



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, December 10th, 2023

Second Sunday in Advent

Welcome! Young children are welcome in the service or in our staffed nursery.

The collection is taken at the doorways as you enter the sanctuary.

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

We Gather as God's People

Silent Prayer: Blessed Lord, you caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant that we may hear, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest your words, so that by patience, and the comfort of your holy Word, we may embrace, and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen. (Traditional Collect)

Music for Gathering

Calla-Dawn Brooks

Opportunities for Life and Service

Kayely Rich

Morning Chimes

*The Introit

“Come and Worship”

(tune by Norman Bebo)

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er the Earth.

Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim the Messiah's birth.

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn King.

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear;

Suddenly the Lord, descending, in his temple shall appear.

Come and worship, come and worship,

Worship Christ, the newborn King.

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

All: And also with you.

Leader: Jesus Christ is coming.

All: Alleluia! Come, Lord Jesus. Amen.

Welcoming One Another

We Approach God

*Carol of Praise “Long Ago, Prophets Knew”

The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this song.

**Long ago, prophets knew Christ would come, born a Jew,
Come to make all things new, bear his people's burden,
Freely love and pardon.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?**

**God in time, God in man, this is God's timeless plan:
God will come, as a man, born himself of woman,
God divinely human.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?**

**Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid; till the time expected,
Nurtured and protected.
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
When he comes, when he comes, who will make him welcome?**

**Journey ends! Where afar Beth'lem shines, like a star,
Stable door stands ajar: Unborn Son of Mary,
Saviour, do not tarry!
Ring, bells, ring, ring, ring! Sing, choirs, sing, sing, sing!
Jesus comes, Jesus comes, we will make him welcome!**

Advent Candle Lighting

Norma Holtslander

Gift of Music

Sanctuary Choir

*Carol of Praise

“The Advent of Our God”

#120

**The advent of our God with eager hearts we greet;
And we must praise him in this hour with hymns and anthems sweet.**

**All glory to the son, who comes to set us free;
With Father, Spirit, ever One, through all eternity.**

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon

Chris Senger

We Listen to God

*Carol of Approach

“In the Bleak Midwinter”

(Words: C. G. Rosetti; Music: G. T. Holst)

**In the bleak midwinter frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter, long ago.**

**Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed,
The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.**

**Angels and archangels may have gathered there;
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air;
But his mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved with a kiss.**

**What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can, I give him—give my heart**

Scripture Reader

Reade Holtslander

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13: 8-14

N.T. page 162

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 50

Leader: Our God comes and does not keep silence, before God is a devouring fire, and a mighty tempest all around him.

All: God calls to the heavens above and to the earth, that he may judge his people:

Leader: Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and pay your vows to the Most High.

All: Call on me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you shall glorify me.

Leader: But to the wicked God says: 'What right have you to recite my statutes, or take my covenant on your lips?

All: For you hate discipline, and you cast my words behind you.

Leader: 'Mark this, then, you who forget God, or I will tear you apart, and there will be no one to deliver.

All: Those who bring thanksgiving as their sacrifice honour me; to those who go the right way I will show the salvation of God.'

*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: Luke 21:29-38

N.T. page 86

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response

“O Little Town of Bethlehem”

#141

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

**For Christ is born of Mary, and, gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wond’ring love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to all on earth.**

**How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is giv’n!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav’n.
No ear may hear his coming, but in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him still, the dear Christ enters in.**

**O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**

Prayers of the People

Derrick Bellows

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts and Offerings

Kayely Rich

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

#128 v. 3, 4

**O you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road and hear the angels sing.**

**For lo! the days are hast'ning on, by prophets seen of old,
When with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,
When the new heav'n and earth shall own the Prince of Peace their King,
And the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Oluseye Popoola

"A Time For Friends"

Everyone is invited to the lower hall for refreshments following the service.

Parents:

Please go to meet your children in Godly Play and Nursery as they can only be dismissed into your care.

Coming up ...

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| Dec 10 | 7:00 pm | Christmas Concert |
| Dec 12 | 6:30 pm | Men's Supper @ Derrick's home |
| Dec 16 | 9:30 am | Ladies' Breakfast |
| | 2:00 pm | Choir Sings @ The Renaissance |
| Dec 17 | 11:00 am | Third Sunday of Advent |
| Dec 19 | 1:00 pm | North of 60 |
| Dec 21 | 7:00 pm | Blue Christmas Service |
| Dec 24 | 11:00 am | Fourth Sunday of Advent |
| | 6:00 pm | Christmas Eve Service |

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