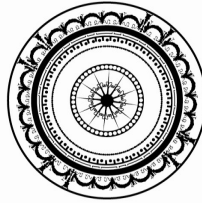


# First Baptist Church on Fifth



**The Worship of God**  
The Fourth Sunday of Advent  
December 24, 2017  
10:30 am

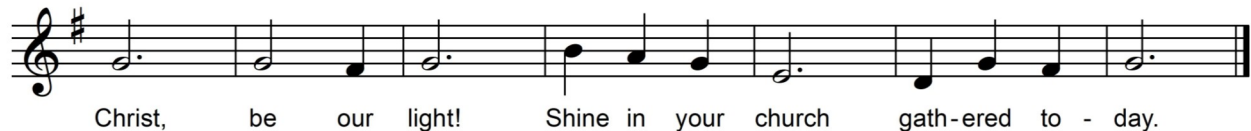
Invitation to Worship ..... Emily Hull McGee

Prelude: *O Holy Night* ..... A. Adam  
Emily Grissing, Cello

The Prophecy: Isaiah 9:2-7 ..... Carlos Mir

Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Candle of Love ..... Caroline Kearney and Roper Halverson

Congregational Response: *Christ Be Our Light* ..... B. Farrell



Prayer for Illumination ..... John Thornton

*(Please read in unison.)*

**God of light and love,  
We find rest in your kingdom that has been made sure forever.  
This promise illuminates our hearts and fills us with adoration.  
We seek your tender mercy, oh God,  
as we wait in eager anticipation for the Christ child.  
Help us follow you, guide our feet into the way of peace.  
May your promises resound evermore.  
Amen.**

\*Processional Hymn 126: *Angels from the Realms of Glory* ..... REGENT SQUARE

\*Passing of the Peace ..... David Williamson

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## Canticles of the Day

Luke 1:67-79 (Pew Bible, New Testament, p.44) ..... Sally Mir

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Luke 2:27-33 (Pew Bible, New Testament, p.45) ..... Molly Mir

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem: *The Hands That First Held Mary's Child* ..... D. Forrest

Sanctuary Choir  
Emily Grissing, Cello

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 not tool of steel, they drove no iron nail. But cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail. When Joseph marveled 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 blessed 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 that 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.

Pastoral Prayer for Love ..... Emily Hull McGee

Leader: Come quickly, Lord;  
**People: Our love is in you.**

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. Amen.

\*Hymn 88: *Blest Be the God of Israel* ..... MERLE'S TUNE

Homily: "Zechariah's Song: Benedictus; and Simeon's Song: Nunc Dimittis" ..... Emily Hull McGee

\*Hymn of Response 96: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ..... HOUSTON

*All are invited to respond to God now in quiet or public ways. Our church welcomes you to share a new desire to follow in the way of Jesus or to join our congregation as a member. As we sing, please come to the front of the sanctuary and share your commitment with one of our ministers.*

\*Offertory Prayer ..... Benny Bowes

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Gesu Bambino* ..... P. Yon/arr. M. Hayes

Jessica Kiger

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snow upon a winter night was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of love and light. The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced, And at His blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord. Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night that gave the world its Christmas Rose, its King of love and light. Let every voice acclaim His name, the grateful chorus swell. From paradise to earth He came that we with Him might dwell. O come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord.

Opportunities for Ministry ..... Amy McClure

\*Doxology ..... VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*Benediction ..... Emily Hull McGee

Postlude: *Fanfare* ..... J. Cook

Jacob Hill, Organ

*\*Those who are able will please stand.*

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

“Christ Be Our Light” words and music by Bernadette Farrell ©1994 Bernadette Farrell, published by OCP Publications, Used by permission, OneLicense #A-720038

The Prayer for Illumination is written by Kaylee Godfrey, Pastoral Intern at First Baptist Church and a second-year student at Wake Forest School of Divinity.

Acolytes for this service are Ashleigh Henley and Tessa Turner

Lighting the Advent Candle today are Prayer Partners Caroline Kearney and Roper Halverson.

### POINSETTIAS

#### Given in Memory of:

William Albert Gwyn by John and Helen Gwyn  
Ruth Anderson Gwyn by John and Helen Gwyn  
Clifton and Ruth Atkins by John and Helen Gwyn  
Dwight David Atkins by John and Helen Gwyn  
Jeanne Read and Bill Skorton by Linda Jones  
Ruby Stainback by Beth and Gene Stainback  
George and Betty Norwood by Beth and Gene Stainback  
John Grogan by Jean Grogan  
Bob Whittle by Jan Whittle  
David and Stella Wilcox by Jan Whittle  
Our parents by Bill and Betty Scales  
Janice T. Shearin by Sibyl and David Smelcer  
Debbie S. Allsbrook by Sibyl and David Smelcer  
Dr. Hoke Cleaver by Ernestine Cleaver  
Arnett Harris by Mary Nell Harris  
Dorothy Harris by Whitty Harris  
Alice and Worth Chandler by Emil and Nancy Nathan  
Dr. Peter Nathan by Emil and Nancy Nathan  
Henry Lee Falls, Sr. by Janet Falls  
Vincent Lambert by Ed Lambert  
Blanche S. Allen by Thomas Allen  
Elizabeth Mae Allen by Thomas Allen  
Ed and Evelyn Collette by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
Wava Howard by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
John Jordan by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
Charles and Mattie Ware by Lucian and Robie Neal  
Charlie and Paulean Neal by Lucian and Robie Neal  
Nellie C. and Charles A. Stewart, Jr. by Mark Stewart  
Frank and Eunice Johnson by Sarah Johnson  
Al Amos by Doyce Amos

#### Given in Honor of:

Lala Lambert by Ed Lambert  
Mr. and Mrs. Gene Lucas by Thomas Allen  
Al and Nancy Guenther by Thomas Allen  
Scott Hudgins and Mary Foskett by Thomas Allen  
Bob and Gayle Edwards by Thomas Allen  
Emily Hull McGee by Thomas Allen  
Phronsie Jordan by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
Patricia Owen by Vana and Dick Bagnal  
Janet Williams by Vana and Dick Bagnal  
Phronsie Jordan by Vana and Dick Bagnal  
Lenwood Ammons by Lucian and Robie Neal  
Jake Hill by Lucian and Robie Neal

*The large poinsettias that have decorated the Sanctuary during Advent were given by Greg and Kim Rowan in loving memory of Greg's parents, Frank and Jean Rowan.*

### PASTORAL STAFF

*Please feel free to contact us if we can be of assistance.*

**Rev. Emily Hull McGee**  
Pastor  
ehullmcgee@firstonfifth.org  
Ext. 116

**Rev. Amy McClure**  
Associate Pastor  
Children, Senior Adults, Pastoral Care  
amcclure@firstonfifth.org  
Ext. 111

**Rev. John Thornton**  
Associate Pastor  
Youth, Adults, Missions  
jthornton@firstonfifth.org  
Ext. 110

**Rev. David Williamson**  
Associate Pastor  
Worship, Arts, Administration  
dwilliamson@firstonfifth.org  
Ext. 118

**CHRISTMAS/NEW YEAR  
SCHEDULE CHANGES**

**Sunday, December 24 -  
Christmas Eve**

9:15 am Christmas Eve Brunch  
10:30 am Worship  
5:00 pm Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols

**Monday, December 25 - Wednesday, December 27**  
Church Office Closed

**Sunday, December 31, 2017**  
10:30 am Worship

**Monday, January 1**  
Church Office Closed

**SUNDAY, December 24**

9:15 am Christmas Eve Brunch (Kelly Auditorium)  
10:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)  
5:00 pm Lessons and Carols Service (Sanctuary)

**MONDAY, December 25-WEDNESDAY, December 27**  
Church Office Closed

**SUNDAY, December 31**

10:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)

**SERVING TODAY**

Deacons of the Week ..... Benny Bowes  
Carlos Mir  
Nursery: Babies-Ones ..... Nancy Baxley  
Sibyl Smelcer  
Nursery: Twos-PreK ..... John Baxley  
Kara Thompson

**WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST**

Our Sunday Morning Worship Service is televised live at 10:30am on Cable Channel 1312 and is streamed live from our website at [firstonfifth.org](http://firstonfifth.org). Online giving is available at [give.firstonfifth.org](http://give.firstonfifth.org).

**YEAR END  
CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES**

To be included in your 2017 contribution statement, please be aware of the following deadlines:

Hand-delivered contributions must be received in the FBC Finance Office by December 31. Mailed contributions must be postmarked no later than December 31. Stock gifts can be processed through the First Baptist Church brokerage account at Wells Fargo Advisors. Please call the Finance Office for details at 336-722-2558 x103.

**DECEMBER BENEVOLENCE NEEDS**

**Crisis Control** - Sugar/Flour/Baking Items

**Samaritan Ministries' Wish List**

deodorant, socks, toboggans,  
lined waterproof gloves

**WAYS TO ASSIST WITH THE  
WOMEN'S TRIP TO THE DR**

Our 15th annual women's trip to minister to the women and families in the community of Cielo will be January 13-20. There are several ways we need your help. Our greatest need is monetary contributions to help us provide rice, beans and water cards for fifty families most in need. Your generosity last year also provided funds to help buy food and bless our friends in Cielo throughout the year. Your check payable to First Baptist Church or cash should be designated for the Women's Mission Trip rice and beans ministry. Also, we are collecting sample size toothpaste and toilet articles (soap, shampoo and lotion), beanie babies for the medical clinic and costume jewelry, handbags and cosmetic bags for the staff and women. These can be placed in the Women's Dominican Republic Mission Trip bin outside Fellowship Hall or given to Gayle Edwards. Thank you for your contributions, prayers and support. If you have questions, please contact Gayle Edwards at [gcedwards44@gmail.com](mailto:gcedwards44@gmail.com).

**ADVENT AT FIRST BAPTIST  
CHURCH ON FIFTH  
Worship Opportunities**

**Sunday, December 24 | 10:30 a.m.**

"Zechariah's Song: *Benedictus*;  
Simeon's Song: *Nunc Dimittis*"  
Music led by the Sanctuary Choir  
and Emily Grissing, Cello

**Sunday, December 24 | 5:00 p.m.**

Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols  
Music by guest soloist  
Teresa Moore-Mitchell, soprano  
and Richard Downs, Jr., Violin

**SAMARITAN MINISTRIES  
OVERNIGHT VOLUNTEERS  
SOUGHT**

For over ten years First Baptist has provided overnight volunteers for Samaritan Ministries. The time is from 6:30 pm—7:00 am. We need six volunteers each night, men and women, for the nights of January 1-7, except for January 4th. Please contact Bob Edwards at [bobedwards4113@gmail.com](mailto:bobedwards4113@gmail.com) or 336-768-3063 to volunteer for one of these nights.

**NATIVITY EXHIBIT**

Thanks to everyone who shared their Nativity sets for the Arts Ministry exhibit in the Ammons-Lolly Commons. What a blessing this has been to our Advent season!. For those who want their Nativity sets at home over Christmas, you may pick up your set after the worship service today. Remaining sets will be packed up on December 28 and available for pick up in the church office during regular office hours. Annice Hogsette will be delivering those sets she picked up at individual homes.

<u>Ministry Funding—November 2017</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>YTD</u>
Contributions & Receipts	68,400	809,153
Ministry Costs	75,590	897,491
Over/(Under) Met Needs	( 7,190)	( 88,338)
Contributions Current Year	69,120	801,556
Contributions Last Year	61,669	796,262