!
Listen to our praises to the babe so dear.**

Refrain:

**Sing we Noël, the King is born, Noël!
Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noël!**

**Shepherds on the hillside heard the angels sing:
Glory, honour, praises to the infant king. *(Refrain)***

**In the town they found him; Son of Mary mild.
Sleeping in a manger was the Holy Child. *(Refrain)***

Scripture Reader

Kathy Brown

Responsorial Lesson: Luke 1.46-55

Leader: And Mary said: “My soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has been mindful of the humble state of his servant.

All: From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me – holy is his name.

Leader: His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation. He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

All: He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

Leader: He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

All: He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful to Abraham and his descendants for ever, just as he promised our ancestors.”

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now and will be forever. Amen.

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 1.39-45

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

#143

Prayers of the People

John Nelson

The Lord’s Prayer

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts & Offerings

Joel Russell-MacLean

*Response of Praise

“Adore”

G. Kendrick & M. Chalk

You stepped down from heaven; humbly, you came.

God of all creation here with us.

In a starlit manger, Emmanuel, light of the world here to save.

Adore, come, let us adore; O come, let us adore him!

The Lord, worship Christ the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Mark Anderson

Join others for a special, “A Time for Friends.” If you wish to take part, simply remain on Zoom to sit down with a group and hear how others are doing.

Children are invited to remain in the main Zoom room for a chance to visit with each other and Julie and Pastor Joel.