



First Baptist Church

Worship Service for Sunday, December 29th, 2024 First Sunday of Christmas

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: God of light and peace, whose glory, shining in the child of Bethlehem, still draws the nations to yourself: dispel the darkness that shrouds our path, that we may come to kneel before Christ in true worship, offer him our hearts and souls and return from his presence to live as he has taught. Amen. (Revised Common Lectionary)

Music for Gathering

Oluwaseye Popoola

Opportunities for Life and Service

*The Introit

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

#145 v. 1, 2

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
Come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.**

Refrain:

**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! *Refrain***

Call to Worship and Prayer

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 born for us!

All: Alleluia! Christ is born!

Welcoming One Another

We Approach God

*Carol of Praise

“O Thou Joyful, O Thou Wonderful”

119

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

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful, grace revealing Christmastide!

Jesus came to win us, from all sin within us:

Glorify the holy Child!

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful, love revealing Christmastide!

Loud hosannas singing and all praises bringing:

Glorify the holy Child!

O thou joyful, O thou wonderful, peace revealing Christmastide!

Darkness disappearing, God’s own light now nearing:

Glorify the holy Child!

Children’s Blessing

*Carol

“Sing We Now of Christmas”

Sing we now of Christmas, Noël, sing we here!

Listen to our praises to the babe so dear.

Sing we Noël, the King is born, Noël!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noël!

Shepherds on the hillside heard the angels sing:

“Glory, honour, praises to the infant King.”

Sing we Noël, the King is born, Noël!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noël!

In the town they found him, son of Mary mild,

Sleeping in a manger, was the holy child.

Sing we Noël, the King is born, Noël!

Sing we now of Christmas, sing we all Noël!

Confession of Sin

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

*Carol of Approach *“’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”*

**’Twas in the moon of wintertime, when all the birds had fled,
That mighty Gitchi Manitou sent angel choirs instead;
Before their light the stars grew dim
And wandering hunters heard the hymn:**

(Refrain:)

“Jesus your King is born, Jesus is born: in excelsis Gloria!”

**Within a lodge of broken bark the tender Babe was found,
A ragged robe of rabbit skin enwrapped his beauty ‘round;
But as the hunter braves drew nigh
The angel song rang loud and high: *(Refrain)***

**O children of the forest free, O sons of Manitou,
The Holy Child of earth and heaven is born today for you.
Come kneel before the radiant boy,
Who brings you beauty, love, and joy. *(Refrain)***

Scripture Reader

Old Testament Lesson: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

O.T. Page 246

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 148

Leader: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens;
Praise the Lord in the heights!

All: Praise the Lord, all his angels; praise the Lord, all his host!

Leader: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars!

All: Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Leader: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps,

All: Fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling his command!

Leader: Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!

**All: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!
Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

Leader: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for the Lord name alone is exalted;
the Lord glory is above earth and heaven.

**All: The Lord has raised up a horn for the people, praise for all the faithful,
for the people of Israel who are close to the Lord. Praise the Lord!**

*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: The Gospel According to Luke 2:41-52

N.T. page 59

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

We Respond to God

*Carol of Response

"I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day"

#152

**I heard the bells on Christmas day their old familiar carols play,
And wild and sweet the words repeat of peace of earth, good will to men.**

**I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song of peace on earth, good will to men.**

**And in despair I bowed my head: "There is no peace on earth," I said,
"For hate is strong, and mocks the song of peace on earth, good will to men."**

**Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"God is not dead, nor doth he sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, good will to men."**

**Till, ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from night to day
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime, of peace on earth, good will to men.**

Prayers of the People

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

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing

“Joy to the World”

#125 v. 1, 3

**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.**

**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.**

*Benediction

Joel Russell-MacLean

Music for Departing

Oluwaseye Popoola



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