



FIRST BAPTIST  
ON FIFTH

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT  
Sunday, December 15, 2019 • 10:30 AM

As you enter for worship, all are encouraged to greet one another and enjoy fellowship with those around you. As the prelude begins, we'll shift into a brief time of quiet reflection, where God uses the stillness of the moment to quiet our souls for what will continue to emerge during our community's worship of the living, loving God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: *VIII Noel Étranger* ..... L.C. Daquin

Jacob Hill, Organ

INVITATION TO WORSHIP ..... Emily Hull McGee

THE PROPHECY: Isaiah 35:1-10 (Pew Bible, OT, p.513) ..... Amy McClure

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: *Candle of Joy* ..... Kevin and Kate Masten, Anna Scott Masten

*(Please read in silence.)*

We mark Joy Sunday today even as darkness eclipses gladness around us. We carry the Christ-light into the shadows of sadness, indifference, anxiety, loss. We wait, actively and persistently, for God's coming light to overwhelm the world. With the ancient words of Isaiah's promise in our hearts, we light the candle of joy, declaring this sign to the world that God's joy for all creation is at hand!

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* ..... HOUSTON

I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to fol - low Je - sus.

God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my life is Je - sus.

In him there is no dark-ness at all; the night and the day are both a - like. The

Lamb is the light of the ci - ty of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Je - sus.

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 103: O Come, All Ye Faithful** ..... **ADESTE FIDELIS**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE** ..... **Emily Hull McGee**

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**BIDDING PRAYER** ..... **Emily Hull McGee**

Leader: Beloved in Christ, with delight we prepare ourselves to hear again the message of the angels, to go in heart and mind to Bethlehem, and to see the loving-kindness of our God, and the Babe lying in a manger.

Let us therefore open the Holy Scriptures and read the earliest story of our disobedience to God's holy will, which is common to us all; and then the story of the birth of Jesus Christ our Lord, to save us from our sins. And let us thank him with our carols of praise.

But first let us pray for the needs of this whole world: In a world fragmented by warring factions and rampant injustice, we pray for peace and goodwill over all the earth.

People: **Hear us, O God, in the silence of our hearts.**

Leader: We pray for reconciling love and unity within the church Christ formed to be his continuing body to minister to the world.

People: **Hear us, O God, from the depths of our spirits.**

Leader: We pray for the poor, the helpless, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn; the lonely and the unloved.

People: **Hear us, O God, as we seek your strength.**

Leader: We pray for those who do not know the Lord Jesus, or who do not love him, or who by sin have grieved his heart of love.

People: **Hear us, O God, as we yearn to tell your good news.**

Leader: We pray for the great cloud of witnesses of all times and places whose hope is in the Word made flesh, and whose home is with you forever.

People: **Hear us, O God, as we join with them to give you praise.**

Leader: These prayers and praises let us humbly offer up to the throne of heaven, in the words that Christ himself has taught us:

People: **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.**

**FIRST LESSON: Genesis 3:8-15** ..... **Scott Hudgins**

*God tells sinful Adam that he has lost the life of Paradise.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: Wexford Carol** ..... **E. Hagenberg**

Good people all, this Christmas time, consider well, and bear in mind, what our good God for us has done, in sending his beloved Son. With Mary holy, we should pray to God with love this Christmas day; in Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born. Near Bethlehem did shepherd keep their flocks of lambs, and feeding sheep; to whom God's angels did appear, which put the shepherds in great fear. "Prepare and go," the angels said, "To Bethlehem. Be not afraid." For there you'll find this happy morn a princely babe, sweet Jesus born." With thankful heart and joyful mind, the shepherds went the babe to find, and as God's angels had foretold, they did our Savior Christ behold. Within a manger he was laid, and by His side the virgin maid attending on the Lord of Life, who came to earth to end all strife. With Mary holy we should pray to God with love this Christmas day; in Bethlehem upon that morn, there was a blessed Messiah born.

**SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18** ..... **Norah Knight**

*God promises to Abraham that by his descendants all nations of the earth shall be blessed.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: Sussex Carol** ..... **E. Hagenberg**

On Christmas night all Christians sing, to hear the news the angels bring; news of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth. Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Redeemer made us glad; when from our sin he set us free, all for to gain our liberty. When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place. Angels and we with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King. All out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night, "Glory to God in highest heaven, now and forevermore." Amen!

**THIRD LESSON: Isaiah 9:2,6-7** ..... **Richard Downs**

*The prophet foretells the coming of the Savior.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: Rejoice and Be Merry** ..... **J. Rutter**

Rejoice and be merry in songs and in mirth, O praise our Redeemer, all mortals on earth: for this is the birthday of Jesus our King, who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing. A heavenly vision appeared in the sky, vast numbers of angels the shepherds did spy, proclaiming the birthday of Jesus our King, who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing. Likewise a bright star in the sky did appear, which led the wise men from the East to draw near; they found the Messiah, sweet Jesus our King, who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing. And when they were come, they their treasures unfold, and unto him offered myrrh, incense and gold. So blessed forever be Jesus our King, who brought us salvation, his praises we'll sing. Rejoice and be merry!

**FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-4a,6-9** ..... **Holly Solomon**

*The peace that Christ will bring is foretold.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: *How Great Our Joy!*** ..... **C. Courtney**

While by the sheep we watched at night, glad tidings brought an angel bright.  
How great our joy. There shall be born, so did he say, in Bethlehem a Child  
today. How great our joy. There shall a Child lie in a stall. This Child who shall  
redeem us all. This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall  
fill. Praise we the Lord in heaven on high! How great our joy.

**FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38** ..... **Richard Groves**

*The angel Gabriel appears to Mary.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: *Tomorrow Shall Be My Dancing Day*** ..... **arr. H. Helvey**

Tomorrow shall be my dancing day; I would my true love did so chance to see  
the legend of my play, to call my true love to my dance. Sing O my love; this  
have I done for my true love. Thus was I born of a virgin pure, of her I took  
fleshly substance; thus was I knit to man's nature, to call my true love to my  
dance. Sing O my love; This have I done for my true love. In a manger laid  
and wrapped I was, so very poor, this was my chance, betwixt an ox and a silly  
poor ass, to call my true love to my dance. Sing O my love; this have I done  
for my true love.

**SIXTH LESSON: Luke 2:1,3-7** ..... **Nikki Byers**

*Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: *African Noel*** ..... **arr. A. Thomas**

Sing Noel! Sing we all Noel! O come, ye people, gather here to hear the  
news of good cheer. The King of Kings, the Lamb of God is born today in  
Bethlehem. Sing Noel!

**SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-16** ..... **Linda Jones**

*The shepherds go to the manger.*

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**CAROL: *The First Noel*** ..... **arr. D. Forrest**

Noel, born is the King, Noel. The first Noel the angels did say was to certain poor  
shepherd in fields as they lay, in fields where they lay keeping their sheep on a  
cold winter's night that wa so deep. Noel, born is the King of Israel. They looked up  
and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far. And to the earth it gave great  
light, and so it continued both day and night. Noel, born is the King of Israel. Then  
let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord, that hath made heav-  
en and earth of naught, and with his blood mankind hath bought. Noel, born is the  
King, Noel.

**EIGHTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11** ..... **Carlos Mir**

*The wise men are led by the star to Jesus.*

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**CAROL: Brightest and Best** ..... **arr. S. Kirchner**

Hail the blessed morn, see the great Mediator down from the regions of glory descend! Shepherds go worship the babe in the manger, lo, for his guard the bright angels attend. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining, low lies his bed with the beasts of the stall. Angels adore him in slumber reclining, Maker and Monarch and Savior of all. Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid. Shall we not yield him, in costly devotion, odours of Edom and offerings divine, gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean, myrrh from the forest or gold from the mine? Brightest and best of the stars of the morning, dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid. Star in the East, the horizon adorning, guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

**NINTH LESSON: John 1:1-14** ..... **Emily Hull McGee**

*John unfolds the great mystery of the Incarnation.*

**Leader:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE 127: Hark! The Herald Angels Sing** ..... **MENDELSSOHN**

*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** ..... **Scott Hudgins**

**GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERING**

**OFFERTORY: God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen** ..... **arr. L. Larson**

Orchestra

**\*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: Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella!** ..... **K. Chapman**

Jacob Hill, Organ

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

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The acolyte for this service is Liam McGee.

We express grateful appreciation to John Baxley, Dan Kinney, and David Smelcer for installation of the platform extensions to accommodate the orchestra.

"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" words and music by Kathleen Thomerson  
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## SANCTUARY CHOIR

David Williamson, Associate Pastor for Worship, Arts, and Administration  
Jacob Hill, Organist and Music Associate

Hoyt Beard	Patricia Greene	Pat Messick	Sandra Talton
Barbara Bedwell	Emily Grissing	Sally Mir	Ty Talton
Jerry Bennett	Elmer Hayashi	Jim Nelson	Jerri Thompson
Chase Branham	Madi Hill	Twyla Nelson	Joe Thompson
Hillary Bullock	Joyce Hollifield	Bob Owen	Mark Thompson
Judy Eustice	Larry Hovis	Nancy Robinson	Pat Thompson
Mary Foskett	Gary Knight	Beth Stainback	Joni Wells
Brent Greene	Jill Knight	Matt Steen	Donna Woody
Hailey Greene	Kenton McCollum	Lee Anne Stiffler	Tom Woody
	Emily Hull McGee	Kate Suchanek	

## ORCHESTRA

Instrumentalists for this worship service are provided in part through generous gifts to the Music Endowment Fund given in memory of O.G and Emily Allen and Alice Anne Scarborough.

### Violin I

Gregario Midero, *Concertmaster*  
Naiaria Sánchez, *Associate Concertmaster*  
Joshua Weesner

### Violin II

Amelia Weesner, *Principal Second*  
Susan Perkins  
David Mullikin

### Viola

Catherine Box, *Principal*  
Matthew Box  
Marian Wilson

### Cello

Ryane Dunnigan, *Principal*  
Emily Grissing

### Double Bass

Mara Barker

### Flute

Rebecca Nussbaum

### Oboe

John Hammarback

### Clarinet

Barbara Pilla

### Bassoon

Kirsten Gray

### Horn

Marie-Claude Driscoll  
Rachel Willis

### Trumpet

Ken Wilmot  
David Dash

### Trombone

Seth Frack  
Mary Kathryn Bowman-Choat

### Tuba

Daniel Clouse

### Percussion

Douglas Rowe

### Timpani

Colin Choat

### Piano

Chase Branham  
Jacob Hill

### Organ

Jacob Hill

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## ADVENT AND CHRISTMASTIDE WORSHIP | GLOBAL GOOD

The coming of Christ is good for the sake of *the world*. And yet, our world remains filled with chaos, wracked with suffering, threatened by destruction, and fractured at the very seams that hold the fabric of relationships together. This Advent and Christmastide, we're widening our viewfinder to see God-made-flesh as the world does, listening to the Prophet Isaiah as our guide and welcoming Jesus as 'global good' news for us all.

December 15 | 10:30am | Joy  
Lessons & Carols  
Sharing song and story of this "global good"

December 22 | 10:30am | Love  
*For the Sake of the One*  
Isaiah 35:1-10

December 24 | 5:00pm | Christmas Eve Worship  
*For the Sake of the Word*  
Isaiah 9:2-7

December 29  
*For the Sake of the Child*  
Matthew 2:13-23

January 5  
*For the Sake of the Dark*  
Isaiah 60:1-6

## OPENING OUR CHURCH HOUSE THIS ADVENT SEASON

Knowing how common is our deeply-held desire for stillness and quiet in the midst of the annual December frenzy, we at First on Fifth want to provide such an opportunity for our community. Every weekday between 11:00am-1:00pm from December 2-24, we will open our Sanctuary for anyone who would like to simply find peace and refuge this season. No program, no talking, no schedule— just space for restoration, for waiting with hopeful anticipation for the coming Christ child into the world. Please share this word with friends or coworkers you think might benefit from such space this season!

## HELP SENIOR SERVICES WITH "REMEMBER IN DECEMBER"

First Baptist is partnering with Senior Services this holiday season to support "Remember in December." We are filling bags with basic home and health items to be distributed to seniors in our community who are in urgent need of these simple things. Each bag has a wish list attached, so that you know what to purchase. The due date for returning the filled bags is Friday December 20 at noon. If you want to fill a bag, please contact Nikki Byers at [nbyers@firstonfifth.org](mailto:nbyers@firstonfifth.org).

## CHURCH-WIDE CHRISTMAS CAROLING DECEMBER 18

Brookridge | 5:45 pm

Please join our church family as we gather together at Brookridge Retirement Home in the Solarium on the 7th floor of the Healthcare building. We will not have a meal that night at the church, so please plan to arrive by 5:45 at Brookridge! See you there!

## TANGLEWOOD LIGHT OUTING FOR CHILDREN, YOUTH, FAMILIES & PRAYER PARTNERS

We secured two wagons for a wagon ride through Festival of Lights on Monday, December 23 at 5:00pm! Please RSVP ASAP to Amy McClure

at [amccclure@firstonfifth.org](mailto:amccclure@firstonfifth.org). The cost is \$5/person. We can seat up to 60 people on our wagons, so please reserve your spot with us! We will have a special entrance for you at the park so you don't have to wait in line to enter and load the wagons.

## CHURCH-WIDE BREAKFAST ON DECEMBER 29

Please join us for a light breakfast, provided by our hospitality ministry team, on Sunday, December 29, starting at 9:00am. There will be no scheduled Sunday bible study groups that day. We invite everyone to Kelly Auditorium for a time to share Christmas stories with each other, fellowship, and enjoy the Christmas season around the table. No need to bring anything! Just show up and be with us!

# 2019 Poinsettias

## In Memory Of:

John Grogan by Jean Grogan  
Audrey Wilson by Nikki Byers and Richard Groves  
Earl and Mary Frances Groves by Nikki Byers and Richard Groves  
Alice and Worth Chandler by Emil and Nancy Nathan  
Dr. Peter Nathan by Emil and Nancy Nathan  
Ed and Evelyn Collette by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
John Jordan by Bob and Gayle Edwards  
Mitzi Moore by Tom Moore and family  
J. Kenneth Foskett by Mary Foskett, Scott and Daniel Hudgins  
Anne S. Foskett by Mary Foskett, Scott and Daniel Hudgins  
Ruby Stainback by Beth and Gene Stainback  
George and Betty Norwood by Beth and Gene Stainback  
Our parents by Bill and Betty Scales  
Jim Cook by Preston, Laura and James Cook  
Blanche Shermer Allen by Tom Allen  
Elizabeth (Beth) Allen by Tom Allen  
Frank and Eunice Johnson by Sarah Johnson  
Eleanor and Egbert L. Davis, Jr. by Martha and Linwood Davis  
Janice Shearin by Sibyl Smelcer  
Debbie Shearin Allsbrook by Sibyl Smelcer  
Robert and Frances Thompson by Joni Wells  
Morelle and Bernie Wells by Joni Wells  
Michael and Raia Radionov by Vladimir and Jayne Radionov  
Ruth and Albert William Gwyn by John and Helen Gwyn  
Clifton and Ruth Atkins by John and Helen Gwyn  
David Atkins and Nancy Stevenson by John and Helen Gwyn  
Sylvia Hanley by Jack Hanley and sisters  
John and Eunice Bircher by Joe Bircher  
Grandparents, Aunt Beverly and other deceased family by Emily Grissing

## In Honor Of:

Beloved Community of First Baptist Church on Fifth  
by Josh and Emily Hull McGee  
Liam, Annabelle and Silas McGee by Josh and Emily Hull McGee  
Lauren Hovis by Larry and Kim Hovis  
Marty Cook by Preston, Laura and James Cook  
Wally Cox by Micah Knight  
Minerva Fox by Norah Knight  
Lenwood Ammons by Micah Knight  
Patricia R. Foskett by Mary Foskett, Scott and Daniel Hudgins

## THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

9:15 am Sunday Bible Study  
10:30 am Lessons & Carols Service (*Sanctuary*)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 16

12:30 pm Nancy Guenther Circle Meeting (*Offsite*)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17

5:00 pm Finance Committee Meeting (*Conference Room*)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 18

5:45 pm Christmas Caroling at Brookridge (*Offsite*)  
7:15 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (*Choir Room*)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22

9:15 am Sunday Bible Study  
10:30 am Worship Service (*Sanctuary*)  
11:30 am Reception honoring Steve Hairston  
(*Ammons-Lolley Commons*)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 23

5:00pm Children, Youth, Families & Prayer Partners  
to Tanglewood Lights (*Offsite*)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 Christmas Eve

Church office closed  
5:00 pm Candlelight Christmas Eve Service (*Sanctuary*)

### SERVING TODAY

Deacons of the Week: Scott Hudgins, Nancy Robinson

### CURRENT DONATION NEEDS

Please place donations in designated donation bins in the 1<sup>st</sup> floor hallway outside of Kelly Auditorium.

Samaritan Ministries: Sugar, dried pasta

Crisis Control: Saltine crackers

### WORSHIP SERVICE BROADCAST

Our Sunday Morning Worship Service is streamed live from our website at [firstonfifth.org](http://firstonfifth.org).

Online giving is available at [give.firstonfifth.org](http://give.firstonfifth.org).

### OUR VISION

We are a community in the heart of the city called by Jesus to practice bold love of God and neighbor and boundless compassion for all people.

### PASTORAL STAFF

Rev. Emily Hull McGee

*Pastor*

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Rev. David Williamson

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*Music Associate / Organist*

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*Youth Ministry Intern*

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Office hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30 am-5:00 pm, Friday 8:30 am-1:00 pm