

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP

THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

December 30, 2018

Eleven O'clock

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Prelude "Carol of Praise" arr. David Lowe
"A Carol and a Hymn for Christmas" Carl Mueller

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 Call to Worship (responsive)

Psalm 148

LEADER: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens; praise God in the heights!

PEOPLE: **Praise the Lord, all God's angels; praise the Lord, all the heavenly host!**

LEADER: Praise the Lord, sun and moon; praise the Lord, all you shining stars!

PEOPLE: **Praise the Lord, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens!**

LEADER: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God commanded and they were created.

PEOPLE: **God established them for ever and ever; the Lord fixed their bounds, which cannot be passed.**

LEADER: Praise the Lord from the earth, you sea monsters and all deeps, fire and hail, snow and frost, stormy wind fulfilling God's command!

PEOPLE: **Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars! Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!**

LEADER: Kings of the earth and all peoples, princes and all rulers of the earth!

PEOPLE: **Young men and women alike, old and young together!**

LEADER: Let them praise the name of the Lord, for God's name alone is exalted; the glory of the Lord is above earth and heaven.

PEOPLE: **The Lord has raised up a horn for God's people, praise for all the faithful, for the people of Israel who are close to God.**

ALL: ***Praise the Lord!***

The Invocation

Lynn Lingafelt

*The Hymn of Praise, 174

REGENT SQUARE

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

The Greeting of Worshipers

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26 (p. 214)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Colossians 3:12-17 (p. 958)

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Morning Prayer and Lord's Prayer

The Gospel

Luke 2:41-52 (p. 833)

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*The Hymn of Devotion, 157

IN DULCI JUBILO

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

"Scripture Doesn't Hide the Humanity of Jesus, Thank God!"

The Prayer of Response, 141 (unison)

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, 145

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

"Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*The Offertory Prayer

Myra Brickell

The Offertory Anthem "Once in David's Royal City"

arr. Helvey

(The text of today's anthem may be found at hymn 161.)

*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

LLANFAIR

Praise to you, O Lord, we sing; Alleluia!

Praise to Christ, our newborn King, Alleluia!

With the Father, Spirit, one, Alleluia!

Let your lasting kingdom come, Alleluia!

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

"Fugue in C Major"

Dietrich Buxtehude

*The congregation may stand.

DEACON ON CALL is Myra Brickell. A 31-year member, Myra serves on the Wedding Committee, as Church Treasurer, and as a Director for the Preschool Division of Sunday School. She is a member of the Scholarship Committee, the Pathfinders Class, and the Sanctuary Choir. Myra serves as chair of the Flower Committee and as an office volunteer. Myra and her husband Sterling have one daughter, Jessica Helms, and one grandson, Asher.

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 after Christmas, but still a part of the Christmas season which concludes with Epiphany on January 6. Thus, we still enjoy the greens in our sanctuary, we still sing Christmas carols and anthems, and we still explore Christmas themes. The sermon is rooted in the reading from Luke which reveals both sides of the radical claim of incarnation – Jesus' humanity and divinity. But given the church's tendency to downplay his humanity (as opposed to outsiders' tendency to deny his divinity), we will explore the humanness of the Christ. What are the implications of Jesus' humanity, the benefits for our faith? How do we understand the incarnation and how central is it to our faith? These are just some of the questions we ponder in these days after Christmas and throughout the year.

REACHING OUT FOR EACH OTHER; REACHING UP TO TOUCH GOD: What's your favorite part of FBC Raleigh? Is it a small group, or a portion of worship? Is it a mission or outreach team? Hanging of the Greens or Wednesday night supper? Every week hundreds of people are touched by the ministries of our wonderful church, and everything we do is possible because of generous gifts and faithful tithing. Please help us prepare for 2019 by returning your pledge card to the church office. (You may also pledge online at: bit.ly/FBC-pledge.) As of December 27, 155 pledge cards totaling \$993,804 have been received.

FINANCIAL GIFTS: If you have questions about year-end gifts, 2018 pledge balances, stock transfers, online giving, making a 2019 pledge or other financial matters, send an e-mail to FinanceAdmin@fbcraleigh.org or call 919-832-4485, ext. 210, or visit www.fbcraleigh.org/give. Contributions must be received in the financial office by December 31 (or postmarked by December 31) in order to count as a gift in 2018.

2019 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES are available on the first floor corridor leading to the Clothing Ministry.

GLOBAL MISSIONS OFFERING supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. Please prayerfully consider your support of these missionaries. We have received \$5,774 toward our goal of \$20,000.

CENTERPOINT resumes on January 9 with dinner at 5:00 p.m., children's missions and music at 5:45 p.m., and Centerpoint seminar at 6:15 p.m.

MEAL RESERVATIONS may be made under the Food and Faith section on the church website (www.fbcraleigh.org), by email (firstbaptist@fbcraleigh.org), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485), all by **noon on Mondays**. Menu for January 9: Mexican Night! Beef and Chicken Tacos, Rice, Beans, and Veggies. Non-Meat: Veggie-beef, Salad, and Bread. Children's Menu: Taquitos.

DEACON ORDINATION will be held on Sunday, January 13, during morning worship.

CHURCHWIDE RETREAT: Mark your calendar for the churchwide retreat at Caswell on April 5-7, 2019. Details may be found in the December 14 edition of *First Foundations*. Space is limited so contact Lynn Lingafelt (llingafelt@fbcraleigh.org) by February 1.

COMMUNICATION CHANGES COMING: We're working to streamline our communication with a weekly e-newsletter with brief updates and a one-stop-shop to sign up for events. *First Foundations* will become a quarterly magazine with more in-depth stories. If we have your email address, you will automatically receive both the electronic publications. If you currently receive a printed copy of *First Foundations*, you should have received a postcard in the mail asking for your response. If you need us to print the weekly email and mail it to you, we're glad to do that. Please indicate your preference on the card and we'll make sure you get the information the way that works best for you.

Calendar Highlights December 30, 2018–January 6, 2019

Sun, December 30
9:30 The Journey Class and Community Table (FH)
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service (S)
Japanese Worship (227)

Tues, January 1
New Year's Day
Church Office closed

Wed, January 2
10:00 Clothing Ministry closed
No afternoon/evening activities

Thu, January 3
11:00 Library Committee (L)
1:00 Clothing Ministry closed

Sun, January 6
9:45 Sunday School
11:00 Worship Service (S)
Japanese Worship (227)
6:00 Youth Group (FH)

- ⇒ CHURCH OFFICE will be closed on Tuesday, January 1.
⇒ CLOTHING MINISTRY will be closed through January 3.

Happy New Year!

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

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

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



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