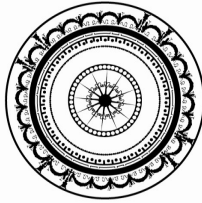


First Baptist Church on Fifth



The Worship of God

The First Sunday of Advent

Hanging of the Green

December 2, 2018

10:30am

Organ Voluntary: *Nun komm der Heiden Heiland (Come, Savior of the Nations)* D. Buxtehude

Jacob Hill, Organ

Invitation to Worship Emily Hull McGee

The Prophecy: Jeremiah 33:14-16 (Pew Bible, OT, p.572) John Thornton

Lighting of the Advent Candle: The Candle of Hope Clem Peterson

As the Christian new year begins, we enter the darkness together. We carry the Christ-light into the shadows of despair, fear, depletion, injustice. We wait, actively and persistently, for God's coming light to overwhelm the world. With the ancient words of Jeremiah's promise in our hearts, we light the candle of hope, declaring this sign to the world that God's hope for all creation is at hand!

Congregational Response: *Hope, Peace, Joy and Love* R. Edwards

Hope, peace, joy, and love! These are gifts and
signs from a - bove. Je - sus, Em - man - u - el, come to be
light of your hope, re - flect - ed in me.

Processional Fanfare

*Processional Hymn 79: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

*Passing of the Peace Amy McClure

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Prayer of Confession David Williamson

Merciful God, always with us, always coming; we do not know how to prepare for your advent. We have lost the capacity to hope for miracles. We have forgotten the promise of your coming reign. We get distracted by the busyness of the season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the wonder of the shepherds, the courage of the magi, the faith of Mary and Joseph. Lead us to Bethlehem, that we might discover again the good news of the gospel, for Jesus' sake, for our sakes, and for the sake of the world. Amen.

Words of Assurance David Williamson

Leader: Friends, believe the good news:
In Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Preparing the House Emily Hull McGee

Blessing of the Evergreens Miriam White

May these garlands and wreaths, evergreen and ever-alive, be signs for us of God's unchanging, unending presence in this world. As we encircle our sanctuary with greenery, may they bless all who enter here seeking refuge and belonging with the reminder of hope — hope springing forth and shouting of the coming green again, hope of the eternal, abundant life promised in Christ. Amen.

Carol: *Advent Hope* D. Hakes

Chancel Ringers

Blessing of the Poinsettias Amy McClure

May these poinsettias, flowers of the holy night, be signs for us of the Bethlehem star that pointed the world to the miracle unfolding in a simple stable. As we fill our sanctuary with their blood-red beauty, may they bless all who see them with a visible witness to the baby who would become the Savior of the world. Amen.

Carol: *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* M. Praetorius

Sanctuary Choir
Choristers

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as men of old have sung. It came, a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, when half spent was the night. Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind, with Mary we behold it, the Virgin Mother kind. To show God's love aright, she bore to men a Savior, when half spent was the night.

Blessing of the Candles John Hanes

May these candles, bright flames in this darkest of seasons, be signs for us of the One who is the Light of the World. As we illuminate our sanctuary with special light this Advent, may they bless all whose lives are too often filled with darkness and despair with the blazing light of God's justice, peace, and salvation in Christ. Amen.

Carol: *We Shall Light a Thousand Candles* D. Rasbach

Sanctuary Choir

We shall light a thousand candles, dispelling the night with a glorious morn; We shall sing a thousand carols proclaiming our wonderful Savior is born! Tell it far and tell it near, speak of the love He gave us; every nation needs to hear: "Jesus was born to save us!" We shall light a thousand candles, dispelling the night with a glorious morn; We shall sing a thousand carols proclaiming our wonderful Savior is born! Go into the blinding night, sing of this great salvation. Take the glorious Gospel light to every tongue and nation. We shall light a thousand candles, dispelling the night with a glorious morn; We shall sing a thousand carols proclaiming our wonderful Savior is born!

Blessing of the Nativity Augusta Graham

May this nativity, symbols of that moment when Love became flesh, be signs for us of God's bold dream for this world made real in the most simple of spaces, the most humble of people, the most ordinary of ways. As we place these familiar pieces in our sanctuary, may they bless us anew with the wonder of the manger and the One in whom we are known and loved. Amen.

*Hymn 85: *Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming* PLEADING SAVIOR

Pastoral Prayer for Hope John Thornton

Leader: Come quickly, Lord;
People: **Our hope 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.

New Testament Lesson: Luke 21:25-36 (Pew Bible, New Testament, p.65)..... Emily Hull McGee

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Homily: "Signs of the Times" Emily Hull McGee

Celebration of Communion

*Hymn of Response 83: *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

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 David Matthews

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Offertory: *Jesus Shall Reign* arr. C.Dobrinski

Youth Handbell Ensemble

*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: *Noël No. 12* L.C. Daquin

Jacob Hill, Organ

**Those who are able will please stand.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

"Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love" words by Randy Edwards and Sherry Upshaw, music by Randy Edwards
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Serving as Acolyte for this service is Micah Knight
Crucifer is Isabelle Yates.

As the new church year begins, we begin a few new rhythms in our worship this morning. The Prelude will prepare your hearts for worship in the moments before 10:30. A cross-bearer, or crucifer, will lead the processional each week, reminding us of the persistent presence of Christ with us even as we wait for his coming. Opportunities for Ministry will be printed and fully available in our worship folder but not extensively shared verbally during the service. Each shift is intended to create meaningful space for all to share in the worship of God and the renewal of our hearts.

SUNDAY, December 2

9:15 am Churchwide Bible Study (Kelly Auditorium)
 10:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 10:45 am Children, Prayer Partner Advent Workshop (Kelly Aud.)
 3:00 pm The Messiah (Offsite)

TUESDAY, December 4

10:00 am Homebound Care Cards (A-L Commons)

WEDNESDAY, December 5

12:00 pm From Darkness to Light Advent Study (A-L Commons)
 2:30 pm Singing Seniors (Offsite)
 3:00 pm Youth Commons Time (A-L Commons)
 4:00 pm Children & Youth Snack Time (A-L Commons)
 4:30 pm Youth Handbells (Sanctuary)
 4:30 pm Children's (3rd-5th) Handbells (Music Suite)
 5:00 pm Pre-K Music & Missions (Children's Loft)
 5:00 pm School-Age Music & Missions (Music Suite)
 6:00 pm First Fellowship Meal (Kelly Auditorium)
 7:00 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

THURSDAY, December 6

5:30 pm Adult Handbell Choir (Sanctuary)

SATURDAY, December 8

5:00 pm Youth Progressive Dinner (Offsite)
 7:00 pm Sounds of the Season Concert (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY, December 9

9:15 am Bible Study
 10:30 am Worship Service (Sanctuary)
 4:00 pm Holiday Gathering (Kelly Auditorium)

SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week.....David Matthews, John Hanes
 Nursery: Babies-OnesEmily Phipps, Kevin Masten
 Nursery: Twos-PreK..... Mitch Phipps, 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. Online giving is available at give.firstonfifth.org.

Ministry Funding—Oct 2018	Month	YTD
Contributions & Receipts	69,528	735,066
Ministry Costs	88,193	808,353
Over/(Under) Met Needs	(18,665)	(73,287)
Contributions Current Year	70,759	724,247
Contributions Last Year	73,362	732,436

CALLED CHURCH CONFERENCE DECEMBER 9

There will be a called church conference at the end of the worship service on December 9 to vote on the proposed 2019 Ministry Funding Plan, to elect deacons to serve from January 2019-December 2021, and to consider a recommendation to grant an easement to Duke Energy for the location and maintenance of a new electrical transformer. The transformer will be located on the Spruce Street side of the property where the Chapel once stood. The Ministry Funding Plan has been endorsed by the deacons and was discussed by the church at a duly called conference on October 3. You may pick up a detailed copy of the plan in the church office. The 8 nominees for deacon have been selected by the Nominating Committee based on nominations received from the congregation in August. Two additional nominees will be filling unexpired terms. The nominees for deacon are as follows:

NOMINEES FOR DEACON 2019-2021

Nancy Baxley	Roper Halverson	Bob Edwards*
Joe Bircher	Ray Hawley	Ralph Messick*
Ka'thy Gore Chappell	Nancy Robinson	*Filling unexpired term
Darlene Guerry	Matt Steen	

2019 PROPOSED MINISTRY FUNDING PLAN

Denominational and Missions	108,428.00
Outreach and Media	35,000.00
Discipleship Costs (all ages)	33,973.00
Worship and the Arts	20,000.00
Personnel and Administration	617,451.00
Building and Grounds	150,800.00
Fellowship and Congregational care	6,750.00
Less offsets	<u>-43,854.00</u>
Ministries to be Funded	928,548.00

YEAR END CONTRIBUTION DEADLINES

To be included in your 2018 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. Stock gift transactions take several days to complete and with extra year-end activity and holidays it is best to start the process not later than December 19. Please call the FBC Finance Office for details at 336-722-2558 x103.

NURTURING FAITH SUBSCRIPTION UPDATE

Starting in the new year, we will no longer be providing members with individual subscriptions of "Nurturing Faith" mailed to their home each month. However, we will order more copies for the church and have them available in the Ammons-Lolley Commons for you to pick up if you would like. If you would like to purchase your own subscription to Nurturing Faith you can do so at <https://www.nurturingfaith.net/subscribe/>.

First Baptist Church

501 West Fifth Street Winston-Salem NC 27101 • 336-722-2558 • www.firstonfifth.org
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