



The First Baptist Church at Worship
SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT
LESSONS & CAROLS
 December 10, 2023 ~10:00 AM



THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist
 R. Alan Kimbrough, Pianist

- Meditation on Bach’s First Prelude Charles Gounod
- Christmas Fantasy Clarence Kohlmann
- Infant Holy, Infant Lowly Polish Carol
 Setting by Mary Ellen Kerrick
- The Jesus Gift Gilbert M. Martin
 Setting by Ron Boud
- French Carol Miniatures Hal H. Hopson
 - I. Noel Nouvelet • II. Quell est Cette Odeur Agreeable? • III. Touro – Louro – Tour
 - IV. Dors, Ma Colombe • V. Pat-a-Pan



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
 William Henry Caldwell, Music 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

#104 *Once In Royal David’s City*
 IRBY

This Christmas hymn was originally written to explain this part of the Apostles' Creed: “Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary.” Each stanza explores part of the contrast between Jesus' divinity and humanity. The first stanza contrasts the grand idea of “royal David's city” with the lowliness of a cattle-shed, and the second, the glory of heaven, from where He came, with the poverty of earth to which He came. The hymn ends by reminding us that Christ has ascended once again to glory, where we shall see Him, as He said: “And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come back and take you to be with me that you also may be where I am.”

“For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. The child’s authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and the kingdom. God will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.” -Isaiah 9:6-7

We light this candle as a symbol of the Prince of Peace. May the visitation of your Holy Spirit, O God, make us ready for the coming of Jesus, our hope and joy. O come, O come Emmanuel.

AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR PEACE

Loving God, in this Advent season, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is sadness, joy; and where there is darkness, light. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(Vs. 1-2) *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.**
**Light two candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.**



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

Isaiah 40:1-5: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

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

People: **Thanks be to God!**

*GOSPEL LESSON

Rev. David Coggins

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Mark.

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

Mark 1:1-5: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

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

#129 *Jesus, the Light of the World*
WE'LL WALK IN THE LIGHT

We can't see our future, direction, or destination, but Jesus can. Like the lighthouse guided the ship, Jesus directs us toward God's light. The light of Christ guides us through the darkness of sin, life, and struggle both spiritually and literally.

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. Today children will remain in service following the message to enjoy the lessons and carols.)

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 AND
THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts & Debtors)

Rev. Coggins

**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.**



Lessons and Carols

CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #1: Luke 2:7

Melody Williams

“And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.”

I Saw a Stable (Mary Elizabeth Coleridge)

I saw a stable, low and very bare,
A little child in a manger.
The oxen knew Him, had Him in their care,
To men He was a stranger,
The safety of the world was lying there,
And the world's danger.

Slumber Song of the Infant Jesus F. A. Gevaert

*Mid ox and ass in humble shed, sleep, sleep, in thy lowly bed:
Heavenly cherubim, shining seraphim. Hover all above around the Lord of Love.
Sleep, King of angels, sleep.*

*Mid lilies pure and roses red, sleep, sleep, in thy lowly bed:
Heavenly cherubim, Shining seraphim, Hover all above, around the Lord of love.
Sleep, King of angels, sleep.*

*Mid gentle shepherds worship led, sleep, sleep, in thy lowly bed;
Heavenly Cherubim, shining seraphim. Hover all above around the Lord of Love.
Sleep, King of angels, sleep!*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #2: Luke 2:13-14

Rev. Mark Craig

“And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, ‘Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!’”

The Angel at the Nativity (Tania Runyon)

Oh, God, I am heavy
with glory. My head thunders
from singing in the hills.
This night will come once.
Enough bright lights.
Enough shouting
at shepherds in the fields.
Let me slip into the stable
and crouch among
the rooting swine.
Let me close my eyes
and feel the child's breath,
this wind that blows
through the mountains and stars,
lifting my weary wings.

Angel's Carol John Rutter

*Have you heard the sound of the angel voices ringing out so sweetly
ringing out so clear? Have you seen the star shining out so brightly
as a song from God that Christ the Lord is here? Have you heard the news
that they bring from heaven to the humble shepherds who have waited long?*

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Hear the angels sing their joyful song.

*He is come in peace in the winter's stillness, like a gentle snowfall
In the gentle night; He is come in joy like the sun at morning filling
all the world with radiance and with light. He is come in love as the
child of Mary; In a simple stable we have seen his birth:*

Gloria in excelsis Deo, Hear the angels singing, Peace on earth.

*He will bring new light to a world in darkness, like a bright star shining
in the skies above; He will bring new hope to the waiting nations,
When he comes to reign in purity and love. Let the earth rejoice at the
Savior's coming; Let the heavens answer with the joyful morn;
Gloria in Excelsis Deo, Hear the angels singing Christ is born.*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #3: 1 Corinthians 2:7

Cyerra Pemberton

*"But we speak God's wisdom, a hidden mystery,
which God decreed before the ages for our glory."*

In Tenebris (Ford Madox Ford)

All within is warm,
Here without it's very cold,
Now the year is grown so old
And the dead leaves swarm.

In your heart is light,
Here without it's very dark,
When shall I hear the lark?
When see aright?

Oh, for a moment's space!
Draw the clinging curtains wide
Whilst I wait and yearn outside
Let the light fall on my face.

I Wonder As I Wander arr. John Jacob Niles
Brad Kallenberg, Soloist

*I wonder as I wander, out under the sky, How Jesus the Savior did come for to die
For poor on 'ry people like you and like I. I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.*

*When Mary birthed Jesus 'twas in a cow's stall, with wise men and
farmers and shepherds and all. But high from God's heaven a star's light did fall,
and the promise of ages it then did recall. If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky or a bird on the wing, or all of God's angels in heav'n for to sing,
He surely could have it, 'cause he was the king.*



*Praise him with trumpet sound; praise him with lute and harp!
Praise him with tambourine and dance; praise him with strings and pipe!
Praise him with clanging cymbals; praise him with loud clashing cymbals!
Let everything that breathes praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord!*

Ring Out, Wild Bells (Alfred, Lord Tennyson)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,
The flying cloud, the frosty light:
The year is dying in the night;
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.

Ring out the old, ring in the new,
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:
The year is going, let him go;
Ring out the false, ring in the true.

Pat-a-Pan Katherine Davis

Willie take your little drum, Robin get your fife and come; now these instruments we play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan now these instruments we play for a Joyful Christmas Day. When the men of olden days sought to bring their Maker praise, on these instruments they'd play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan, on these instruments they'd play, and their hearts were light and gay. God and man this day are one, even more than fife and drum; so these instruments we play, tu-re-lu-re-lu, pat-a-pat-a-pan, so these instruments we play for a joyful Christmas Day.



"In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi[a] from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?' For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage."

Promise (Georgia Douglas Johnson)

Through the moil and the gloom they have issued
To the steps of the upwinding hill,
Where the sweet, dulcet pipes of tomorrow
In their preluding rhapsodies trill.

With a thud comes a stir in the bosom,
As there steals on the sight from afar,
Through a break of a cloud's coiling shadow
The gleam of a bright morning star!

How Unto Bethlehem Alice Parker and Robert Shaw

*How unto Bethlehem this pilgrimage of Kings? What wonder your arrival brings,
How strange the royal diadem in Bethlehem. Seek we a King, and honor bear him from afar,
His birth proclaimed by a star, 'Tis surely near, Oh tell us, pray, Is this the way.
Ah, but the child ye seek so richly to adorn of lowly maid is lowly born, His palace but a stable bare,
no crown lies there. Seek we the stable then, for though in manger laid and lowly born of lowly maid,
this day a Kingdom is begun and His the one. Then hail Him, King of Wisdom, King of love and Bliss,
For king in truth this baby is. The Savior of mankind is He, Eternally.*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #6: Luke 1:26-27

Jerome Stueart

*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.*

Ave! Maria! (W. E. B. Du Bois)

Ave! Maria!
Mother-maid pitiful
Sister of sorrows
And daughter of men
Ave! Maria!
Mother of Miracles
Mercy made Wonderful
To thy breast Bountiful
Gather the Sorrowful
Daughter of Sin
Ave! Maria!
Ave! Maria!
Gather them in!

Mary, Did You Know? Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene
Samantha Leal and Cyerra Pemberton, Soloists

*Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day walk on water?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would save our sons and daughters?
Did you know that your baby boy has come to make you new?
This child that you delivered, will soon deliver you.
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will give sight to a blind man?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy will calm the storm with his hand?
Did you know that your baby boy has walked where angels trod?
When you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God.
Mary, did you know? Mary, did you know?
Mary, did you know? Did you know?
Mary, did you know? Mary, did you know?
Mary, did you know? Mary, did you know?
Mary, did you know? Mary, did you know?
The blind will see, the deaf will hear, the dead will live again.
The lame will leap, the dumb will speak the praises of the Lamb.
Mary, did you know that your baby boy is Lord of all creation?
Mary, did you know that your baby boy would one day rule the nations?
Did you know that your baby boy is heaven's perfect Lamb?
That sleeping child you're holding is the great, I Am.
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)
Mary, did you know? (Mary, did you know?)
Mary, did you know?*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #7: Matthew 19:14

Abby Cox

*But Jesus said, "Let the children come to me, and do not stop them,
for it is to such as these that the kingdom of heaven belongs."*

Christmas Greetings from a Fairy to a Child (Lewis Carroll)

Lady dear, if Fairies may
For a moment lay aside
Cunning tricks and elfish play,
'Tis at happy Christmas-tide.

We have heard the children say—
Gentle children, whom we love—
Long ago, on Christmas Day,
Came a message from above.

Still, as Christmas-tide comes round,
They remember it again—
Echo still the joyful sound
"Peace on earth, good-will to men!"

Yet the hearts must childlike be
Where such heavenly guests abide:
Unto children, in their glee,
All the year is Christmas-tide!

Some Children See Him Alfred Burt
Jerome Stueart, Soloist

*Some children see Him lily white, the baby Jesus born this night,
some children see him lily white, with tresses soft and fair.
Some children see Him bronzed and brown, the Lord of heaven to earth come down;
some children see Him bronzed and brown, with dark and heavy hair.
Some children see Him almond eyed, this Savior whom we kneel beside,
Some children see Him almond eyed, with skin of yellow hue.
Some children see Him dark as they, Sweet Mary's Son to whom we pray;
Some children see Him dark as they, and, ah! they love Him, too!
The children in each different place will see the baby Jesus face like theirs
but bright with heavenly grace, and filled with holy light.
O lay aside each earthly thing, and with thy heart as offering,
come worship now the infant King, 'tis love that's born tonight!*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #8: Titus 3:4-5

Michael Riggs

*But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us,
not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy,
through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.*

Christmas Is Waiting to Be Born (Howard Thurman)

Where refugees seek deliverance that never comes,
And the heart consumes itself, if it would live,
Where little children age before their time,
And life wears down the edges of the mind,
Where the old man sits with mind grown cold,
While bones and sinew, blood and cell, go slowly down to death,
Where fear companions each day's life, And Perfect Love seems long delayed.
Christmas is waiting to be born:
In you, in me, in all of humankind.

Here's a Pretty Little Baby arr. Willis Lawrence James
Melody Williams, Soloist

*Here's a pretty little baby, look in the manger, behold believe and be baptized.
Wise men riding, Bright star shining, His name is Jesus.*



CHRISTMAS CARMEN READING #9: 2 Corinthians 1:20

Angie Berghuis

For in him every one of God's promises is a "Yes." For this reason it is through him that we say the "Amen," to the glory of God.

Sing My Song Backwards (Brian Wren)

Sing my song backwards, from end to beginning,
Friday to Monday, from dying to birth.
Nothing is altered, but hope changes everything:
sing "Resurrection!" and "Peace upon Earth!"
Stretch out a rainbow from cross to nativity.
Deck out a stable with shepherds and kings,
angels and miracles, glory and poetry--
Sing my song backwards, till all the world sings!

Amen arr. Jester Harrison/William Henry Caldwell

*Amen, amen Amen, amen, amen (Sing it over) Amen, amen Amen, amen, amen [Verse 1] (See the little baby)
amen (wrapped in a manger) amen (on Christmas morning) amen, amen, amen (See Him in the temple)
amen (talkin' with the elders) amen (who marveled at His wisdom) amen, amen, amen [Chorus] Amen,
amen, amen, amen [Verse 2] (See Him at the Jordan) amen (where John was baptizin') amen (and savin' all
sinners) amen, amen, amen (See Him at the seaside) amen (talkin' to the fishermen) amen (and makin' them
disciples) amen, amen, amen [Chorus] [Verse 3] (Marchin in Jerusalem) amen (over palm branches) amen
(in pomp and splendor) amen, amen, amen (See Him in the garden) amen (prayin' to His Father) amen (in
deepest sorrow) amen, amen, amen [Chorus] [Verse 4] (Led before Pilate) amen (then they crucified Him)
amen (but He rose on Easter), amen, amen, amen (Hallelujah) amen (He died to save us) amen (and He
lives forever) amen, amen, amen.*

The Response of God's People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#90 *People, Look East*
BESANCON

"People, Look East" has gained increasing popularity as an Advent carol as evidenced by its appearance in a number of hymnals in the United States. Key images of the season are abundant. "People, Look East" is the direction of the rising sun and, in the history of Christianity, the direction of the coming Messiah.

BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

Gregory Land and Alan Kimbrough

Good Christian Men, Rejoice! German Carol
Setting by Karrin Ford

(* 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

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	Barbara Jett	Kaye Suryk
Don Brown	Ray Landis	Anne Veghte
Rob Brown	Anna Frances Lasley	West Family
Don Bryant	Lee Family	Dorothy Williams
Gerald Busch	Dana Liss	
Robert Caldwell	Vincent Liss	Military Duty:
Pamela Cress	Tom McKenzie	Sebastian Ewald
Lynn Domesicik	Arthur Merkle	Sunny Ewald
David Donovan	Mary Ann Paloncy	Brittany Kalbfleisch
Jim Earnest	Susan Parent	Kyle Kline

Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)

Week of Dec. 10 – 17

Sun. 10	10:00a	.....	Lessons & Carols Worship Service – Advent 2
	11:15a	.....	Pageant Rehearsal / Coffee Fellowship
	11:30a	.....	Sunday School Classes / Activities
	5:30-7:00p	.....	BYF Christmas Party w/HCC (Harmony Creek)
Wed. 13	6:30p	.....	Board Meetings
Thu. 14	7:00p	.....	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Sun. 17	10:00a	.....	Worship Service / Christmas Pageant – Advent 3
	11:15a	.....	Coffee Fellowship
	11:30a	.....	Sunday School Classes / Activities
	3-5p	.....	“Voices for Peace” (Fazi-I-Umar Mosque)



CANCELLED!! Koinonia Christmas Party CANCELLED!!

Due to the recent death of Barb Bogan's brother, Don Bryant, the Koinonia Christmas Party has been cancelled. The Bogans will be traveling to attend his funeral service in North Carolina.

AMERICAN BAPTIST CHURCHES USA

The Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering

The Retired Ministers & Missionaries Offering (RMMO) is a congregational offering collected annually in December from participating congregations. RMMO funds are distributed as "Thank You" checks to ABC-USA retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to our denomination, as well as to surviving spouses. A certain portion is also allocated for direct emergency assistance. We all remember the pastor or missionary who made a difference in our lives. With leadership, listening, wisdom, condolence or just the right prayer when needed most, their selfless service has a lasting effect. This offering is a way to give back. Please give generously this month. Special offering envelopes are in the pew racks.

2023 Advent Study

"bless the Advent We Actually Have"

Led by Pastor Jason & Pastor David

Sundays @ 11:30am-12:15pm in 1st Floor - Chapel

November 26 – December 17

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.

Today! BYF Christmas Party w/HCC

Sunday, Dec. 10 @ 5:30-7:00pm

Harmony Creek Church

We are planning a special Christmas Party gathering with the youth of Harmony Creek Church **today from 5:30-7:00pm 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@fbcd Dayton.org / 937-631-3579).

2023 Christmas Pageant Dec. 17

- **Next Pageant Rehearsal: Today, Dec. 10** •

After service in the sanctuary

If you'd like to be in the pageant or help out in any way, or just have questions, please let Pastor Jason know.

"Voices for Peace"

Sunday, Dec. 17 @ 3-5pm

Fazi-I-Umar Mosque



"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 **Sunday, December 17 from 3-5 pm at Fazi-I-Umar Mosque**, 637 Randolph St., Dayton 45417. Anyone is welcome to attend and lend support, we would love to see some FBCD people there!

Offering Envelopes

If you would like a box of offering envelopes, please contact Nancy Kerr by email to nkerr@fbccdayton.org or by phone at 937-222-4691 x. 402.

December Church Meetings

Board Meetings:

Wednesday, Dec. 13 @ 6:30pm

Executive Council Meeting:

Wednesday, Dec. 20 @ 6:30pm

Music Notes

From Dr. William Henry Caldwell, Music Director



The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 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 and 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 service.



Christmas Eve Morning Service

Sunday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Sunday, Dec. 24

Music Prelude at 5:30 p.m.

Arrive by 5:30 to hear the pre-service concert featuring Ryan Bradley, guitar and Aurelian Oprea, violin with Gregory Land, organ.



ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL OFFERINGS

Exploring Church History

Led by Dr. Roy Vice

Sundays @ 11:30am-12:15pm

January 7-28, 2024 / 1st Floor – Chapel

This series of lecture will focus on the era between 1100 and 1300. It will cover St. Bernard of Clairvaux and the Cistercians and then move on to St. Francis of Assisi and St. Antony of Padua, the patron saint of lost things. The Dominicans focused on combatting heresy and intellectual study. St. Thomas Aquinas and St. Albertus Magnus were two Dominicans who helped to create Scholasticism, which combined the thought of Aristotle with Christian Theology. This era also saw the rise of the first universities and a huge growth of cities. Finally, Europe expanded in the Reconquista in Spain and the Crusades in the Middle East. The legacy of this conflict between Christians and Muslims is still with us today.

Sermon Talkbacks

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

Next Session: January 7, 2024

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 Choir Room. The next talkback will take place on Sunday, January 7th. We hope you'll join us and share the questions, insights, challenges, etc. that the sermon may have left you with.



Photos from Advent/Christmas for Courier

We would love to see some photos of you/your family during this Advent/Christmas season to be featured in next month's Courier. Please email to Linda Blair at fbc@fbcd Dayton.org. Thank you!

The Mitten Tree



During the Advent/Christmas season, we ask that you honor the gift of Christ with gifts for those in need. You may bring gifts of hats, mittens, gloves & scarves to place on our Mitten Tree for kids and families served by the Dayton Christian Center. The Mitten Tree is located in the narthex at the front entrance of the church.

Holiday Office Hours

Friday, Dec. 22 – Close at 1pm
Tuesday, Dec. 26 – Closed
Wednesday, Dec. 27 – Open 10-2
Thursday, Dec. 28 – Open 10-2
Friday, Dec. 29 – Open 10-2
Tuesday, Jan 2 – Closed



Annual Reports are Due Jan. 5

Annual reports for 2023 are due by Friday, January 5, 2024 from pastoral staff, board chairs, and committee chairs. Please email reports to Linda Blair at fbc@fbcd Dayton.org. Thank you.

STEWARDSHIP 2024

If you would like to make a financial pledge for year 2024, contact Nancy Kerr by phone or email nkerr@fbcd Dayton.org. Pledge cards are also available in the pew racks and on the table by the church office. Thank you!
