



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, December 1st, 2024

First 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: Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; so that in the last day, when he comes again in his glorious Majesty, to judge the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal. in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Opportunities for Life and Service

Cheryl Johnston

Morning Chimes

*The Introit

“A Candle Is Burning”

(tune: Away In a Manger)

**A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,
A candle of hope in December's dark night.
While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,
Our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

Advent Candle Lighting

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" by Graham Kendrick & Martin Chalk

The children are invited to come forward during the singing of this song and remain at the front until communion.

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; O come, let us adore him!

The Lord, worship Christ the Lord. Let all that is within us adore.) 2x

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)

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

**O come, thou dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, O Wisdom from on high, and ordered all things, far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show and cause us in its ways to go.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

**O come, desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease, fill all the world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.**

Children's Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music

"A Time for Advent"
(Stewart Harris)

Sanctuary Choir

We Listen to God

Scripture Reader

Barry Lyons

Old Testament Lesson: Jeremiah 33:10, 11, 14-16

(O.T. page 738)

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 25:1-10

Leader: Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away your indignation toward us.

All: Show us your steadfast love, O Lord, and grant us your salvation.

Leader: Let me hear what God the Lord will speak, for the Lord will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.

All: Surely the Lord's salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that the Lord's glory may dwell in our land.

Leader: Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other.

All: Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky.

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. Amen.

*Gospel Lesson: The Gospel According to Luke 21:25-36

(N.T. page 85)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Celebrate

***Carol of Approach “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”**

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded, for, with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.**

**King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the body and the blood.
He will give to all the faithful his own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.**

**At his feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
“Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia, Lord Most High!”**

***Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead; on the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

Unison Prayer of Confession

Merciful and loving God, we confess to you before all of heaven, and before one another, that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, forgive us and restore us. Fill us with your Holy Spirit. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

The Great Thanksgiving

Joel Russell-MacLean

Minister: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: **It is right to give thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is right and good, always and everywhere to give thanks to you Lord, Holy Father, Creator of heaven and earth... We praise you, joining the angels of heaven, all our sisters and brothers around the world, and the faithful departed ..., saying:

All: **Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of power and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is Jesus who came and will come again in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayers of the People

Norma Holtslander

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.

Minister: Lord Jesus Christ, you came to set us free from sin, death and the devil. With love, we offer ourselves to you, fully and completely, as living sacrifices, as we proclaim the good news:

All: **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ will come again!**

Our Gifts and Offerings

Minister: Come Holy Spirit, be with us as we take this bread and cup as genuine symbols of the body and blood of Jesus. Unite us to Jesus and bring us, in the end, with all the faithful, to resurrection and everlasting life. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

Prayer for the Bread

Bryan Orthner

Prayer for the Cup

Laureen Snook

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" #127

**Thou didst leave thy throne and thy kingly crown,
When thou camest to earth for me;
But in Bethlehem's home was there found no room for thy holy nativity.**

(Refrain:)

O come to my heart, Lord Jesus, there is room in my heart for thee.

**Heaven's arches rang when the angels sang, proclaiming thy royal degree;
But of lowly birth didst thou come to earth, and in great humility. *(Refrain)***

**Thou camest, O Lord, as the living word that should set thy people free;
But with mocking scorn, and with crown of thorn,
They bore thee to Calvary. *(Refrain)***

**When the heavens shall ring, and the angels sing, at thy coming to victory,
Let thy voice call me home, saying "Yet there is room,
There is room at my side for thee."
My heart shall rejoice, Lord Jesus, when thou comest and callest for me.**

We Depart to Serve God

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Business meeting following the morning service

Following the Music for Departing, we will have our November congregational meeting in the lower hall. Our proposed 2025 budget will be the main topic of discussion. Lunch will be provided.

Parents:

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

“A Time for Advent”

(Stewart Harris)

We gather now to worship. We join our hearts to pray.
Our souls are filled with wonder as we celebrate our faith.
For soon we will behold him, our eyes will see the Son.
By faith we claim the promise. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

We light the advent candles. (We light the advent candles.)
They warm us with their glow. (They warm us with their glow.)
We see their shining glory and the promise that they hold.
For now the dawn is breaking; a new day has begun. (Soon we will behold him.)
We turn our hearts to heaven. Come, Lord Jesus, come.

This is the time to prepare for Jesus. This is a season of worship and praise.
This is a moment to seek his glory. This is the dawning of grace.

Let every land proclaim it, let ev’ry voice be raised.
Let valleys be exalted, ev’ry mountain be made plain.
Let deserts bloom like gardens; let ev’ry heart be one.
We lift our songs together. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus, come.
Come, Lord Jesus, come. Come, Lord Jesus, come.