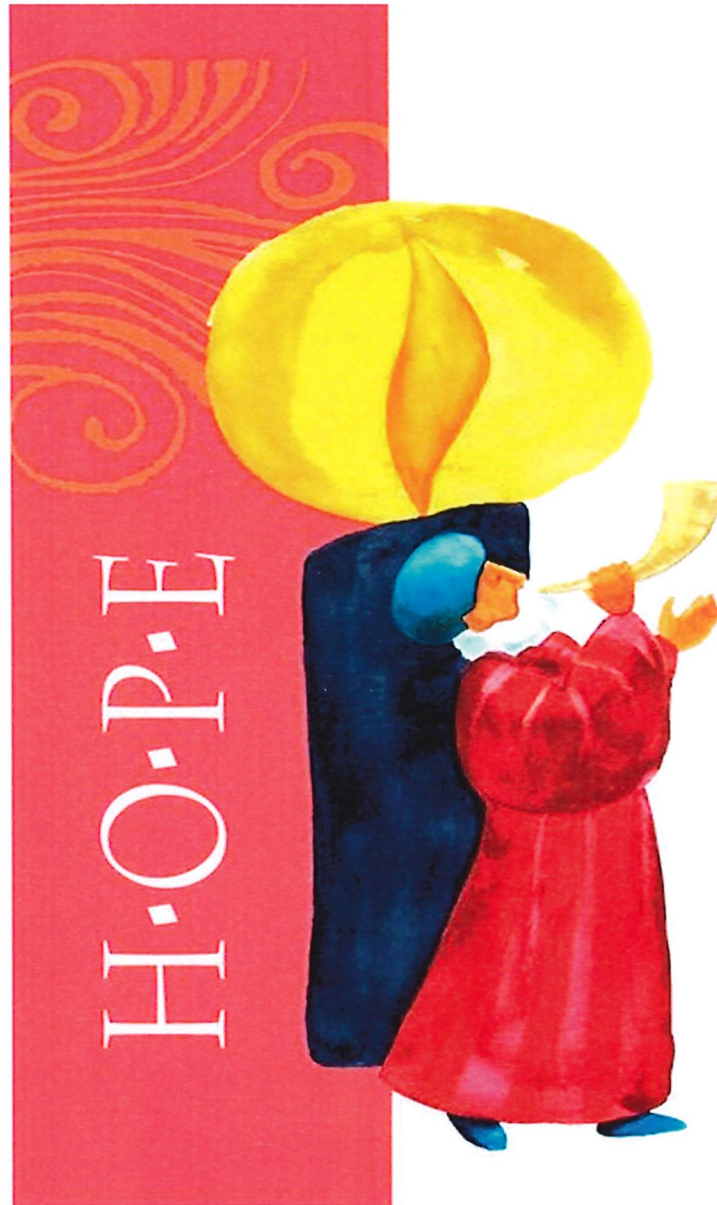


First Baptist Church of Dayton
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
COMMUNION SUNDAY
DECEMBER 3, 2023



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The First Baptist Church at Worship
 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Communion Sunday
 December 3, 2023 ~ 10:00 AM



THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist

- Of the Father's Love Begotten Plainsong; setting by Joyce Jones
- How Brightly Shines the Morning Star Johann Pachelbel
- Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying J. G. Walther
- O Come, O Come, Emmanuel "Veni Emmanuel"; setting by Page C. Long



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.

CHORAL INTROIT

Chancel Choir
 Dr. William Henry Caldwell, Director

The Glory of the Lord Shall Be Revealed Hal H. Hopson

*The glory of the Lord shall be revealed; all the earth shall see it together, for the mouth of the Lord
 hath spoken it. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
 As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.*

WELCOME & CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

*OPENING HYMN

#79 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel
 VENI EMMANUEL

This ancient advent hymn originated in part from the "Great 'O' Antiphons," part of the medieval Roman Catholic Advent liturgy. On each day of the week leading up to Christmas, one responsive verse would be chanted, each including a different Old Testament name for the coming Messiah. When we sing each verse of this hymn, we acknowledge Christ as the fulfillment of these Old Testament prophecies. We sing this hymn in an already-but not yet-kingdom of God. Christ's first coming gives us a reason to rejoice again and again, yet we know that all is not well with the world. So along with our rejoicing, we plead using the words of this hymn that Christ would come again to perfectly fulfill the promise that all darkness will be turned to light. The original text created a reverse acrostic: "ero cras," which means, "I shall be with you tomorrow." That is the promise we hold to as we sing this beautiful hymn.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Ryan & Kate Bradley

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will fulfil the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The Lord is our righteousness.'

~Jeremiah 33:14-16

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our Hope, as we join generations before us in seeking God's justice and righteousness. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR HOPE

O God, we thank you for the beauty and hope the lighting of one candle can give. Darkness and despair back away from the flickering flame, and there is life-giving warmth. Thank you for the gift of hope in your Beloved Son, whose love is the light of our life. **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(Vs. 1) *Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah*
TIF INVELDELE

**Light one candle to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.**



1 Light one can - dle to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 2 Light two can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 3 Light three can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the
 4 Light four can - dles to watch for Mes - si - ah: let the



light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall bring sal -
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He shall feed the
 light ban - ish dark - ness. Lift your heads and
 light ban - ish dark - ness. He is com - ing;



va - tion to Is - rael, God ful - fills the prom - ise.
 flock like a shep - herd, gent - ly lead them home - ward.
 lift high the gate - way for the King of glo - ry.
 tell the glad ti - dings. Let your lights be shin - ing.

Listening for the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Gina Greenwood

Isaiah 64:1-9: O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence--as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Mark.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Christ!**

Mark 13:24-33: "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come."

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!**

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*
HYFRYDOL

In one of his many "Coop's Columns" on the Calvin Institute of Christian Worship website, former Calvin College chaplain, Dale Cooper, recalls a moment in which he was traveling home to his young family after spending the summer in Geneva. He was calling his wife from Chicago's O'Hare airport to arrange his pick-up in Grand Rapids, when his then four-year-old son asked for the phone. Cooper writes, "His only words to me— a sigh, really: 'Daddy, when am I going to be where you are?'" It is this sigh of longing that we express when we sing the words of Charles Wesley's beautiful Advent hymn, "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus." For though we know that Christ goes with us and before us every day, we long for the day when we are with Him in all of the fullness and glory He will bring. We long for the day when we are with Him in a New Heaven and New Earth, when all things are made new. And just as a four-year-old crawls into his father's arms after an extended absence, so too we long for the day when we will be at rest in Christ, enfolded in the embrace of our Savior.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Jason Alspaugh

(Children are invited to come forward for the Children's Message during the last stanza of the fellowship hymn. All kids 3 years and older are invited to go downstairs (Room 4) after the Children's Message for a "One Room Sunday School" class. Parents are asked to pick up their children after service.)

CALL TO PRAYER

#399 *O Lord, Hear My Prayer*
O LORD, HEAR MY PRAYER

**O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer: when I call answer me.
O Lord, hear my prayer; O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: all my hope comes from God.
The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Alspaugh

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir
Samantha Leal, Soprano

Laudate Dominum (O Praise Jehovah)
From *Vesperae solennes de confessore* K.399, Wolfgang A. Mozart

O praise Jehovah, all ye nations, praise Him, O praise Him, all ye peoples, For all His loving kindness, kindness is ever more and more toward us, and His truth, the truth of Jehovah endureth forever. Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

“Will God Show Up?”

Holy Communion

INVITATION TO THE TABLE
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Rev. Coggins

SHARING OF THE BREAD

#81 v. 1-2 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*
PICARDY

SHARING OF THE CUP

#81 v. 3-4 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*
PICARDY

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING &
THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts & Debtors)

**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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Response of God’s People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#87 *Arise, Your Light Is Come*
FESTAL SONG

In Isaiah 60:1, the Lord instructed us “Arise, shine; for your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you.” When the Lord tells us to arise, He wants us to get up from the lowly position the enemy has placed us, which is causing us to be depressed and lose hope.

BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

#523 v.1 *God Be With You*
GOD BE WITH YOU

POSTLUDE

Gregory Land

Noel Louis Claude Daquin (1694-1772)
Grand Jeu Et Duo

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

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



Announcements

Welcome to our worship service! If you are visiting, we would love to get to know you. Please fill out a yellow card with your contact information and a pastor will be happy to get in touch with you. Anyone is welcome to use these cards to communicate with our office and share prayer requests or other information, too. We have baskets for our offering and communication cards at our entrances/exits.

We continue to **livestream and video record** our Sunday worship service through 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.fbcd Dayton.org/>).

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.)

Jason Alspaugh	Neil Earnest	Brenda Proffitt
Elizabeth Ard	Bill Harrell	Judy See
Glen Babb	Tim Holmen	Judy Smith
Jessica Blair	Lavanda Ferguson	Roger Stephens
Gail Bowman	Greenwood Family	Kaye Suryk
Don Brown	Barbara Jett	Anne Veghte
Rob Brown	Ray Landis	West Family
Don Bryant	Anna Frances Lasley	Dorothy Williams
Gerald Busch	Lee Family	
Robert Caldwell	Dana Liss	<i>Military Duty:</i>
Pamela Cress	Vincent Liss	Sebastian Ewald
Dixon Family	Tom McKenzie	Sunny Ewald
Lynn Domesick	Arthur Merkle	Brittany Kalbfleisch
David Donovan	Mary Ann Paloncy	Kyle Kline
Jim Earnest	Susan Parent	Will Radachi
Luke Earnest	Pearson Family	Andy Wilson

Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)

Week of Dec. 3 – 10

Sun. 3	10:00a	Worship Service w/Communion – Advent 1
	11:15a	Pageant Rehearsal / Coffee Fellowship
	11:30a	Sunday School Classes / Activities
	4-6p	“Voices for Peace” (Fazl-I-Umar Mosque)
Mon. 4	10a	Nativity Scenes Tour (UD Roesch Library)
Tue. 5	4:30p	Interfaith Forum of Greater Dayton (FBC)
Wed. 6	1:30p	Downtowners Christmas Concert (CEC)
Thu. 7	7:00p	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sat. 9	2pm	CWU Christmas Celebration for Clergy (St. Paul AME)
Sun. 10	10:00a	Lessons & Carols Worship Service – Advent 2
	11:15a	Pageant Rehearsal / Coffee Fellowship
	11:30a	Sunday School Classes / Activities
	5:30-7:30p	BYF Christmas Party w/HCC (Harmony Creek)

Time Change for “Voices for Peace”

"Voices for Peace" is an event focusing on peace from different religious traditions in light of the Israeli-Gaza conflict. Pastor Berghuis will be one of the speakers. **This will be held today, December 3 from 4-6 pm at Fazl-I-Umar Mosque, 637 Randolph St. in Dayton.** Anyone is welcome to attend and lend support, we would love to see some FBCD people there!

Downtowners Christmas Concert

Wednesday, December 6 @ 1:30pm

Christ Episcopal Church (20 W. First St. Dayton) cordially invites everyone to a delightful Christmas concert featuring Percy Jones and Friends (including our very own Ray Landis), performing a wide array of seasonal music with voice, harp, flute, violin, organ, piano, and dance. Reception to follow.

Adult Sunday School Offerings

SERMON TALKBACKS

First Sundays @ 11:30am-12:15pm

Next Session: December 3rd

1st Floor - Choir Room

The Board of Christian Education has heard the desire among some to have opportunities for congregants to converse with the pastors about their sermons in an open forum. This has often been called a "sermon talkback." And so, we have decided to give this a try, offering such talkbacks on the first Sunday of the month in the Chapel. We hope you'll join us and share the questions, insights, challenges, etc. that the sermon may have left with you.

2023 Advent Study

"bless the Advent We Actually Have"

Led by Pastor Jason & Pastor David

Sundays @ 11:30am-12:15pm

November 26 – December 17

1st Floor – Chapel

An Advent study that covers the four themes of Hope, Peace, Joy & Love that we traditionally celebrate in our worship life. And this year we'll be using Kate Bowler's devotional, "*bless the Advent We Actually Have*" to guide our time of study and reflection. It is also useful throughout the weekdays in Advent, those times in-between our gatherings. This is a free resource that is available in limited print on the table by the church office.

+ + + + +

Nativity Scenes at UD Roesch Library

Please join us to visit the beautiful Nativity Scenes at The University of Dayton's Roesch Library on **Monday, December 4 at 10:00**. The exhibits are a self-guided experience spanning 3 floors of the Roesch Library. You can also take an audio tour with your smartphone and your headphones. It is a family friendly event. If you look on-line at the UD Marian Library Nativity Scenes, you will see information on the exhibit. Parking will be available near the library. **Please let Linda Thomson know if you would like to attend**, so parking can be arranged. She can be reached at 937-903-6297.

INTERFAITH FORUM OF GREATER DAYTON

The Season of Winter: Holy Days / Celebrations / Festivals

Baha'i, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and yours

Tuesday, Dec. 5 @ 4:30-6:30pm

First Baptist Church of Dayton

Program – Social – Annual Meeting

Enjoy congeniality and refreshments and share your faith's winter celebrations.

You're welcome to bring vegetarian to add to the table.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED (CWU)

Christmas Celebration for Clergy & Spouses

Saturday, Dec. 9 @ 2:00pm

St. Paul AME Zion Church

(4544 Laurel Drive, Dayton 45417)

The purpose of this special Christmas Celebration is to honor priests and pastors and their spouses. It is a token of our appreciation for their dedicated service. All Church Women United are invited to enjoy the fellowship! There is no cost but **reservations** are requested. Please see/contact Linda Ginter-Brown if you plan to attend.

2023 Christmas Pageant Dec. 17

Pageant Rehearsals: Dec. 3 & 10

This year I am working on an order of worship for Sunday, December 17 that will incorporate different parts of the Gospel stories surrounding the birth of Jesus. We will still have a part of the service entail a fairly traditional Christmas Pageant, and we'll need folks to play the parts of Mary and Joseph, angels, shepherds, etc. But there will also be more in terms of annunciations, proclamations, and praise that come from the Gospels. I will be contacting various people with specific ideas, but for the pageant part we will still need to rehearse. And so, we will hold **pageant rehearsals on Sundays, December 3 & 10** in the sanctuary after worship. The pageant is a fun thing for our kids and youth, but we are also open to adults taking part as well. If you'd like to be in the pageant or help out in any way, or just have questions, please let me know (jalspaugh@fbccdayton.org). ~Pastor Jason

December Church Meetings

Board Meetings: Wednesday, Dec. 13 @ 6:30pm

Executive Council Meeting: Wednesday, Dec. 20 @ 6:30pm

BYF Gathering in December: Christmas Party w/HCC

Our Baptist Youth Fellowship continues to gather on the second and fourth Sundays of each month (unless otherwise noted). In the month of December we are planning a special **Christmas Party** gathering with the youth of Harmony Creek Church on **Sunday, December 10th @ 5:30-7:30pm**. We will be meeting at **Harmony Creek Church**, which is located at **901 E. Stroop Road** in Kettering (which is the same building as Good Shepherd Lutheran). In years past our youth have enjoyed doing a Silly Gift Exchange, and so we are planning to do this again as part of our time together. Gifts should be wrapped so as to look anonymous, and nothing should cost more than \$10. This will be a festive gathering, and the last of 2023 for our BYF, so we hope to see as many folks as possible. RSVP's are not required, but certainly helpful for planning purposes. Just email or text Pastor Jason to give him a heads up (jalspaugh@fbccdayton.org / 937-631-3579).

Save the Date!

Koinonia Christmas Party

Friday, Dec. 15 @ 7pm at the Home of Daryl & Barb Bogan
(7610 Rolling Oaks Dr, 45459)

Bring hors d'oeuvres to share! All are welcome!

Music Notes

From Dr. William Henry Caldwell, Music Director

I am sure by now that everyone has noticed and had the opportunity to meet and hear the three talented vocal music students from Wright State University now singing in our great Chancel Choir. They are sopranos Cyerra Pemberton and Samantha Lee, and tenor Mikey Riggs. And, they all live right here in the Miami Valley. For this Advent season please join us for our Lessons and Carols service on Sunday, December 10th during the regular worship service, and on Christmas Eve which is on Sunday this year for our ever popular Christmas Eve candlelight service with special music starting at 5:30 pm.

The music for Lessons and Carols will feature our wonderful organists Gregory Land and Alan Kimbrough, the Chancel Choir singing carols by Alfred Burt and John Rutter, plus many more seasonal favorites. Christmas Eve will be extra special this season because our guests for the pre service music which is always special will feature guitarist Ryan Bradley who recently joined our church and will play Advent favorites. And the fabulous Aurelian Oprea, principal violinist and acting concert master for the Dayton Philharmonic, will play special music for the organ and violin. He will be accompanied by Gregory Land. So, all roads will lead to historic First Baptist Church of Dayton this blessed holiday season. Please plan your busy schedules to attend this wonderful Advent season.





Celebrate the Advent/Christmas Season with Special Worship Services at FBC

All are invited to special music and worship events at First Baptist Church of Dayton during this Advent/Christmas season, with music that will range from classical to contemporary, including traditional carols and spirituals.



First Sunday of Advent, Dec. 3, 10 a.m. *Communion Sunday*

The season of Advent starts with a festive worship service in our beautiful sanctuary decorated for the holidays.



Second Sunday of Advent, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. *Lessons and Carols of Advent*

The special service will consist of Bible readings of the season interspersed with music from the Chancel Choir, organists, and congregational singing of beloved Christmas hymns and carols.



Third Sunday of Advent, Dec. 17, 10 a.m. *Children's Christmas Pageant*

Our children's Christmas Pageant will take place during morning worship.



Christmas Eve Morning Service **Sunday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m.**



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service **Music Prelude starts at 5:30 p.m.**

Arrive by 5:30 to hear the pre-service concert with special guests; service to follow.