

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 2, 2018

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "Pastorale" Domenico Zipoli
"Chorale Prelude on 'Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen" Johannes Brahms

The Trinity Chimes
Three chimes are sounded, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, centering us in the embrace of the Spirit. As we gather, we present ourselves "as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is our spiritual worship."

The Lighting of the Advent Candle¹ Ann Childrey and Claudia Dare

(text omitted)

(The first candle is lit.)

The Invocation²

(text omitted)

*The Hymn of Praise, 133 VENI EMMANUEL
"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

CONFESSIO AND ASSURANCE

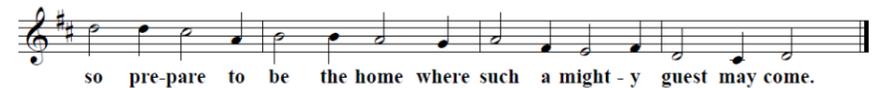
The Call to Confession Trey Davis

The Prayer of Confession (unison)¹

(text omitted)

The Assurance of Pardon

The Act of Praise PUER NOBIS



The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible Jeremiah 33:14-16 (p. 645)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13 (p. 960)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Gospel Luke 21:25-36 (857)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

PEOPLE: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

*The Hymn of Devotion, 271 CWM RHONDDA
"Christ Is Coming! Let Creation"

The Sermon "A Place for Hope" Christopher Chapman

RESPONDING IN FAITH

The Invitation to Christian Discipleship
If you desire membership in this congregation, you are invited to present yourself during the singing of the Hymn of Discipleship. As an open membership church, we honor your previous baptism in any other Christian community. If you have not made a confession of faith, we invite you to do so and receive Christian baptism. Church members are invited to use this time to reflect upon their covenantal relationship with God and their commitment to Christian service.

*The Hymn of Discipleship, 198 MARGARET
"Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne"

*The Offertory Prayer Anne Bullard

The Offertory Anthem Paul Manz
"E'en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come"

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings PUER NOBIS

To you, O Christ, all praises be whose advent sets your people free; whom with the Father we adore and Holy Spirit evermore!

DEPARTING TO SERVE

*The Benediction

*The Chimes
Three chimes are sounded, sending us into the world with the love of God, the Good News of Jesus Christ, and the power of the Holy Spirit. As you go, remember, "you are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people."

*The Postlude "Nun Komm, der Heiden Heiland" J.S. Bach

*The congregation may stand.

¹From Rev. Stephen M. Fearing, used by permission.

²From Call to Worship, Vol. 49, used by permission.

The SANCTUARY FLOWERS are given by Charlie and Ann Barham in honor of the Barham and Hiott families and with gratefulness for their extended church family.

The DEACON ON CALL is Anne Bullard. A 33-year member, Anne serves as a teacher for The Journey class and as an office volunteer. She is a member of the Personnel Committee, the Publicity Committee, and the Sanctuary Choir. Anne and her husband Matt have two adult children, Catherine and Madison.

THOSE WHO ARE VISITING are invited to the Gathering Room after worship to receive information about the church. Use the door to the left of the pulpit; church members will greet you.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES are available in the Gathering Room. An usher can provide a device for you.

ABOUT OUR WORSHIP

Today is the First Sunday of Advent, a four-week season of preparation for the coming of the Messiah and the beginning of a new Christian year. It is a season of penitence and reflection. Thus, we wear purple stoles and include time for confession. But it is also a season of expectation and celebration. So, we sing hymns of joy and light the first Advent candle, the candle of hope. The texts of this season reflect the two focal points of Advent – the birth of a Savior in Bethlehem and the Second Coming of our Lord at the great consummation of salvation history. Living between these two great Advents, we experience a certain amount of tension between what has already happened and what is yet to be, but we engage this tension with hope, trusting that the God who has come to us in the form of a fragile child will continue to enter our world today. The sermon explores the hope expressed by the prophet Jeremiah at a time characterized by utter despair. Whether we understand this hope to have been fulfilled by Israel's return from exile, the birth of Jesus, or both, it offers insight into the rightful place of authentic hope in our lives. The anthem celebrates our future hope in Christ which shapes present experience just as profoundly as past encounters with the Holy.

SYMPATHY to **Steve Austin** on the November 28 death of his mother, Betty Austin of Concord; and to the family of **Margaret Jones**, on her November 28 death.

THE ROSE ON THE ALTAR is in celebration of the November 19 birth of **William Daughtridge Thompson** to Ellen and Craig Thompson, and siblings, Mary-Loughton and McAdams.

REACHING OUT FOR EACH OTHER; REACHING UP TO TOUCH GOD: Please prayerfully consider your 2019 financial commitment and return your pledge card to the church office as soon as possible. As of November 29, 128 pledge cards totaling \$791,284 have been received.

AN OFFERING for the Mike Morris Fellowship Fund is received the first Sunday of each month. This fund helps persons seeking emergency aid. Collection baskets are at each exit.

HANGING OF THE GREENS will be held tonight at 6:00 p.m. with a reception following in the Fellowship Hall. Plan to join us for this beloved tradition and invite a friend or neighbor.

ALL MISSIONS NIGHT is this Wednesday evening. Join us as we prepare for our upcoming Toy Joy event.

MEAL RESERVATIONS may be made on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org) under the Food and Faith section, by email (firstbaptist@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the office (919-832-4485), all by **noon on Mondays**. Menu: Grilled Teriyaki Chicken, Rice, Variety of Veggies, Salad, and Bread. Non-meat option: Mock Grilled Chicken. Children's Menu: Taquitos.

TOY JOY will take place on Saturday, December 8, from 8:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. To volunteer, please contact Anne Cooke (cooke76@aol.com). For information, contact Carol Blanchard (artsyncgal@nc.rr.com) or Sabrina Tyndall (tyndalls@bellsouth.net).

GUEST SPEAKERS: As part of our annual Global Missions emphasis, we will be privileged to have Ralph and Tammy Stocks, retired CBF field personnel, in our pulpit next Sunday, December 9.

LET'S GO CAROLING on Wednesday, December 12, following the 5:00 p.m. meal. All ages are welcome. Contact Lynn Lingafelt (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org) by **December 5** if you would like to join us in sharing Christmas cheer! Remember to make meal reservations for that night.

DECEMBER MISSION PROJECT: We are collecting money to purchase sweatshirts to be given out at the Raleigh Men's Shelter on Christmas morning. Make checks payable to FBC and indicate "Christmas Morning Breakfast" on the memo line. Place monetary donations in the offering plate or send to the church office. Volunteers are also needed on Christmas morning to help load, serve, and hand out gifts. To volunteer, please sign up on the website (www.fbcraleigh.org). For information, contact Leah Reed (lreed@fbcraleigh.org) or Dan Roberts (danrobts@gmail.com).

CLOTHING MINISTRY is in need of full-size blankets and winter clothing, especially for children.

Calendar Highlights † December 2-9 2018	
Sun, December 2	
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Worship Service (S) Japanese Worship (227)
6:00	Hanging of the Greens (S)
7:00	Hanging of the Greens Reception (FH)
Mon, December 3	
9:30	Weekday Preschool (M-Fri)
11:00	Sisters in Grace (P)
Tues, December 4	
10:00	Ministerial Staff Meeting (CR)
10:30	WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
12:00	Office Volunteer Luncheon (FH)
6:00	Theology on Tap (Raleigh Times)
7:30	High School Bible Study (Helms' home)
Wed, December 5	
9:30	Golden Years Holiday Celebration at the Convention Center
10:00	Clothing Ministry open
3:45	Works in Progress (P)
5:00	Meal served (FH) WMU Group 6 (FH)
6:00	Announcements and Prayer Time (FH) All Missions Night Nominating Committee (CR)
7:30	Sanctuary Choir (310)
Thu, December 6	
7:00	Band of Brothers (CR)
11:00	Library Committee (L)
1:00	Clothing Ministry open
Fri, December 7	
9:00	Toy Joy Preparation
Sat, December 8	
8:00	Toy Joy
Sun, December 9	
9:45	Sunday School
11:00	Worship Service (S) Japanese Worship (227)
5:00	Youth Christmas Parties

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF RALEIGH
Affiliated with the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship
99 N. Salisbury Street, Raleigh, NC 27603
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Christopher C. F. Chapman, Pastor	Donna G. Jolly, Organist
Trey Davis, Youth/College	Lynn Lingafelt, Children
J. Daniel Day, Pastor Emeritus	Leah Anderson Reed, Community
Wayne Hager, Church Administrator	Mary Alice Seals, Music/Senior Adults

A place of grace, a place of challenge, a place for you.

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



December 2, 2018

*"I am the Alpha and Omega," says the Lord God,
who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.*

Revelation 1:8