

Our Worship of God

December 23, 2018

9:15 am

(**†** Indicates those who are able, please stand)

⋄ The Fourth Sunday of Advent **⋄** Calm and Bright

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Seeking Calm

†Opening Song

What Child Is This?

Advent Theme Interpretation

Shelby Myers

Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing,
"Alleluia" to our King:
"Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born."

Peace, Peace arr. Powell

Cheryl Brewer, Susan Hayden, Mary Beth Ming, Julie Walker Flute, Tamila Freitas

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle (responsive)

Russ Scott & Angel Kenison-Scott

The season of waiting is almost over.
We light the fourth candle,
anticipating the coming light
of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.

God of our future, we open ourselves to hear your call today the call to keep hope alive no matter the troubles we face.

Help us to never lose hope and to offer hope to all around us making our lives, our families, our communities, and our world a brighter place.

Fill us with your peace and light, make the world so calm and bright.

†Song of Hope Noel

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Scripture Readings Luke 1:39-56 Kimberly Moeller

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

And Mary said,
"My soul magnifies the Lord,
And my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
For the Mighty One has done great things for me,

And holy is his name.

His mercy is for those who fear him

From generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm;

He has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.

He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,

And lifted up the lowly;

He has filled the hungry with good things,

And sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel,

In remembrance of his mercy,

According to the promise he made to our ancestors,

To Abraham and to his descendants forever."

The Gospel of Our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

†A Prayer For Hope

Britanny McDonald Null

(As part of the prayer, you are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary and light a candle as a prayer for someone or something that gave you hope, or as an act of defiance against despair.)

Jesus, we wait with eager expectation for the coming of Your kingdom when the humble will be exalted and the hungry fed.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We prepare for Your advent with searching minds and contrite hearts, trusting in Your healing spirit and redemptive love.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We watch with those who wait and weep, longing to see the rule of justice and the reign of peace.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We seek You among the despised and rejected, knowing that there we will find Your light shining in the dark.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We proclaim sight to the blind and liberty to the oppressed, trusting in Your tender mercy and passion for justice.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We work with others to proclaim Your truth, challenging the mighty and raising the meek.

Your kingdom come, your will be done.

We wrestle with our hopes and our fears, our struggles and our joys laboring with creation to come to new birth.

Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Response to the Light (unison)

Wrap them in your love Guide them with your holy light.

†Song of Praise

Angels We Have Heard On High

Offertory Sentence

Offering Open Up

Message Pastor Carol McEntyre

†Song of Response Glory in the Highest

†Benediction (unison)

Go with God into this day May the Spirit guide your way Offer love to all you greet Like Christ, see God in all you meet.

Week at a Glance

Monday, December 24

Offices Closed 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Sanctuary

Tuesday, December 25

Offices Closed

Wednesday, December 26

Offices Closed

Announcements

Christmas Eve Service

Something holy takes place each Christmas Eve at First Baptist when we gather at 11:00 pm for worship. For our final act of worship, we surround the sanctuary with candlelight and sing together the beautiful carol, "Silent Night." Join us for worship, communion, and candlelight as we gather to proclaim that Christ the Savior is born.

New Sermon Series: Breaking Point

January 6-February 3

Breaking Point: When you are exhausted and burned out,

Lessons from the life of Elijah

If you're feeling stressed out, you're not alone! According to a 2017 Gallup poll, 8 in 10 Americans report they "frequently" or "sometimes" experience stress in their daily lives. The pressures of life can be overwhelming. What do you do when you feel like you are at your Breaking Point? This is the topic for our new sermon series, and it's based on the life of the prophet Elijah found in 1 Kings. Like many of us, Elijah was stressed out and ready to throw in the towel, but he recovered. We can learn a lot about how to take care of ourselves from the life of Elijah. Start your new year by coming to learn about the steps Elijah took to care for himself- sometimes at God's insistence.

Church Directory Photos - February 7-9

You're invited to be a part of our new photo directory. As you look around you today, you will see that we have new families, there have been weddings, and babies, and kids who are young adults now. We're changing, and a new photo directory will help us capture these changes. Our directory won't be complete without you! We are taking early registration online. See our website homepage for more information.

Combined Worship and Business Meeting

Join us on Sunday, January 20 at 9:15 am in the Fellowship Hall for Combined Worship and our Annual Business Meeting. We will pause to look back at the highlights of the last year and celebrate all that God has done in and through us. We will talk about ministry plans for 2019. We will vote on the Nominating Committee report and the 2019 budget.

For Parents:

The nursery (Birth-Age 3) will open at 9:15 and remain open until the business meeting ends.

3-5 year olds can also be dropped off the in nursery at 9:15 prior to worship. Our professional staff will escort them to the 3rd floor Children's Ministry area for a time of learning, stories and play until the business meeting ends.

1st-5th graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family. After worship, at 10:15 First Kids Sunday School will meet as usual during the business meeting.

Worship Notes

Noel, Chris Tomlin, Ed Cash, Matt Redman, CCLI# 7050419

Angels We Have Heard on High, Edward Shippen Barnes, James Chadwick, CCLI# 27721

What Child is This, William Chatterton, Chris Tomlin, CCLI#7050422

Glory in the Highest, Jacob Sooter and Matt Papa, CCLI#7096086

Open Up, The Brilliance



9:15 am Awakening Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more traditional worship experience, First Baptist Church offers Traditional Worship at 11:15 a.m. each Sunday in the Sanctuary.

For Children During Worship:

1st- 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups which dive into various topics (visitors and guests welcomed):

Faith Forum in the second floor classroom, next to the elevator.

Discussion Class in the parlor on the second floor.

Young Adult Small Group in the 2nd floor library.

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Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor
Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions
Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident
Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry, Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director
Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist, Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Assistant
Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, Bethany James, Nursery Director
Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian