

First Baptist Church of Dayton
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
CHRISTMAS EVE MORNING SERVICE
DECEMBER 24, 2023



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The First Baptist Church at Worship
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
 Christmas Eve Morning Service
 December 24, 2023 ~10:00 AM



THE PRELUDE

Gregory Land, Organist

- Noel Suisse Louis-Claude Daquin
 In Dulci Jubilo (Good Christian Men Rejoice) German Carol
 First Setting by F. W. Zachau / Second Setting by J. S. Bach
 Magnificat Jean Francois Dandrieu
 When the Savior Jesus Christ Jean Francois Dandrieu
 Glory to God In the Highest Giovanni Pergolesi



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, 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

#124 *The First Nowell*
 THE FIRST NOWELL

This famous Advent carol is thought to have had its origin from the Miracle Plays performed in Merry Old England during the 13th and 14th centuries. It is said that the story of Jesus' birth was among the most popular and that citizens of Cornwall would sing the carol in streets outside of churches and the unique beautiful song would latch onto all who heard it bringing hope and joy.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Lee & Dustin Tyson and
 Emory, Lottie, Laker

*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

(Vs. 1-2-3-4) *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.**
**Light four candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness.
He is coming; tell the glad tidings. Let your lights be shining.**



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.

MOMENT FOR MISSION: RMMO Offering

Tim Holmen

Listening for the Word of God

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Gina Greenwood

2 Samuel 7:8-16: Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that

the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

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 Luke.

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

***FELLOWSHIP HYMN**

#131 *In the Bleak Midwinter*
CRANHAM

In the Bleak Midwinter was first written as a poem by Christina Rossetti. Rossetti published *In the Bleak Midwinter* in 1872 in Scribner's monthly. The poem was arranged and composed as a Christmas carol in 1906 by Gustav Holst. Like Rossetti, Holst was an English artist. Rossetti was a poet, Holst was a composer and arranger.

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 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.**

ANTHEM

Chancel Choir
Cyerra Pemberton, Soloist

Recitative and Chorus #17 from Messiah George F. Handel
Recitative 14, 15, 16

There were shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flocks by night. And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them, and they were so afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not; for, behold I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying: Glory to God in the highest, and peace on earth, good will towards men.

THE SERMON

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

“God’s Son, Our King”



The Response of God’s People

*HYMN OF RESPONSE

#148 *What Child Is This*
GREENSLEEVES

What Child Is This is a Christmas carol with lyrics written by William Chatterton Dix in 1865 and set to the tune of *Greensleeves*, a traditional English folk song, in 1871. Although written in Great Britain, the carol today is more popular in the United States than its country of origin.

BLESSING WITH DISMISSAL

Rev. Dr. Berghuis

CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION

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

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

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 Domesick	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. 24 – 31

Sun. 24	10:00a	Worship Service – Advent 4
	11:15a	Coffee Fellowship
	5:30p	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
Mon. 25	.....	<i>Merry Christmas!</i>
Tue. 26	.....	Office closed
Wed. 27	.....	Office open 10a-2p
Thu. 28	.....	Office open 10a-2p
Fri. 29	.....	Office open 10a-2p
Sun. 31	10:00a	Worship Service
	11:15a	Coffee Fellowship



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 and Gregory Land, organ.



CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – SUNDAY DEC 31

AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE
TO APPROVE THE 2024 BOARDS & COMMITTEES ROSTER

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.

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

Monday, Dec. 25 – Merry Christmas!
Tuesday, Dec. 26 – Closed
Wednesday, Dec. 27 – Open 10-2
Thursday, Dec. 28 – Open 10-2
Friday, Dec. 29 – Open 10-2
Monday, Jan 1 – Happy New Year!
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.

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.

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!
