



Irenaeus Yurchuk (Иринея Юрчук), *Nativity* (2023)

First Coming

by Madeleine L'Engle

God did not wait till the world was ready,
till... nations were at peace,
God came when the Heavens were unsteady,
and prisoners cried out for release.

God did not wait for the perfect time.
God came when the need was deep and great.
God dined with sinners in all their grime,
turned water into wine. God did not wait

till hearts were pure. In joy God came
to a tarnished world of sin and doubt.
To a world like ours, of anguished shame
God came, and God's Light would not go out.

God came to a world which did not mesh,
to heal its tangles, shield its scorn.
In the mystery of the Word made Flesh
the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane
to raise our songs with joyful voice,
for to share our grief, to touch our pain,
God came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

First Baptist Church on Fifth, Winston-Salem

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS
Sunday, December 15, 2024 • 11:00 AM**

PRELUDE: *Angels We Have Heard on High*

arr. K. Snell

Willson Hooks, Trumpet
Marin Kimpton, Trumpet
Sean Andrade, Horn
Will Rivers, Trombone
Nick Hathaway, Tuba

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

Emily Hull McGee

THE PROPHECY: Isaiah 12:2-6

Joanne Henley

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: *Candle of Joy*

Christa Chappelle and Eric Flye

(Please read silently)

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. 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!

RESPONSE: *Savior of the Nations, Come*

NUN KOMM, DER HEIDEN HEILAND

Sav-ior of the na - tions, come, show your - self the Vir-gin's son.
Fill with won - der, all the earth, that our God chose such a birth.

*HYMN 103: *O Come, All Ye Faithful*

ADESTE FIDELES

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Kyle Caudle

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

BIDDING PRAYER

David Williamson

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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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.

All: 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:

All: 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

Mary Kaylor

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

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *How Dark the Night*

arr. M. Ijames

How dark the night in Bethlehem where travelers sought for rest; how crude the cave they sheltered in while sheep and oxen slept. Then light shone forth into the world, dispelling sin and strife. The Child born to a virgin girl was Christ, the Light of Life. How dark the night o'er pastures bleak where shepherds kept their watch; how cold the wind which stole their sleep and chilled their weary flock. Then glory pierced the midnight sky, and turned fatigue to fright; "The King is born," the angel cried to hail the birth of Light. How dark the night of fallen souls, by sin and guilt oppressed; How hopeless our unspoken woe, asleep but not at rest; Till Christ breaks through our moral night and melts the heart of stone; "All praise to God in heaven's height and peace to men below." How dark the night that shrouds the world where war and anguish reign; how fierce our swords, how sharp our words, how piercing is our pain. O Christ return like blazing dawn — the Morning Star of Light. The Lord Himself will be our Sun, and day eclipse the night.

SECOND LESSON: Genesis 22:15-18

David Welch

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

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *Sussex Carol*

arr. 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.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *Unto Us a Son Is Born*

arr. Trevor Manor

Unto us a Son is born; "Welcome, holy Stranger!" Let us go this happy morn and see Him in the manger. How can He be born on earth yet Lord of all creation? Still the oxen know His worth and kneel in adoration! Round the stable angels sing, and shepherds thrill to hear it! Mary treasures all these things within a humble spirit. When this Child becomes a man He'll teach and heal the nation, then fulfill His Father's plan to die for our salvation. Though He bears our sin and strife, now hear the gospel story: Christ shall rise again to life, and lead us up to glory! Alpha and Omega He! All heaven and earth rejoices! Let us sing out merrily and join the angel voices! Unto us a Son is born!

FOURTH LESSON: Isaiah 11:1-4a, 6-9

Amy McClure

The peace that Christ will bring is foretold.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *Love's Pure Light*

E. Hagenberg

Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace. Silent night, holy night, Son of God, Love's pure light.

FIFTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-35, 38

Rick Matthews

The angel Gabriel appears to Mary.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *Lully, Lulla, Lullay*

P. Stopford

Olena Withrow, Soloist

Lully, lulla, Thou little tiny Child, By, by, lully, lullay. O sisters, too, how may we do for to preserve this day? This poor youngling for whom we do sing By, by, lully, lullay. Herod, the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day his men of might in his own sight all young children to slay. That woe is me, poor Child for Thee, and ever morn and day, for Thy parting neither say nor sing, By, by, lully, lullay.

SIXTH LESSON: Luke 2:1, 3-7

Carolyn Matthews

Luke tells of the birth of Jesus.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *All Praise to Thee*

E. Hagenberg

All praise to Thee, eternal God, Who, clothed in garb of flesh and blood, dost take a manger for Thy throne, while worlds on worlds are Thine alone. Alleluia. Thou comest in the darksome night to make us children of the light, to make

us in the realms divine, like Thine own angels, round Thee shine. Alleluia. A little Child, Thou art our Guest that weary ones in Thee may rest; forlorn and lowly is Thy birth that we may rise to heaven from earth. Alleluia. Amen.

SEVENTH LESSON: Luke 2:8-16

Kyle Caudle

The shepherds go to the manger.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

CAROL: *Glory to God*

R. Bass

Glory to God in the highest! And on earth, peace and goodwill among men.

EIGHTH LESSON: Matthew 2:1-11

Rob Norwood

The Magi are led by the star to Jesus.

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

All: 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, odors 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

All: Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE 127: *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

God calls all to respond! Our church welcomes you to share a new desire to follow Jesus or to join our congregation as a member. As we sing, please come to the front and share your commitment with one of our ministers.

***PRAYER FOR THE GIFTS WE GIVE**

Linda Jones

The giving of our material possessions, as well as our very lives, is an important part of active, vibrant worship of which all are invited to participate. In a moment, Deacons will pass the offering plates for you to share your financial contribution to support the ministries of First Baptist Church. If you would like to give online, you will find additional information in this worship guide and at our website, firstonfifth.org.

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

THE LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

Emily Hull McGee

***DOXOLOGY**

VENI EMMANUEL

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures
here — be - low; praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host: praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

***BENEDICTION**

Emily Hull McGee

POSTLUDE: *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

arr. A. Frackenpohl

Willson Hooks, Trumpet
Marin Kimpton, Trumpet
Sean Andrade, Horn
Will Rivers, Trombone
Nick Hathaway, Tuba
Jacob Hill, Organ

*Those who are able will please stand.

SERVING TODAY

Deacon of the Week:

Linda Jones and Joanne Henley

Children & Families Greeter:

Kim Wilkinson

Streaming and Sound Team:

Billy Choe, Martha Greene, Greg Ryder,
Judy Eustice, Jeff Burchette, Amber Myers

IF YOU ARE NEW, WELCOME!

If you are visiting with us today for the first time, we welcome you! Please fill out a Connection Card located in the back of the pews, and give it to a minister after worship. This allows us to extend our hospitality and connect you deeply within the life of our church. If you're visiting with young children, we welcome them in whatever way is best for your family! Creative resources for our little ones guide their experience of worship in the Sanctuary, and worship care for infants through kindergarteners is available in the nursery on the first floor.

SUPPORTING GOD'S WORK OF LOVE THROUGH FIRST BAPTIST ON FIFTH

Thank you for giving faithfully to God through the ministries of our church! Should you desire to give today, you can do so by placing your gift in the offering plates or by scanning the QR code to give online. Because you will need to enter your personal financial information when registering online, we encourage you to set up your account on a secure network at home before using the app for the first time.



ORCHESTRA

Violin

Monika Wilmot,
Concertmaster
Brian Ford
Naiara Sanchez
David Mullikin
Nick Williams
Zach Olsen

Viola

Louise Campbell
Maureen Michels
Sage Guice

Cello

Emily Grissing
Ryane Dunnagan

Double Bass

Matthew Rybicki

Flute

Rebecca Nussbaum

Oboe

Joanna Porter

Horn

Sean Andrade

Trumpet

Willson Hooks
Marin Kimpton

Trombone

Will Rivers

Tuba

Nick Hathaway

Timpani

John Beck

POINSETTIAS

Given In Memory Of:

Don Stewart by Family of Don Stewart
Danny Brown by Amy McClure & Karen Brown
Daniel Hudgins by Amy McClure & Karen Brown
Emil Nathan III by Nancy Nathan
Alice & Worth Chandler by Nancy Nathan
Emma & Evan Norwood by Rob Norwood
Bob Owen by Patricia Owen
Daniel Hudgins by Liam, Annabelle & Silas McGee
J. Kenneth Foskett by Mary Foskett & Scott Hudgins
Patricia R. Foskett by Mary Foskett & Scott Hudgins
Anne S. Foskett by Mary Foskett & Scott Hudgins
Daniel Tran Foskett Hudgins by Mary Foskett & Scott Hudgins
Don Roberson by Judy & Terry Lovelace
Janice T. Shearin by Sibyl & David Smelcer
Deborah S. Allsbrook by Sibyl & David Smelcer
Arnett Harris by Mary Nell Harris
Barbara Matthews by David Matthews
Linda Combs by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Nancy Guenthner by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Edith & Jim Carter by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Linda Newsome by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Henry & Reba Falls by Janet Falls
Ruby Stainback by Beth & Gene Stainback
George & Betty Norwood by Beth & Gene Stainback
Walter R. Wiley, III by Walter & Florence Wiley
Spiro Matsos by Emily Grissing
Earline & John Lewis by Linda, Barry & Emily Lewis
Faye & Richard Moore by Linda, Barry & Emily Lewis
Gene & Ann Ryder by Greg Ryder
Rick Ryder by Greg Ryder
Wayland Denton by Greg Ryder
Thomas M. Grozinger by Seth Moskowitz & Mary Ann Grozinger

Betty G. Tilman by Seth Moskowitz & Mary Ann Grozinger
Drs. Charles & Ellen Tabor by Billy Choe
Betty & Spencer White by Bill & Donna Hinson
Jane Hinson by Bill & Donna Hinson

Given In Honor Of:

Doug & Patty McClure by Amy McClure & Karen Brown
Kathy Brown by Amy McClure & Karen Brown
Emily Hull McGee & family by Patricia Owen
David Williamson by Patricia Owen
David & Joani Hughes by Patricia Owen
Alice & Wally Cox by David & Skeeter Joyce
Staff & beloved community of First Baptist on Fifth by Josh McGee & Emily Hull McGee
Pastoral & Church staff by Paul & Sara Sinal
Eve & Steve Andrews by Judy & Terry Lovelace
Linda Merchant by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Roper Halverson by Benny & Mary Ann Bowes
Karly Parker by Joy & Chris Gambill
Katie Gambill & Jordan Lockee by Joy & Chris Gambill
Robert & Greta Wiley by Walter & Florence Wiley
Elizabeth, Jacob & Jack Douglass by Walter & Florence Wiley
Rev. Charles Hinson by Bill & Donna Hinson
Sarah & Russell Talley by Marc Miller & Chris Horsman



501 West Fifth Street, Winston-Salem NC 27101 | 336.722.2558|firstonfifth.org
BOLD LOVE. BOUNDLESS COMPASSION.



FIRST BAPTIST
ON FIFTH

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Words for the Beginning

Advent Worship at First on Fifth

This year during Advent at First on Fifth, we'll return to the very beginning to hear words of blessing that came with the blessing of a baby born for the sake of us all. Our worship will ground us in the gifts of this waiting season, and our prayer will be that for all of us, Love becomes our beginning once again.

December 21 | Longest Night | 6:00 pm

All are invited to mark the Longest Night with a quiet and reflective time of worship, particularly intended for those grappling with grief and loss this season.

December 22 | Advent 4 | LOVE

Blessed are You (Luke 1:39-55)

December 24 | Christmas Eve | 5:00 pm

Do Not Be Afraid (Luke 2:1-20)

Christmas Eve service for all ages with communion, candlelight, and carols.

December 17 | Midweek Advent Series

Join Pastor Kyle for the final week of an Advent series entitled "Light a Candle" focusing on the prayers and poetry of theologian and mystic Howard Thurman. This class will meet in the Baraca Room at 12:00pm and will utilize a conversational teaching style.

Today! December 15 | Pop-Up Market, 12:00pm

Today, following worship, we will once again have our annual pop-up market in the Commons! Tshirts, ornaments, mugs, holiday cards and more will be available for purchase, come and see!

December 21 | Longest Night Service, 6pm

All are invited to mark the Longest Night with a quiet and reflective time of worship, particularly intended for those grappling with grief and loss this season.

December 24 | Christmas Eve Worship, 5:00pm

Our annual Christmas Eve service for all ages combines communion, candlelight, and carols to orient us toward the birth of Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us.

December 29 | New Years Brunch, 9:00am

We gather the Sunday after Christmas and enjoy a church brunch during the Sunday School hour in Kelly Auditorium. Join us!

Year-End Contributions

Thank you so much for supporting the ministries of our church through your financial gifts! As we approach the end of 2024, please know that in order for your gifts to be included in your 2024 contribution statement they must follow these deadlines:

- Hand-delivered contributions must be received by 10:00 am on 12/31.
- Mailed contributions must be postmarked no later than 12/31. (Please be aware that your bank's bill pay vendor may batch checks together for mailing, so it's advisable to avoid waiting late in the month for a December contribution.)
- Stock transfers can be processed through the FBC brokerage account at Wells Fargo Advisors. To ensure processing can be completed by 12/31, plan to start the process not later than 12/16 and notify Sally (sally@firstonfifth.org) when your transaction has been initiated.

Thank you for giving faithfully to God through First Baptist on Fifth!

Seeking Donations | Crisis Control

The gifts for December are Hot Beverages (Tea, Hot Cocoa, Instant Coffee) Please drop off donations in the first floor bins. Thank you!

Save these Dates in the New Year!

January 5 - Epiphany Sunday

January 12 - Deacon Ordination and Installation

January 26 - New Member Meet and Greet

January 28 - Quarterly Church Conference

March 5 - Ash Wednesday

April 13 - Palm Sunday

April 17 - Maundy Thursday

April 18 - Good Friday Tenebrae

April 20 - Easter Sunday

April 25-27 - Churchwide Camping Trip

THIS WEEK AT FIRST

SUNDAY, December 15

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth and Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)
- 12:00 pm Pop-Up Market (*Commons*)
- 5:00 pm Tanglewood Lights (*offsite*)

MONDAY, December 16

TUESDAY, December 17

- 12:00 pm Midweek Advent Study (*Baraca*)
- 5:30 pm Finance Committee (*online*)
- 8:00 pm Evening Prayer (*online*)

WEDNESDAY, December 18

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting (*Commons*)
- 5:30 pm Handbell Rehearsal (*Sanctuary*)
- 6:30 pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals (*Choir Room*)

THURSDAY, December 19

- 10:00 am Downtown Walking Group

FRIDAY, December 20

SATURDAY, December 21

- 6:00 pm Longest Night Service (*Sanctuary*)

SUNDAY, December 22

- 9:00 am Sunday Bible Study (*online*)
- 9:30 am Sunday Bible Study Adults, Youth and Children (*in person*)
- 10:30 am Coffee and Conversation (*Commons*)
- 11:00 am Worship (*Sanctuary & online*)

OFFICE HOURS

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

CHURCH STAFF

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