



*"Isenheim Altarpiece" (detail)
Oil painting by Matthias Grünewald, 1515*



THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EPIPHANY SUNDAY
JANUARY 4, 2026
ONLINE AND IN-PERSON WORSHIP
FBC SANCTUARY
11:00 A.M.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD
EPIPHANY SUNDAY
JANUARY 4, 2026

There is a light that shines in the darkness, which is only visible there.
– Barbara Brown Taylor

Gathering Music

“Living Hope”

Phil Wickham & Brian Johnson/Mark Hayes. © 2022 Phil Wickham Music, Simply Global
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Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Prelude

“Kings From the East Came Riding”

Henry Balcombe. © 1990 Lorenz Pub. Co./Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

LIFTING OUR VOICES IN PRAISE

* Call to Worship

Leader: Come and meet a mystery, hidden from the dawn of time,

People: now revealed among us.

Leader: Come and hear good news: Christ has boundless riches.

People: Everyone may share them.

Leader: Say to all the people, to rulers and authorities:

People: No one is discarded.

All: Everyone is welcome. Alleluia!

* Hymn of Praise (CONGR 124)

“The First Nowell”

THE FIRST NOWELL

* Passing of the Peace

Pat Transue

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you!

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord!

* Responding in Peace (CONGR 125 v 2, 4)

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Children’s Sermon

SHARING OURSELVES IN PRAYER

Call to Prayer

“How Can I Keep from Singing?”

Text & music: Robert Lowry, arr. Craig Courtney (ASCAP). © 2001 Beckenhorst Press, Inc.
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Hearing Our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

Unison Discipline of Confession

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

Holy and loving God, when your light shines, nothing is hidden; and when your light shines on us, there is joy in seeing and discomfort in being seen. Help us, by your love, to bear the light of your truth and your integrity, your forgiveness and your faithfulness. Bring us out of hiding, that we may become children of light, through the Light of the World.

Discipline of Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, hear the good news of your salvation: God freely bestows God's grace on us through Jesus Christ. In Christ we receive redemption and forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of the grace that God lavishes on us. So be reconciled to God and one another.

Morning Prayer and 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 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

"This Is the Day of New Beginnings"

Carlton R. Young/Mark Hayes. © 2015 Lorenz Pub. Co./The Lorenz Corp.

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* Doxology and Prayer of Thanksgiving

(Those headed to Children's Church may leave now.)

PROCLAIMING THE TRUTH WITH HOPE

* Gospel Reading

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

John 1.6-9; 19-27

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

People: Thanks be to God!

Sermon

Rev. Matthew Sturtevant

"A Movement Begins: A Voice in the Wilderness"

Hymn of Response (CONGR 137, vv 1-3)

"Sing We Now of Christmas"

FRENCH CAROL

CELEBRATING THE TABLE OF GRACE

Invitation to the Table

Celebration of the Bread

"Here at Your Table, Lord"

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

Celebration of the Cup

“Here at Your Table, Lord”

* Hymn of Invitation (CONGR 137, vv 4-5)

“Sing We Now of Christmas”
FRENCH CAROL

* Life of the Church

* Benediction

Postlude

“March of the Kings”

Carl Simone. © 1984 Lorenz Pub. Co./Lorenz Corp. Used by permission. CCLI #20126570

The flowers on the altar are given for the greater glory of God.

TODAY IN WORSHIP

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Matthew Sturtevant

Assoc. Pastor for Children, Youth, & Families: Rev. Cristina Adams

Youth from the Central Region's 4TEN Leadership Training Program

Liturgist: Pat Transue • Organist & Chancel Choir Accompanist: Evelyn Falen

Director of Worship Music & Chancel Choir Director: Mark Robinson

Livestream Video Crew: Joanna Gillette, Scott Lamb • Sound: Glenn Prescott

YouTube & Facebook Chat Moderator: Susan Pauls

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

Local Church: Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

American Baptist Churches, USA: Executive Minister Rev. Dr. Greg Mamula,
serving the American Baptist churches of Nebraska

International Ministries Global Servants: Alise & Mark Juanes, serving in Thailand

Cover art: “File:Gruenewaldaltar.jpg,” photo by Gerhard Salomon of oil painting by Matthias Grünewald, “Isenheim Altarpiece” (1515).

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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

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 Manager

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

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