



Photo by Tatiana Zanon



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2024
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
DECEMBER 8, 2024

Once again, this story shows what a scandal and difficulty faith is. Faith is not a reasonable act which fits into the normal scheme of life and perception. The promise of the gospel is not a conventional piece of wisdom that is easily accommodated to everything else. Embrace of this radical gospel requires shattering and discontinuity.

— Walter Brueggemann

Gathering Music

“Of the Father's Love Begotten”

Mark Hayes. © 2010 The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission CCLI #20126570

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

Joseph Parry/Mark Hayes. © 2010 The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission CCLI #20126570

Welcome

Rev. Cristina Adams

Prelude

Episode on “Veni, Emmanuel”

Lani Smith. ©1984 Lorenz Pub. Co/The Lorenz Corp. Used by permission CCLI #20126570

* Lighting the Candle of Peace

The Gray Family

Leader: “For everything there is a season and a time for every matter under heaven.”

All: Today, we celebrate the season of Advent,

Leader: a time for barrenness and a time for blessing,

People: a time for tears and a time for laughter,

Leader: a time for war and a time for peace—

All: a season for all of us.

Leader: Can you believe it?

All: We believe and have come to worship our Lord.

Leader: Can you imagine it?

People: Peace is taking root in this world!

All: The God who sees us is near, guiding our way.

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Hymn of Gathering (CONGR 79)

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

* Passing of the Peace

Joe Karnes

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 (CONGR 87 v. 2)

“Arise, Your Light Has Come”

FESTAL SONG

* Gospel Reading

Luke 1.39-45

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

"A Baby Will Come"

Bill Wolf. © 2010 Broadman Press, admin. Music Services, Inc. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

Hearing our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Unison Discipline of Confession

O God, you are our shepherd, yet we confess that we wonder where you've been. We thought we had an understanding, God, that you would protect us, that you would give us an abundance... We confess that we aren't sure how to speak your good news, since we see so little evidence of it in the headlines. Forgive us for our unwillingness to shout your promise from the mountaintops, and give us courage to face our fear of feeling foolish so that we can participate in your coming kingdom. Forgive us for wanting to keep your promise to ourselves, and bring us together with your people that together we might help each other through the shadowed valleys, encourage one another up the mountainsides, and recognize your glory revealed in a peaceful community we could never have imagined.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

The Lord is compassionate and gracious, slow to anger, abounding in love. In Christ Jesus, our Lord, your sins are forgiven.

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.

Prayer Response (CONGR 81)

"Let All Mortal Flesh"

PICARDY

RETURNING OUR GIFTS IN GRATITUDE

Moment for Mission

Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering

Sentences of Stewardship

Offertory

"The Gifts We Give"

Words & music: Kyle Matthews. ©2003 BMG Songs, Inc./See For Yourself Music (ASCAP).
Used by permission CCLI #20126570

* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

Old Testament Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
Genesis 18.9–15

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant
“An Uneasy Laughter”

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 113)

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Life of the Church

Benediction

Postlude

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

Johann Gottfried Walther/Edward Broughton. ©1990 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp.
Used with permission CCLI #20126570

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Liturgist: Joe Karnes

Director of Worship Music and Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Vocal Soloist: Mark Robinson • Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Livestream Video Crew: Susan Pauls, Brandon Gillette • Sound: Brandon Gillette

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Kylee Johnston

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Heartland Community Church

ABCUSA: Exec. Min. Rev. Dr. Courtney Davis Olds, serving the American Baptist Churches of Rhode Island

International Ministries Global Servants: Kihomi Ngwemi & Nzunga Mabudiga, serving in the Dominican Republic

*Cover photo: “smiling woman in gray cardigan” by Tatiana Zanon on Unsplash. Downloaded 12/5/2024 at
<https://unsplash.com/photos/smiling-woman-in-gray-cardigan-MMhazsT2wtM>*

*Discipline of Confession by Rev. Teri Peterson, ©2023, usage rights granted as Bible Worm Subscriber,
Liturgy Worm Level on Patreon.*

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

Senior Pastor

Rev. Cristina Adams — cristina@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, and Families

Jenny Purvis — office@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Administrative Support Manager

Holly Grassy — holly@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Bookkeeper

Neal Purvis — neal@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Building Manager

Susan Pauls — susan@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Digital Media Coordinator

Mark Robinson — mark@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Director of Worship Music

Evelyn Falen — evelyn@firstbaptistlawrence.com

Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist

Dr. Christy Miller — christy@firstbaptistlawrence.com

8:38 a.m. Worship Pianist

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

1330 KASOLD DRIVE, LAWRENCE, KANSAS 66049

PHONE: 785/843.0020 • FAX: 785/843.0021 • EMAIL: OFFICE@FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM

WWW.FIRSTBAPTISTLAWRENCE.COM

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*

** In-person worshippers are invited to stand as able*