



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, December 12, 2021

Third Sunday in Advent

**Please stand as you are able whether you are participating at home or in the sanctuary.*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Merciful God, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Music for Gathering "Advent Medley" Narrow Gate

Opportunities for Life and Service Joel Russell-MacLean

Morning Chimes Mark Anderson

*The Introit "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus" #124, v.1

**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.**

* Responsive Call to Worship 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.

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: Welcome in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

We Approach God

*Carol of Praise

“Hark, the Glad Sound”

Thomas Haweis

Hark, the glad sound! the Saviour comes! The Saviour promised long!

Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.

He comes the pris'ners to release, in Satan's bondage held;

The gates of brass before him burst, the iron fetters yield.

He comes the broken heart to bind, the bleeding soul to cure,

And with the treasures of his grace t'enrich the humble poor.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;

And heav'n's eternal arches ring with thy beloved name.

Children's Blessing

Kayely Rich

Gift of Music

“God Bless You, Gentle Ladies and Men”
(arr. Hoffman)

Narrow Gate

Here are the words for those who would like to follow along:

God bless you, gentle ladies and men let nothing you dismay,

Remember Christ our Saviour was born on Christmas Day;

To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,

O tidings of comfort and joy.

In Bethlehem in Israel this blessed Babe was born,

And laid within a manger upon this blessed morn,

To which His mother Mary did nothing take in scorn.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,

O tidings of comfort and joy.

From God our heavenly Father a blessed angel came

And unto certain shepherds brought tidings of the same,

How that in Bethlehem was born the Son of God by name.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

And when they came to Bethlehem where our dear Saviour lay,
They found Him in a manger where oxen feed on hay;
His mother Mary kneeling down unto the Lord did pray.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Now to the Lord sing praises all you within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace.
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface.

O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Listen to God

*Carol of Approach

“Once in Royal David’s City”

#155

**Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
There a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.**

**He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
With the poor, and mean, and lowly lived on earth, our Saviour holy.**

**Jesus is our childhood’s pattern, day by day like us he grew;
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he feeleth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.**

**And our eyes at last shall see him through his own redeeming love;
For that child, so dear and gentle is our Lord in heaven above,
And he leads his children along to the place where he is gone.**

Epistle lesson: 1 Corinthians 4:1-5

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 33

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, O you righteous. Praise befits the upright.

All: Praise the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings.

Leader: Sing to the Lord a new song; play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.

All: For the word of the Lord is upright, and all the Lord's work is done in faithfulness.

Leader: The Lord loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of the steadfast love of the Lord.

All: By the word of the Lord the heavens were made, and all their host by the breath of his mouth.

*Gloria Patri

#623

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:2-10

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Good Stewards in Hard Times”

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice”

#151

**Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ was born today!
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now;
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian men, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall:
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

Prayers of the People

Merv Hepting

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 and Offerings

Joel Russell-MacLean

Here are the words for those who would like to follow along:

Glory, glory, glory...glory, glory, glory.

Glory be to God in the highest, peace good will towards men. (2x)

So I said – today, in the city of David, today, in the city of David,

I said – today in the city of David – a Saviour is born.

Hear the Angel chorus singing from on high –

To the lowly shepherds in fields where they lie.

Singing their praises to the new born King –

Come on down to Bethlehem and let the chorus ring.

So we sing glory, glory, glory ... glory, glory, glory.

Glory, be to God in the highest, peace good will towards men.

See the wise men coming following that star –

Far across the desert they travelled so far.

Bringing their homage to the new born king –

Come on down to Bethlehem and worship the King.

Mary and Joseph in that stable small...

Caring for the Son of God, who came to save us all.

Wise man and shepherds fall on bended knee...

To worship the Saviour of all humanity.

So we sing glory, glory, glory ... glory, glory, glory.

Glory, be to God in the highest, peace good will towards men.

So I said today, in the city of David...today in the city of David.

Today...in the city of David...a Saviour, a Saviour, a Saviour...is born...

*Carol for Departing

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#123, v.1

**O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Melissa Morgan

Thank you to “Narrow Gate” (Jack Sailor, Kevin Rich, Daryl McKinnon, and Grant Hoffman) for helping to lead us in worship this morning.

For those of you on Zoom, after the Music for Departing, a few smaller breakout groups will be formed. There is no obligation to stay if you need to be going. If you wish to take part, simply remain on Zoom to be invited to a group and hear how others are doing.