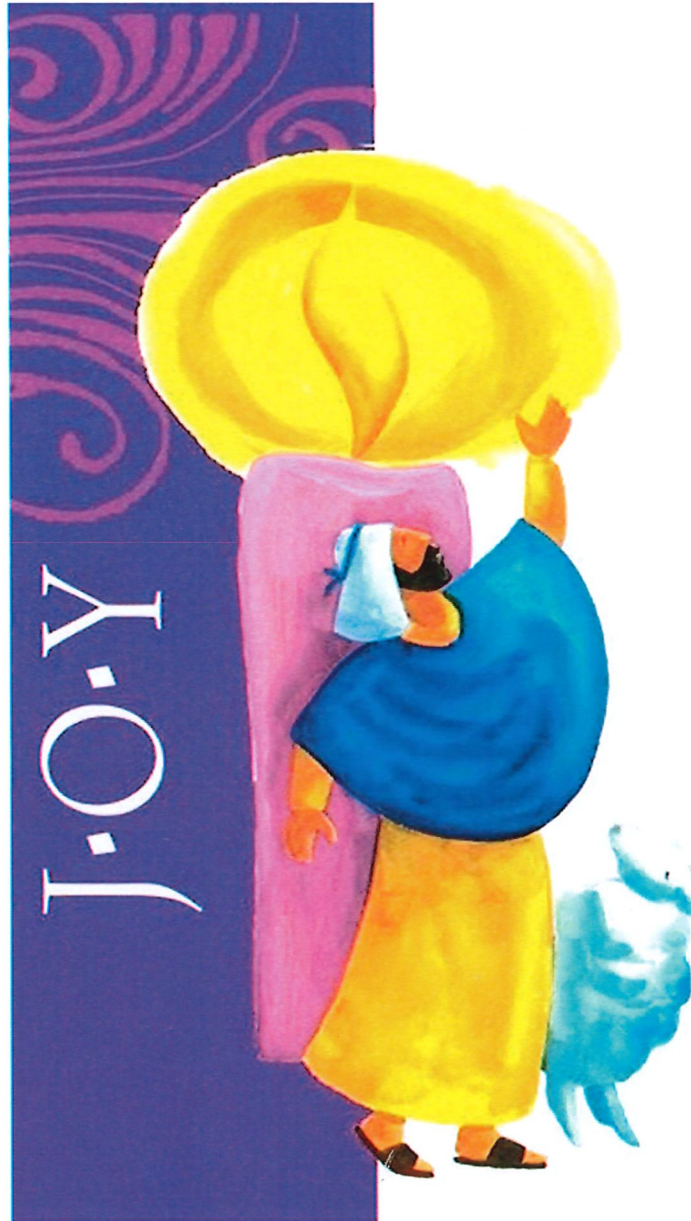


First Baptist Church of Dayton
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHILDREN'S PAGEANT SUNDAY
DECEMBER 17, 2023



111 W. Monument Avenue
Dayton OH 45402
937-222-4691

fbcd Dayton.org | www.fbcd Dayton.org
Twitter: @FBCTDaytonOH | Instagram: fbcd Dayton



The First Baptist Church at Worship
 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Christmas Pageant Sunday
 December 17, 2023 ~ 10:00 AM



THE PRELUDE

R. Alan Kimbrough, Organist

Choral Improvisations on "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel,"
 "Still, Still, Still," and "Wake, Awake"

Paul Manz

Choral Prelude on "Saviour of the Nations, Come"

J. S. Bach



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

Rev. Dr. Kent Berghuis

CALL TO WORSHIP - John 1:1-5, 14

Ava Powell

*OPENING HYMN

#86 *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*
 JEFFERSON

Our opening hymn for this morning *Now the Heavens Start to Whisper*, begins with the word "now," launching us immediately into the season of Advent. The word now proclaims that the waiting and expectation continue in our present, inviting us to imagine a world where God's realm is present on earth. This hymn that is unfamiliar to many allows God's imagination and Christ's love to sing first. It lets those who are lonely, outcast, and hidden be named first. And it's only after we've listened to creation and listened to our neighbors that we are able to ask to learn their song, the Advent song of all creation, which is already in the middle of singing God's wonder.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Emily Crowley, and Reagan & Logan Crowley
 Jon & Julie Wolfe

*And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing;
 everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness,
 and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

~ Isaiah 35:10

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ, our Joy. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

AN ADVENT PRAYER FOR JOY

O God, whose will is justice for the poor and peace for the afflicted, let your herald's urgent voice pierce our hardened hearts and announce the dawn of your kingdom. Before the advent of the One who baptizes with the fire of the Holy Spirit, let our complacency give way to conversion, oppression to justice, and conflict to acceptance of one another in Christ. We ask this through the One whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever and ever. **Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

(Vs. 1-2-3) *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.
Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.**

Listening for the Word of God

ANNUNCIATION – Luke 1:26-38

Abigail Owens & Lucas Owens

MUSICAL OFFERING

“Let It Be”

Jadon See

VISITATION – Luke 1:39-45

Rachel Powell

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN

#91 *My Soul Proclaims with Wonder*
WALNUT

Mary first acknowledges the special gifts she has been given. Then she recalls God's universal favors, bestowed unceasingly on the human race. When we venerate Mary, the Church comes together to praise God for what He has accomplished in his Mother and at the same time to imitate her as a model of faith and virtue. Mary, the Mother of Christ, shows us how to love God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

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 (*based on Luke 1:46-55*)
& THE LORD'S PRAYER

Meredith Ryan & Sydney Owens

THE BIRTH OF JOHN THE BAPTIZER – Luke 1:57-66

Emory Tyson

DANCING THE SONG OF ZECHARIAH

“Benedictus”
(*from Luke 1:67-80*)

Marin See

Children's Christmas Pageant

ACT I

The Birth of Jesus

(from Luke 2:1-7)

ACT II

The Shepherds and the Angels

(from Luke 2:8-20)

Gloria, Gloria

Glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o!
glo - ri - a, glo - ri - a, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

ACT III

The Visit of the Magi

(from Matthew 2:1-20)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"

Pageant Choir & Ray Landis

INVITATION

Rev. Alsbaugh

The Response of God's People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#113 *Of the Father's Love Begotten*
DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

In the early fourth century, one of the greatest controversies in the church came to a breaking point, and the Emperor Constantine called together the First Council of Nicea to establish once and for all the Church's official stance on the nature of the Trinity. The council condemned the teaching of Arius, who believed that Jesus was not of the same nature as God the Father. The Nicene Creed was thus written as a statement of faith that God the Father, God the Son, and God the Spirit are all of the same nature, three and yet one. Prudentius' hymn, "Of the Father's Love Begotten," addresses this belief in the Trinity in the very first line. It is very clear from his text that Christ is both human and divine, and rather than simply being made by God, he was "begotten" of the very same substance. As we sing this hymn, we both affirm and align our faith with the broader faith of the Church, and we deny any belief that says that Christ is not fully divine. This hymn, so often associated with Christmas, is thus a hymn of proclamation, calling us to sing out our faith – "every voice in concert ring, evermore and evermore!"

BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

Rev. David Coggins

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

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

Choral Improvisation on "Saviour of the Nations, Come" Paul Manz

(*) 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!



Children's Christmas Pageant

CAST

Narrator – Pastor Jason

Mary – Abigail Owens

Joseph – Emory Tyson

Cow – Colin Brown

Shepherds – Logan Crowley, Eshan Khan

Sheep – Alina Brown

Angel of the Lord – Reagan Crowley

Angels – Lottie Tyson & Chancel Choir

King Herod – Evander Pugh

Magi – Meredith Ryan, Sydney Owens, Benjamin Ryan



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	Lasley Family	West Family
Bogan/Bryant Families	Lee Family	Dorothy Williams
Gerald Busch	Dana Liss	<i>Military Duty:</i>
Robert Caldwell	Vincent Liss	Sebastian Ewald
Pamela Cress	Tom McKenzie	Sunny Ewald
Lynn Domescik	Arthur Merkle	Brittany Kalbfleisch
David Donovan	Mary Ann Paloncy	Kyle Kline
Jim Earnest	Susan Parent	Andy Wilson
Iglesia Bautista Dios Compasivo (El Salvador)		

Week of Dec. 17 – 24

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" (Fazl-I-Umar Mosque)
Tue. 19	12 noon	.....	Staff Christmas Luncheon
Wed. 20	6:30p	.....	Executive Council Meeting
Thu. 21	7:00p	.....	Chancel Choir Rehearsal
Fri. 22		.....	Office closes 1pm
Sun. 24	10:00a	.....	Worship Service – Advent 4
	5:30p	.....	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

"Voices for Peace"

Today! Sunday, Dec. 17 @ 3-5pm

Fazl-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 Fazl-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!

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.

Executive Council Meeting

Wednesday, Dec. 20 @ 6:30pm



Christmas Eve Morning Service

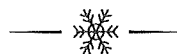
Sunday, Dec. 24, 10 a.m.

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.



Congregational Meeting on Dec. 31

On Sunday, Dec. 31, there will be a brief congregational meeting in Fellowship Hall after service to vote on the proposed 2024 Boards & Committees roster.

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 fbcbcd@fbcd Dayton.org. Thank you!

Offering Envelopes

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

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 fbcbcd@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!
