



And None
Shall be
Afraid

Our Worship of God

December 24, 2017

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

∞ And None Shall Be Afraid ∞

Greeting

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Invitation to Worship

Ed Rollins

Prelude

Christmas Is Here

arr. Wood

Call to Worship (responsive)



Re-joyce! Re-joyce! Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el!

If our lives are dry and parched,
**Lord, send the living waters of your Spirit
to revive us, to enliven us, to bring forth new life.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.**

If our times are empty and unfulfilled,
**Lord, fill us with your abundance,
and teach us to share generously with others.**
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

If our bodies are weary and heavy laden,
**Lord, fill us with laughter;
give us shouts of joy; envelop us with your gladness.**
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.

If our lives are small and trivial,
**Lord, make us see great things;
enlarge our vision; widen our borders.**
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.



†**Processional Hymn 157**

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

Lighting the Fourth Candle of Advent (responsive)

Ken & Donna Ostercamp

Joy. Joy nonetheless.

Joy despite.

Joy regardless.

Joy still.

Joy where there was no joy.

Joy amid what threatens joy.

Joy with those who feed our joy.

Joy beyond what we had hoped.

Joy that draws us past our limits.

Joy that defies expectations.

Joy that questions what we have known.

Joy that makes a way where there is none.

Joy that takes us past our fear.

Joy that calls us into life.

Joy that holds us beyond death.

Joy that blesses those to come.



When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

Anthem

On Christmas Night

arr. Helvey

Ayako Tsuruta and Colleen Ostercamp, pianists

Lyrics can be found on p. 168 in the hymnal

Gospel Reading

Sheila Brookes

Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” 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!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to Christ.

Breath Prayer (based on Psalm 118:6)

The Lord is for me; I won't be afraid.

Celebration of Joy

† Carols of Joy

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;
O come, let us adore him O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
"Glory to God, all glory in the highest";
O come, let us adore him O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

*The first Noel, the angel did say,
was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter's night that was so deep.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.*

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
let earth receive her King; let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of his righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

Message

From Fear to Joy

Carol McEntyre

† Passing the Joy of Christ

I invite you to pass the joy of Christ with your neighbors,
for as we connect with one another, joy grows.

† Hymn of Commitment 166

While by the Sheep We Watched

† Offertory Sentence (unison)

**God of joy and possibility, we offer these gifts
so that they may be transformed into your
good news for a sake of the world. Amen.**

Offertory

Away in a Manger

arr. Ore

† Benediction (responsive)

God go before you to lead you,
God go behind you to protect you,
God go beneath you to support you,
God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

May the blessing of God the Creator, Son,
and Holy Spirit be upon you.

Go in peace and love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the
weak shall be strong, and none shall be a -
fraid.

Postlude

Hallelujah Chorus from "The Messiah"
Ayako Tsuruta, piano and Colleen Ostercamp, organ

arr. Setchell

Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 24

11 pm Christmas Eve Worship Service

Sanctuary

Monday, December 25

Office closed; no activities scheduled
Senior Yoga resumes January 8

Tuesday, December 26

Office closed; no activities scheduled

Wednesday, December 27

No rehearsals scheduled

Thursday, December 28

6:30-7:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 31

9:15 am Awakening Worship Service
10:15 am Small Group Hour
11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

*Fellowship Hall
Various Classrooms
Sanctuary*

Poinsettias

Richard & Susan Hayden

The Haydens, the Colemans and the Toalsons

Gisela Groiss

In memory of loved ones

John & Sandy Hall

Betty & Roy Cookson

Jack & Janet Pestle

*In memory of Jack & Corkey Pestle and
Eldin & Christal Linneman*

The Koge Yasuda family

*In memory of our Lisbeth and
in honor of Gerda's sisters visiting from Sweden & Germany*

Nick, Janet, Lexi, Cole, & Tavie Kieffer

*In memory of Donna & Nick Kieffer
In memory of Marjorie Bay and in honor of Park Bay*

Kee & Diana Groshong

*In memory of Kee H. and Susan E. Groshong
In memory of Floyd and Helen Reese
In memory of Geraldine Reese Martin
In memory of Ellen Martin Mottaz
In memory of Mrs. Dorothy Holliday
In honor of Reese, Susan, Natasha and Thomas Groshong
In honor of Lisa Groshong and Trevor Harris*

Larry & Esther Rollins

*In honor of family and friends
In honor of our niece Jennifer's December 11th birthday
In honor of Deb and Ed's December 26th wedding anniversary*

Norma Fair

In memory of her parents, Chris & Glenna Fair

Ann & Jim Yonce

In honor of Mary Lou Spradling

Pat Breece

*In memory of Susan Kershner
In memory of Betty Day
In memory of Carl Breece
In honor of Ed Rollins and Deb Carr*

Jim & Judy Elliott

*In memory of Ann Sulzberger
In honor of Colleen Ostercamp & Betty Eads*

Pam Humphreys

*In honor of my mother Edna Humphreys
In honor of my special friend William Krueger*

Poinsettias

Jim & Verna Adwell Rhodes

*In memory of parents, D.C. & Alma Rhodes
In memory of parents Earl B. & Edna Adwell*

Mimi Wingo

*In honor of her son, Russell
In memory of her husband, Curtis*

Bob Russell

*In memory of Marilyn
In honor of his children and grandchildren
In appreciation of his ministers*

Mary Lou Spradling

*In honor of the newlyweds in my family:
Jennifer Moulin & Troy Lee of Ocala, FL*

Randy, Sherry & Chandler Wyatt

*In memory of Sterling William Wyatt
In memory of William Wyatt*

Ken & Sue Hammann

*In honor of our parents, Leona & Paul Zorich
and Margaret & Louis Hammann*

Jane & Ray Smith

*In memory of Charles Rutter
In memory of James A. Rutter
In memory of Gertie Rutter White*

Colleen & Gary Ostercamp

In honor of Bill & Elaine Gortmaker's 67th Anniversary

Gil & Donna Ross

In honor of the staff of First Baptist Church

John Shrum & Lili Vianello

In memory/honor of Ella & Preston Shrum

Dell Keepers

In memory of George Keepers

Steve & Suzy Lee

In honor of Mary Lou Spradling

Abby Lee

In honor of Abby's staff members

Announcements

Christmas Eve Worship

Tonight at 11 pm, we will gather again in the sanctuary for our Christmas Eve candlelight service. We celebrate the coming of Christ with the singing of carols, the telling of the Christmas story, and the tradition of sharing the light with candles to the strains of "Silent Night." The service is a wonderful "homecoming" for all. It's also the easiest time to invite others to worship with you, so bring family and friends to join us in worship!

Dreaming Together in 2018

Sunday, January 7 and 14, 10:15 am: Community Leader Forum: During the Sunday Morning Small Group Hour, we will hear from different community leaders about Columbia from their perspective. It is an opportunity to learn more about the community we are called to serve! Come hear from Columbia leaders including Jim Spain, newly appointed Interim Vice Provost for Undergraduate Studies at MU, and Stephanie Browning, Director of Columbia/Boone County Public Health & Human Services.

Sunday, January 28, 9:15 am: Combined Worship & Ministry Review: We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we will move to the fellowship hall for a continental breakfast and a ministry review. This will be an opportunity to learn about all the different ministries and to reflect on them. To ask questions like: what in congregational life is working well? What needs improvement? If we were going to drop something, what would it be?

Saturday, February 3, 9:00 am: Visioning Listening Session: Dr. Chris Gambill will lead us in a time of reflection on our past. This will be opportunity for you to share what the church means to you and when we have been at our best.

Sunday, February 4, 9:15 am: Combined Worship & Visioning Listening Session: We will come together for Combined Worship at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary. Following worship, we will move to the fellowship hall for a continental breakfast and a visioning session led by Dr. Chris Gambill in which we will reflect on the gifts God has given us and how we might use them in unique ways for ministry.

Critical Conversations in Troubled Times

Beginning in January, First Baptist will be partnering with Second Missionary Baptist Church and Broadway Christian Church to participate in a conversation about racism and how faith communities can help bring about grassroots change. The kickoff will be a potluck dinner on January 14 at 4:30 at Second Missionary Baptist Church in Columbia. The meat will be provided. You are invited to bring a dish of food to share.

The conversation will revolve around reading and discussing "America's Original Sin: Racism, White Privilege, and the Bridge to a New America" by Jim Wallis. We will meet monthly on a Sunday evening to talk about the book and learn from one another. The books are being provided by a grant, which Broadway received. To get your free book and join the conversation, RSVP to Janet Deneke at churchinfo@fbc-columbia.org.

Church Business Meeting

A business meeting will be held on January 21 at 10:15 (during the Small Group hour) to discuss and approve the budget and the nomination of church leadership for 2018.

First Kids Music

First Kids Music is on a well-deserved break, and will next meet on Sunday, January 14 at 4 pm to begin preparing to sing in combined worship February 4, and during Easter worship on April 1.

Financial Peace University

Financial Peace University will be offered on Wednesday evenings, January 10 through March 7, 2018 from 6-7:30 pm in the conference room. Amanda Jacobs will facilitate the class, which is based on videos and reading materials by Dave Ramsey. You can save \$20 on registration by visiting <https://fpu.com/1053453>.

Finish 2017 Pledges

To complete your 2017 giving before the year ends, please have your gifts to the church office by noon on Friday, December 29 to allow time to make the bank deposit.

Worship Notes

When God Is a Child WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985. MUSIC: Joan Collier Fogg, 1987. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company.

The Advent candle lighting reading is adapted from a liturgy by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>.

The Benediction was written by Cornelius “Neal” Plantinga Jr., president emeritus of Calvin Theological Seminary.

Today’s scripture reader is Sheila Brookes, who has been a member of First Baptist for about four years. She attends FBC with her oldest and youngest daughters, Bee and Kimberly, and her granddaughter Alice. Sheila works from home, when she is not traveling for her job. Her job entails resource development and providing training and technical assistance to Head Start, Early Head Start, and other early childhood programs across the U.S. In her free time, Sheila enjoys reading and going to see the latest movies with her family. Her current favorite authors are Brene’ Brown and Andy Andrews. Her favorite quote is, “Be willing to let go of who you think you should be, in order to be who you are” (Brene’ Brown). Her favorite Bible verse is, “I can do all things through Christ, who strengthens me” (Philippians 4:13).

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Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.



11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

*For those who may prefer a more contemporary worship experience, First Baptist Church offers
Awakening Contemporary Worship at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.*

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

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Director

Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

Bethany James, Nursery Director † Jason Bell, Custodian