



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, December 24th, 2023

Fourth 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: Lord, raise up your power, come among us and with great might assist us. Help us to recognize you in our midst. When our sins hinder us in running the race set before us, may your bountiful grace and mercy deliver us through your son Jesus Christ. All glory and honour be yours, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen. (Traditional collect)

Music for Gathering

Grace Liu
Adoniram Holtslander

Opportunities for Life and Service

Cheryl Johnston

Morning Chimes

Xavier Russell-MacLean

*The Introit

“Come and Worship”

(tune by Norman Bebo)

**Shepherds in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night.
God with man is now residing yonder shines the infant light.**

**Come and worship, 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, 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

“Adore”

(Words & music: G. Kendrick & M. Chalk; Arr. L. Larson)

The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this song and are welcome to stay there through the lessons and the sermon.

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.

(Refrain)

Adore, come, let us adore; Oh come let us adore him! The Lord, worship Christ the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.

Wise men bring their treasures, shepherds bow low,

angel voices sing of peace on earth.

What have I to offer to heaven’s King? I will bring my life, my love, my all.

(Refrain)

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

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

(Refrain)

Gift of Music

“Moonlight Shores”

Peregrin Holtslander
Maizy Russell-MacLean

Advent Candle Lighting

*Carol of Praise

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

#143

**Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing, Christ the babe is Lord of all.**

**Swift are winging angels singing, noels ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the babe is Lord of all! Christ the babe is Lord of all!**

**Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a gospel true.**

**Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the babe was born for you! Christ the babe was born for you!**

Confession of Sin
Assurance of Pardon

Kayely Rich

We Listen to God

*Carol of Approach "The Hands that First Held Mary's Child"

(tune: Kingsfold, #167)

**The hands that first held Mary's Child were hard from working wood,
From boards they sawed and planed and filed and splinters they withstood.
This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail,
But cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail.**

**When Joseph marvelled at the size of that small breathing frame,
And gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the Infant's name,
The angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height,
And, like the host of stars that beamed, blest earth with welcome light.**

**"This Child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne
But God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone."
The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard,
And from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word.**

**The tools which Joseph laid aside a mob would later lift
And use with anger, fear and pride to crucify God's gift.
Let us, O Lord, not only hold the Child who's born today,
But, charged with faith, may we be bold to follow in his way.**

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 36:33-36

O.T. page

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 145

Leader: Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; the Lord's greatness is unsearchable.

All: One generation shall laud your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts.

Leader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your faithful shall bless you.

All: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom, and tell of your power, to make known to all people the glorious splendour of your kingdom.

Leader: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

All: The Lord is faithful in all his words, and gracious in all his deeds.

Leader: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

All: My mouth will speak the praise of the Lord, and all flesh will bless the Lord's holy name for ever and ever.

*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 1:26-38

N.T. page 57

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response “Angels We Have Heard on High”

#132

**Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heav’nly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**Come to Bethlehem, and see him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn King.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

**See within in a manger laid Jesus, Lord of heav’n and earth!
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, with us sing our Saviour’s birth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**

Prayers of the People

Chris Senger

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

Chris Senger

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 Xavier Russell-MacLean

Parents:

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



First Baptist Church Regina
2241 Victoria Ave, Regina, SK S4P 0S4
Phone: 306.359.1450

Pastors: Joel Russell-MacLean, Kayely Rich, Cheryl Johnston, Chris Senger

Website: www.firstbaptistregina.ca
E-mail: main_fbcregina@sasktel.net