



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, December 26th, 2021

The First Sunday of Christmas

The Feast of Stephen

Merry Christmas!

**Indicates congregation is invited to stand as able*

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Almighty God, every good thing comes from you. You make all things new in their time. We submit our lives to you in thanks for all you have done for us, and as a prayer that you would renew and transform our lives according to your purposes. In the name of Jesus, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God forever. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Mark Anderson

Christmas Chimes

Mark Anderson

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.
O come, let us adore him, (x3)
Christ the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing all ye bright hosts of heaven above.
Glory to God, glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore him, (x3)
Christ the Lord!**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore him, (x3)
Christ the Lord!**

*Call to Worship and Prayer

Joel Russell-MacLean

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

People: **And also with you.**

Leader: Jesus Christ is born for us!

People: **Alleluia! Christ is born!**

We Approach God

*Carol of Praise

"Angels From the Realms of Glory"

#132

**Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light:
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations; ye have seen his natal star:
Gloria, in excelsis Deo.**

Gift of Music

Gordon Kerfoot and Company

**Good King Wenceslas looked out on the Feast of Stephen
When the snow lay round about deep and crisp and even
Brightly shone the moon that night though the frost was cruel
When a poor man came in sight gathering winter fuel**

**Hither, page, and stand by me, if thou knowst it, telling
Yonder peasant, who is he? Where and what his dwelling?
Sire, he lives a good league hence, underneath the mountain
Right against the forest fence by Saint Agnes' fountain.**

**Bring me flesh and bring me wine bring me pine logs hither
Thou and I shall see him dine when we bear them thither.
Page and monarch, forth they went forth they went together
Through the rude winds wild lament and the bitter weather**

**Sire, the night is darker now and the wind blows stronger
Fails my heart, I know not how I can go no longer.
Mark my footsteps, good my page tread thou in them boldly
Thou shall find the winters rage freeze thy blood less coldly.**

**In his masters step he trod where the snow lay dinted
Heat was in the very sod which the Saint had printed
Therefore, Christian folk, be sure wealth or rank possessing
Ye, who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing**

We Listen to God

*Carol of Preparation “God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen”

**God rest you merry, gentlemen, 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.**

**From God our heav'nly 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.**

**Now to the Lord sing praises, all you within this place,
And in true love and fellowship each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas is filled with heav'nly grace.**

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

Gift of Music

Gordon Kerfoot and Company

Epistle Lesson: Galatians 4.1-7

Responsive Reading of Celebration: Psalm 98

Leader: The Lord has made salvation known and revealed righteousness to the nations. The Lord has remembered love and faithfulness to Israel.

All: All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth!

All: Burst into jubilant song with music.

Leader: Make music to the Lord with instruments and with singing. Shout for joy before the Lord, the King.

All: Let the sea resound, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.

Leader: Let the rivers clap their hands, let the mountains sing together for joy;

All: Let them sing before the Lord, for the Lord comes to judge the earth in righteousness and the peoples with equity.

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

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 2:22-40

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response “On Christmas Night, All Christians Sing”

**(On Christmas night all Christians sing,
To hear the news the angels bring) (repeat)
News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.**

**(Then why should we on earth be sad?
Since our Redeemer made us glad) (repeat)
When from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty?**

**(All out of darkness we have light,
Which made the angels sing this night:) (repeat)
“Glory to God and peace on earth, now and for evermore. Amen.”**

Prayers of the People

Joel Russell-MacLean

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

Gift of Music

Gordon Kerfoot and Company

We Go to Serve God

*Carol of Departing

“Joy to the World”

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its king;
Let ev’ry heart prepare him room, and heav’n and nature sing,
And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n, and heav’n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Saviour reigns! Let all their songs employ
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground.
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Carol for Departing

Mark Anderson

Thank you to Gordon Kerfoot, Roger Bellows, Derrick Bellows, Matthew Field, and Ben Friesen for leading us in singing this morning.

Merry Christmas!