



First Baptist Church

A Place To Belong

Worship Service for Sunday, November 30, 2025

First Sunday of 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 to cast away the works of darkness, and put on 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 shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to immortal life; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Music for Gathering

Xavier Russell-MacLean

Opportunities for Life and Service

Joel Russell-MacLean

*The Introit

"Sing We the Song of Emmanuel"

(by Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, Stuart Townend and Keith Getty)

Sing we the song of Emmanuel; this the Christ who was long foretold.

Lo in the shadows of Bethlehem, promise of dawn now our eyes behold.

God most high in a manger laid; lift your voices and now proclaim:

Great and glorious, love has come to us; join now with the hosts of heaven.

Come we to welcome Emmanuel; King who came with no crown or throne.

Helpless he lay, the invincible, maker of Mary, now Mary's son.

O what wisdom to save us all, shepherds, sages, before him fall.

Grace and majesty, what humility; come on bended knee, adore him.

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 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 and stay at the front for the remainder of the service.

**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.**

Refrain:

**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:
He will come, as a man, born himself of woman,
God divinely human. (Refrain)**

**Mary, hail! Though afraid, she believed, she obeyed.
In her womb God is laid; till the time expected
Nurtured and protected. (Refrain)**

**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!**

Children’s Blessing

Cheryl Johnston

Gift of Music

“An Advent Credo”
(Words printed on p. 7)

Sanctuary Choir

Call to Confession

Joel Russell-MacLean

Assurance of Pardon

We Listen to God

* Carol of Preparation

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

#123

**O come, O come, Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.**

Refrain:

**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. *(Refrain)***

**O come, thou wisdom from on high,
And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show
and cause us in her ways to go. *(Refrain)***

**O come, desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease,
Fill all the wold with heaven’s peace. *(Refrain)***

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5 (pp. 631-632, Old Testament section)

Responsorial Lesson: Psalm 122

Leader: I was glad when they said to me, “Let us go to the house of the Lord!”

All: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Leader: Jerusalem—built as a city that is bound firmly together.

All: To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the Lord,

Leader: As was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the Lord.

All: For there the thrones for judgment were set up, the thrones of the house of David.

Leader: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: “May they prosper who love you.

All: Peace be within your walls and security within your towers.”

Leader: For the sake of my relatives and friends I will say, “Peace be within you.”

All: For the sake of the house of the Lord our God, I will seek your good.

*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.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:11-14 (p. 162, New Testament section)

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 24:36-44 (pp. 27-28, New Testament section)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

“Waking Up in the Dark”

Dell Bornowsky

We Respond to God

***Carol of Response**

"Christians All, Your Lord is Coming"

**Christians all, your Lord is coming, drawing near in holy birth.
Ring the bells and sound the trumpets, let your music fill the earth.
Dance and move to show God's glory; kneel and pause to hear God's word.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Rise and let your songs be heard.**

**Christians all, your Lord is coming, calling you to serve in deed.
See the ones who hurt and suffer, hear their cry and act with speed.
Set all selfish ways behind you. Purge your hearts of sinful greed.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ in you will meet their need.**

**Christians all, your Lord is coming, he will rise up from the dead.
Lift the cup, of sin forgiven; bless the host and eat his bread.
Mend the ways where peace is broken, give yourselves to true Shalom.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Dwell as one in church and home.**

**Christians all, your Lord is coming, hope for peace is now at hand.
Let there be no hesitation, walk in faith where life demands.
Bear the word that God has given; share the birth that stirs your soul.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.**

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, forever and ever. Amen.

Our Gifts and Offerings

Joel Russell-MacLean

We Depart to Serve God

*Hymn for Departing “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” #128, vs 1,3

**It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.
“Peace on the earth good will to all, from heav’n’s all gracious King!”
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.**

**And ye 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.**

*Benediction Dell Bornowsky

Music for Departing Xavier Russell-MacLean

Parents: Please go to meet your children in the nursery and/or children’s program, as they can only be dismissed into your care.

An Advent Credo

(by Joseph Martin)

I believe in joy. I believe in the promise of morning.
I believe that Christ will come and wipe our tears away.
I believe in hope. I believe in the life everlasting.
I believe that Christ will come and bring a bright new day.
Lord, in my heart I believe.

When the darkness falls around me in the still of the night,
When shadows all surround me, faith will lead me to the morning light.

I believe in peace. I believe in the song of tomorrow.
I believe that Christ will come and war shall be no more.
I believe in love. I believe in God's great love.
I believe in the grace that unites us.
I believe that Christ will come in glory from above.

I believe in joy. I believe in hope. I believe in peace. I believe in love.
Lord, I believe. Lord, I believe. Lord, I believe.

For live translation in French, Swahili, Punjabi, or Filipino (English also available for those having trouble hearing), scan here:



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