



(+ Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Schristmas Eve み What's In a Name?

Prelude

Deb Carr and Colleen Osercamp, piano Judy Elliott, harp

What's In a Name?

Maizie DuCoulombier and Ed Rollins

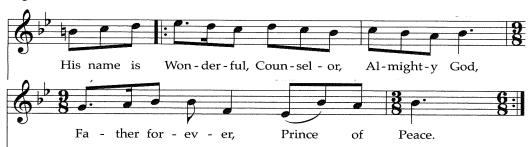
Scripture Reading

Isaiah 9:2, 6-7

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 Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The People Who Walked in Darkness



Lighting the Advent Candles Julia, Nick, Will, Joe and Elizabeth Edgar Come, Wonderful Counsellor, to live and reign in the hearts of all people.

Come, Mighty God, to save your people from confusion and sin.

Come, Everlasting Father, to shelter your children in everlasting love.

Come, Prince of Peace, to bring harmony to a world in chaos.

Come, Emmanuel; dwell with us now and forevermore. Amen.

+Advent Hymn 133

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here; And drive away the shades of night, and pierce the clouds and bring us light! (refrain)

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind; Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; fill all the world with heaven's peace. (refrain)

The Music of Christmas

+The Reading of the Christmas Story Luke 2:1-20

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise be to God.**

Lisa Wells

Mitchell McKinney

†The Lighting of the Christ Candle

+Prayer of Joy (responsive) Come, Lord Jesus, and bring joy to our world. Joy to the worshiper who has sung the carols for seventy seasons and still sings them with heart and soul and voice. Joy to the child looking at the flickering candles who knows we are celebrating something too mysterious to explain in words. Joy to the one who needs to know that though your love encompasses the whole world, it is particular enough to meet each grief and loss as though it were the only pain in the world. Joy to the homeless Who long to carry with them the assurance of your being at home with those the world tosses aside. Joy to all of us caught up in the wonders of your love as though we were experiencing your birth for the first time. With all heaven and nature, let us sing and shout and speak

†Hymn of Joy 146

The Music of Christmas

our joy to the world!

Deb Carr, Ed Rollins and Cole Kieffer

Sheila Brookes

Michael McEntyre

Joy to the World

God's Love Made Visible

Lili Vianello

+New Testament Scripture Reading Hebrews 1:1-3*a*

In the past God spoke to our ancestors through the prophets at many times and in various ways, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, and through whom also he made the universe. The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being, sustaining all things by his powerful word.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Message

Carol McEntyre

Prayer of Praise and Adoration (inspired by Hebrews 1:1-4)

We praise you, O God, for breaking through to us in the person of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. When the words of the prophets went unheard and when their actions were ignored, you spoke the creative word once more. Bringing order out of chaos again this time not to bring a world into being, but to bring your very being into the world. The essence of your love taking on our flesh.

In the midst of this congregation, we praise you. With our lives, we worship you.

Gracious God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, to you be all glory and honor, now and forever. Amen

+Hymn 152

Angels We Have Heard on High

Observance of Holy Communion

(All who wish to follow Christ are welcome to the Lord's table during the observance of communion. Church membership is not the issue; discipleship is. We will partake of the supper in front of the chancel area. Please progress row by row down the center aisle and return to your seats from the side aisles.)

+Hymn 150

What Child Is This

+Sharing the Light of Christmas

(The congregation will form a circle around the sanctuary and receive light from one another. When lighting your candle, it is best to tip the unlit candle towards the flame of the lighted candle.)

Christ, the light of the world, gives each one of us light, so that we too may shine with gratitude, hope, and love. Receive the light that comes to you: it comes from the Christ candle, but it reaches you only through your neighbors. Receive the light from a brother or sister in Christ. Hold the light, enjoy the light, and be thankful.

+Hymn of the Nativity

Silent Night

Silent night! Holy night! All is calm, all is bright 'round yon virgin mother and Child, holy infant so tender and mild, sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night! Shepherds quake at the sight, glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing Alleluia; Christ the Savior is born, Christ the Savior is born.

Silent night! Holy night! Son of God, love's pure light, radiant beams from thy holy face, with the dawn of redeeming grace, Jesus, Lord, at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Benediction

O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord! Blow out your candles now, but take the light and peace of Christ with you out into the world.

Christmas Worship

Join us in the morning at 11:15 in the sanctuary for a combined worship service. There will be no Awakening service or Sunday morning small groups, but there will be plenty of joy!

Save the Date: Kids' Night Out

Friday, January 27th from 6-8 pm. Kids aged 4-12 are invited to a night of music, movement, and lots of fun at Jabberwocky Studios.

Game Night – Laser Tag – Chili Cook-off

Mark your calendars for this all-church event for Saturday, February 4th at 6 pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Room at the Inn

First Baptist is hosting Room at the Inn February 19 through March 1, 7 pm - 7 am. Volunteers should attend at least one training session – don't wait until the last minute! See <u>http://www.roomattheinncomo.org/</u> for training times.



Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coordinator † Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator Bethany James, Nursery Director † Glenn Owings, Custodian