

I AM THE LORD; I HAVE CALLED
you in righteousness; i will
TAKE YOU BY THE HAND AND
keep you; i will give you
AS A COVENANT FOR THE PEOPLE,
a light for the nations

Isaiah 42:6



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 4, 2022
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
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When I say it's you I like, I'm talking about that part of you that knows that life is far more than anything you can ever see or hear or touch. That deep part of you that allows you to stand for those things without which humankind cannot survive. Love that conquers hate, peace that rises triumphant over war, and justice that proves more powerful than greed.
-Fred Rogers

Gathering Music

"Have You Any Room for Jesus?"
C.C.Williams/Faye Lopez. © 1996 The Wilds
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Welcome

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Prelude

"Improvisation on Savior of the Nations, Come"
Paul Manz. © 2002 Birnamwood Publications/MorningStar Music Publishers
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* Lighting the Candle of Peace

The Johnston Family

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 83)

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"
HYFRYDOL

* Passing of the Peace

Chad Johnston

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

If able, please text or message someone from the congregation and share with them the sign of peace.

* Responding in Peace (CONG 85 v. 3)

"Christians All, Your Lord is Coming"
PLEADING SAVIOR

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.

* Gospel Reading

Matthew 12.15-21

Leader: This is the Word of God for the People of God.

People: Thanks be to God!

Children's Sermon

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel/Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"
Lyrics/Music: Traditional. © 1987 Birdwing Music (Admin. By the Sparrow Corp.)
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** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

Unison Discipline of Confession

Creator God, we confess that we have turned a blind eye to both your vision and the reality around us. You call for justice, not for retribution. You call for honesty and compassion in our dealings with others. We admit that neither is convenient for us, especially at this time of year, and so we ignore the part we play and the part you call us to play. Forgive us, and remind us this day that we are meant for more than our shortsightedness can see. You have always been faithful, O God, and yet we confess that we still aren't so sure about the new things you declare. Turn us to the rest of the story you are still writing, that we may walk hand in hand with you into the story for which you created and called us.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Jesus said that anyone who hears what he says and trusts in God has eternal life. The time is coming, indeed it is already here. All who heed God's voice shall have life and that, indeed, eternal. Rest in the assurance of God's grace made known to us in Jesus the Christ.

Morning Prayer and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"Once He Came in Blessing"

Wilbur Held. © 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers

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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Isaiah 42.1-9

Response to Scripture (CONGR 89)

"Comfort, Comfort Ye My People"

PSALM 42

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

"Visions from Exile"

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Call to Communion

"Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"

Original Words and Music by Rowland Hugh Prichard and Charles Wesley/ Arr. Meredith Andrews and Jacob Sooter

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Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Bread and Cup

"Gesu Bambino" - Frederick H. Martens & Pietro A. Yon. © 1917 J. Fischer & Bro./© 1970 Belwin Mills
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* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 87)

"Arise, Your Light Has Come"
FESTAL SONG

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

"Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"
Wilbur Held. © 1997 MorningStar Music Publishers
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TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Chad Johnston

Cantor & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen
FBC Worship Band Vocal soloist: Joe Karnes
Livestream Video Crew: Brenda Schenkel, Brandon Gillette Sound: Jim Lord
YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Jenny Purvis

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Indian United Methodist Church.
American Baptist Churches, USA; Region Exe. Min. Rev. Dr. Cheryl F. Dudley,
serving churches in Metropolitan New York City
International Ministries Missionaries: Katrina & Kyle Williams, serving in Thailand

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Every member of First Baptist Church, like every disciple of Christ, is commissioned to participate in Christian ministry.
The following persons have been called by this congregation to empower such ministry:

Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant – matt@firstbaptistlawrence.com
Rev. Cristina Adams – cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com
Jenny Purvis – office@firstbaptistlawrence.com
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Senior Pastor
Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families
Administrative Support Manager
Bookkeeper
Building Manager
Digital Media Coordinator
Director of Worship Music
Organist & Chancel Choir accompanist
8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

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