

The First Baptist Church at Worship
4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 20, 2020



THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist

The First Noel English Carol
setting by Diane Bish

In Praise to the Lord

THE RINGING OF THE CHIMES

A three-fold ringing of three signifies the presence of the triune God:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit.

CALL TO WORSHIP & PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

*OPENING HYMN (See pg. 5)

#79 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
VENI EMMANUEL

O come, O come, Emmanuel or *Veni, Veni, Emmanuel* is a Christian Hymn for Advent and Christmas. The text was originally written in **Latin**. It is a metrical paraphrase of the O Antiphons, a series of plainchant antiphons attached to the Magnificat at Vespers over the final days before Christmas. The hymn has its origins over 1,200 years ago in monastic life in the 8th or 9th century. Seven days before Christmas Eve monasteries would sing the “O antiphons” in anticipation of Christmas Eve when the eighth antiphon, *O Virgo virginum* would be sung before and after Mary’s canticle, the Magnificat. The Latin metrical form of the hymn was composed as early as the 12th century.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Nate Owens & Kimberly Bogan
Sydney & Abigail Owens

*For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but may have eternal life. ~John 3:16*

We light this candle as a symbol of God’s love revealed in Jesus the Christ. He is the light that shines in the darkness, the Word become flesh, full of grace and truth. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

*AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR **LOVE**

Gracious God, may your love be known to us this day, in this place, as we celebrate the gift of your dear Son. As we join our song with those of the angels and Elizabeth and Mary and countless others, grant us the will and the courage to love one another as you have loved us. Through Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE (See pg. 6)

#125 (v.1) *Angels We Have Heard on High*
GLORIA

**Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o’er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Listening for the Word of God

*GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Luke.

People: Praise be to you, O Christ.

Luke 1:26-38: In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

Leader: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us.

People: Thanks be to God.

(The Children's Message is a separate video available on our website.)

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE

Rev. David Coggins

Sharon Appelt

December 17, 1939 – September 15, 2020

CALL TO PRAYER (See pg. 7)

#110 (vs.3) *Away In a Manger*
MUELLER

**Be near me, Lord Jesus I ask Thee to stay close by me forever, and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in Thy tender care, and fit us for heaven, to live with Thee there.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE and
THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts/Debtors)

Rev. Coggins

SPECIAL MUSIC

First Baptist Quartet

Tia Seay, Connie Holmen, Brad Kallenberg, Michael Cage

The Angels Sang Margaret Pleasant Douroux

*How precious is the gift God gave to all mankind,
there is no greater gift I know you'll never find.
God, let this child be born in a manger filled with hay,
a bright and shining star, showed wise men where He lay.
When that great child was born, His parents loved Him so,
But when the time had come, they knew that He would go.
God let this Child be born to save this world from sin.
It was the greatest gift that God could give to men.
The Angels sang, Hallelujah, Glory Hallelujah!
Peace on earth, good will to men, Jesus Christ is born.*

“Finding Favor with God”

The Response of God’s People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE (See pg. 8)

#132 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*
CAROL

The “it” of the first line of this text by the Unitarian minister Edmund Hamilton Sears does not refer to the birth of Jesus, but to “that glorious song of old,” the angelic tidings of peace on earth. The restored third stanza laments how often the noise of human strife has obscured that message. In 1850 Richard Storrs Willis, a composer who trained under Felix Mendelssohn, wrote the melody called “Carol.” This melody is still the most widely known tune to the song in the United States.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

POSTLUDE

Gregory Land

Bring a Torch, Jeanette Isabella French Carol
setting by Keith Chapman

(*) You’re invited to rise in body or in spirit!

Please drop your offering and yellow card in the basket as you leave.
Thank you!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Note! Please wear a mask over your mouth and nose, use hand sanitizer, and remain socially distanced from those outside your family group when entering and exiting. Please only enter and exit from the sanctuary and do not go to other areas of the church. If a restroom visit is required, please use the downstairs rooms.

Please fill out a **yellow card** to indicate your attendance, along with the pew number where you are sitting, in case we need to get in touch with you for contact tracing in the event that someone who attends become positive for COVID-19 soon afterward. Adjustments to our service include no offertory, but rather you will be able to leave your offering as you enter/exit. We are not singing aloud, though our musicians will provide hymns when you can read along, sing in your heart or hum quietly with your mask on.

We plan to **livestream** our Sunday worship service to our YouTube channel. This can be found at <https://www.youtube.com/> and look for First Baptist Church Dayton Ohio, or check our website (<http://www.fbcdayton.org/>) for later viewing. We will hold our live **Zoom Gathering** Sunday evening at 5:00 PM. This is a time to connect with one another, pray, and have a lesson. Anyone is welcome to join us through any of these venues as we try to reach people in safe and meaningful ways.

Christmas Eve Worship Services

First Baptist plans to have two worship services on Dec. 24, one at 5pm and another at 7pm. We will limit each service to 50 and reservations will be required. You may RSVP on a yellow card today, or email the church office at fbc@fbcdayton.org. Please note which service time you prefer. The Christmas Offering will be divided between the Music fund and the Organ fund.

December ABC/USA Offering for Retired Ministers & Missionaries

The Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering (RMMO) is a tangible way for the American Baptist congregations to say "Thank You" for the commitment, service and spiritual guidance of retired ministers, missionaries and their widowed spouses. There's still time to donate! Please make checks payable to First Baptist Church and note RMMO on the memo line.

A Virtual Advent Wreath

The Marian Library at the University of Dayton is lighting the way to Christmas with a virtual Advent wreath. Visit go.udayton.edu/adventwreath to interact with its Advent wreath. Check back during each week of Advent for a special gift created for you and your family.

Support Our Baptist Youth Fellowship Through the AmazonSmile Program!

Just go to smile.amazon.com and log-in with your Amazon.com username and password. Search for "First Baptist Church Dayton" in the list of charitable organizations and click "Select." Then each time you want to buy something through Amazon, go to smile.amazon.com (not Amazon.com) and log-in and buy as you normally would. 0.5% of all eligible purchases will be donated to our church's BYF. Thanks for your support!

Matthew 25 Clothing Bin

A clothing bin from Matthew 25 Ministries is now located in the church parking lot near the garden. Items to be placed in the bin include: New and gently-used clothing and shoes; new underwear and socks; new and gently-used household linens (towels, curtains, sheets, comforters, totes, aprons, backpacks). Weekly pick-ups will be made.

Prayer for the Armed Forces

Almighty God, we commend to your gracious care all the men and women of our armed forces at home and abroad. Defend them day by day with your heavenly grace, strengthen them in their trials and temptations, give them courage to face the perils which beset them, and grant them a sense of your abiding presence wherever they may be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of the People

(If you have someone you'd like to add or remove, please let us know.)

Harry Alsup	Jim Earnest	Judy See
Paige Bartlett	Neil Earnest	Judy Smith
Rebecca Bauer	Lavanda Ferguson	Michelle Smith
Molly Beam	Ken Gordon	Helen Sutton
Marlen Berghuis	Bev Harrell	Emily Taylor
Jessica Blair	Linda Haskins	Torrey Thrash
Marcie Bogan	Marva Hughes	Anne Veghte
Don Brown	Barbara Jett	Sara Vice
Jessica Brown	Doris Landis	Waldrop Family
Robert Brown	Anna Frances Lasley	Zachery Williamson
Lynn Chadbourne	Vincent Liss	Peggie Worthey
Tami Malone Charles	Tim Meador	Healthcare Workers
Andy Collier	Arthur Merkle	Police & Fire Fighters
Marilyn Craig	Miles-Curry Families	Military Duty:
Pamela Cress	Mary Ann Paloncy	Sebastian Ewald
Donna Curry	Pipenger Family	Sunny Ewald
Martha DeBold	Radachi Family	Brittany Kalbfleisch
Florida Dixon	Susan Reichard	Andy Wilson

Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)



OPENING HYMN

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

79

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive
 2. O come, Thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by Thine
 3. O come, Thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife, and quar - rels cease; fill

til the Son of God ap - pear.
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -
 cause us in her ways to go.
 all the world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin hymn; tr. John Mason Neale (sts. 1, 2), 1851;
 Henry Sloane Coffin (sts. 3, 4), 1916
 MUSIC: Plainsong; adapt. Thomas Helmore, 1854

VENI EMMANUEL
 LM with refrain

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE AFTER ADVENT PRAYER

125 Angels We Have Heard on High

1. An - gels we have heard on high sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
 2. Shep - herds, why this ju - bi - lee? Why your joy - ous strains pro - long?
 3. Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;
 4. See Him in a man - ger laid, whom the choirs of an - gels praise;

and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
 What the glad - some tid - ings be which in - spire your heaven - ly song?
 come, a - dore on bend - ed knee, Christ the Lord, the new - born King.
 Ma - ry, Jo - seph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Glo ri - a

in ex - cel - sis De - o! Glo

ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!

CALL TO PRAYER

110

Away in a Manger

1. A - way in a man - ger, no crib for a bed,
 2. The cat - tle are low - ing, the Ba - by a - wakes,
 3. Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask Thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down His sweet head;
 but lit - tle Lord Je - sus, no cry - ing He makes,
 close by me for - ev - er, and love me, I pray.

the stars in the sky looked down where He lay,
 I love Thee, Lord Je - sus, look down from the sky
 Bless all the dear chil - dren in Thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
 and stay by my cra - dle till morn - ing is nigh.
 and fit us for heav - en, to live with Thee there.

WORDS: Anonymous (st. 1, 2), 1885; John Thomas McFarland (st. 3), 1892 (Luke 2:7)
 MUSIC: James R. Murray, 1887

MUELLER
 Irregular

HYMN OF RESPONSE

It Came upon the Midnight Clear 132

1. It came up-on the mid-night clear, that glo - rious song of old,
 2. Still through the clo - ven skies they come with peace - ful wings un - furled,
 3. All ye, be - neath life's crush - ing load, whose forms are bend - ing low,
 4. For lo! the days are has - tening on, by proph - et bards fore - told,

from an - gels bend - ing near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:
 and still their heav - en - ly mu - sic floats o'er all the wea - ry world.
 who toil a - long the climb - ing way with pain - ful steps and slow,
 when with the ev - er - cir - cling years comes round the age of gold;

"Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven's all - gra - cious King."
 A - bove its sad and lone - ly plains they bend on hov - ering wing,
 look now! for glad and gold - en hours come swift - ly on the wing:
 when peace shall o - ver all the earth its an - cient splen - dors fling,

The world in sol - emn still - ness lay, to hear the an - gels sing.
 and ev - er o'er its Ba - bel sounds the heav - en - ly an - gels sing.
 O rest be - side the wea - ry road, and hear the an - gels sing,
 and the whole world give back the song which now the an - gels sing.

WORDS: Edmund H. Sears, 1849 (Luke 2:13-14)
 MUSIC: Richard Storrs Willis, 1850

CAROL
 CMD