

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



December 26, 2021

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS

December 26, 2021

Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: Today is the First Sunday after Christmas. In the Christian liturgical year, the season of Advent leads up to Christmas. Christmas is a 12-day period where we celebrate the arrival of Christ which precedes the Epiphany season. Christmas marks an immense transition in the cycles of our lives. The Advent of Christ calls us to anticipate a world-turning event of hope, joy, love, and peace. Yet, life often carries on without significant change once Christmas has passed. Today in worship we will sing songs of joy and celebration for the birth of Christ while our texts and the sermon invite us to ponder what to do in the times following our culminating moments of hope. As we invite God to speak once again, our prayer is that our hope in God's vision continues even after Christmas.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Lynn Lingafelt

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 Prelude

"On December Five and Twenty"  
Richard Lind

Maureen Howell

The Call to Worship (responsive)

based upon Psalm 148

LEADER: Christ is born! Praise the Lord!

PEOPLE: **Praise God from the heavens; praise God from the heights!**

LEADER: Praise God, all angels; praise God, all his host.

PEOPLE: **Praise God, sun and moon, all you shining stars, mountains and hills, fruit trees and creatures!**

LEADER: Young men and women alike, old and young together, praise the name of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **The light of the world has come and we will never be the same.**

ALL: **Christ is born. Praise God!**

The Invocation

1. An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er all the earth;  
 2. Shep - herds in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night,  
 3. Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions, bright - er vi - sions beam a - far;  
 4. Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in hope and fear,  
 5. Though an in - fant now we view him he will share his Fa - ther's throne,

ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:  
 God with us is now re - sid - ing, yon - der shines the in - fant Light:  
 seek the great De - sire of Na - tions, ye have seen his na - tal star:  
 sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing, in his tem - ple shall ap - pear.  
 gath - er all the na - tions to him; ev - ery knee shall then bow down.

*Refrain*

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

WORDS: James Montgomery, 1816, 1825, alt.  
MUSIC: Henry T. Smart, 1867

REGENT SQUARE  
8.7.8.7.8.7.

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

1 Samuel 2:18–20, 26

Dan Roberts

<sup>18</sup>Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy wearing a linen ephod. <sup>19</sup>His mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. <sup>20</sup>Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, “May the Lord repay you with children by this woman for the gift that she made to the Lord”; and then they would return to their home. <sup>26</sup>Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favor with the Lord and with the people.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Christian Testament

Colossians 3:12–17

<sup>12</sup>As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup>Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. <sup>14</sup>Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup>And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup>Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. <sup>17</sup>And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

The Call to Prayer

“In the Lord, I'll Be Ever Thankful”

The musical score is written for voice and piano in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "In the Lord I'll be ev - er thank - ful, in the Lord I will re - joice! Look to God, do not be a - fraid. Lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic - es, the Lord is near." There are triplets in the piano accompaniment on the second and third systems.

Words and Music: Jacques Berthier, Taizé

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father,  
who art in heaven.  
Hallowed be thy Name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

The Meditation

“I Wonder As I Wander”

Elaine Holley, violin

Jack Schrader, arr.

The Gospel

Luke 2:41–52

<sup>41</sup>Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. <sup>42</sup>And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. <sup>43</sup>When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. <sup>44</sup>Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. <sup>45</sup>When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. <sup>46</sup>After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. <sup>47</sup>And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. <sup>48</sup>When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, “Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety.” <sup>49</sup>He said to them, “Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?” <sup>50</sup>But they did not understand what he said to them. <sup>51</sup>Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. <sup>52</sup>And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

*Refrain*

Go, tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hills and ev - ery - where;

go, tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born.

*Fine*

1. While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,  
 2. The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when, lo! a - bove the earth  
 3. Down in a low - ly man-ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

be-hold, through-out the heav - ens there shone a ho - ly light.  
 rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.  
 and God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.

*D. C.*

WORDS: John W. Work, 1907  
 MUSIC: Afro-American Spiritual; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1989  
 Music © 1990 Hope Publishing Company

GO TELL IT  
 Irregular

## 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

“O Sing a Song of Bethlehem”

KINGSFOLD

1. O sing a song of Beth - le - hem, of shep - herds watch - ing there,  
2. O sing a song of Naz - a - reth, of sun - ny days of joy,  
3. O sing a song of Gal - i - lee, of lake and woods and hill,  
4. O sing a song of Cal - va - ry, its glo - ry and dis - may;

and of the news that came to them from an - gels in the air:  
O sing of fra - grant flow - ers' breath, and of the sin - less Boy:  
of him who walked up - on the sea and bade the waves be still:  
of him who hung up - on the tree, and took our sins a - way:

the light that shone on Beth - le - hem fills all the world to - day;  
for now the flowers of Naz - a - reth in ev - ery heart may grow;  
for though, like waves on Gal - i - lee, dark seas of trou - ble roll,  
for he who died on Cal - va - ry is ris - en from the grave,

of Je - sus' birth and peace on earth the an - gels sing al - way.  
now spreads the fame of his dear name on all the winds that blow.  
when faith has heard the Mas - ter's word, falls peace up - on the soul.  
and Christ, our Lord, by heaven a - dored, is might - y now to save.

WORDS: Louis F. Benson, 1899

MUSIC: Traditional English melody; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

Music used by permission of Oxford University Press

KINGSFOLD  
C.M.D.

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

“Swiss Noel”  
Louis Claude D’Aquin

Maureen Howell, organ

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Dan Roberts. A fourteen-year member, Dan is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School Class. He is married to Linda Roberts and he has one daughter, five grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren.

As we continue our annual stewardship emphasis, please prayerfully consider your 2022 financial commitment and return your pledge card to the church office as soon as possible. As of December 23, 153 pledge cards totaling \$1,119,693 have been received.

Global Missions Offering supports CBF personnel around the world as they spread the Gospel. We have received \$2,348 toward our goal of \$20,000.

2022 Contribution Envelopes are available on the first floor corridor leading to the Clothing Ministry; if you would like some but haven't gotten any in the past, contact Wayne Hager ([whager@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:whager@fbcraleigh.org)) and he will go over options with you.

On Wednesday, December 29, 11:00 a.m.–3:00 p.m., we will be hosting The Blood Connection in our parking lot for a blood drive. To make an appointment, go to [The Blood Connection website](#). All donors will receive a \$20 eGift card! For any questions, contact [Dr. Chapman](#).

The church-wide ski retreat is scheduled for January 7–9 at Pipestem and Winterplace, West Virginia. More information and the sign-up link may be found in the *Rose Window Weekly*. Contact [Michael Hood](#) with any questions.

Community Outreach Opportunity: take a meal to the Helen Wright Center. *And Also With 'Cue* will offer dinner to the residents of the Helen Wright Center on three dates in 2022: January 11, February 8, and March 8. If you are able to help deliver those dinners, please email Ashley Prather ([pratherak@gmail.com](mailto:pratherak@gmail.com)).

**Calendar Highlights**  
**December 26–January 2**

Sunday, December 26

- 9:45      Sunday School
- 11:00     Worship/Michael Hood Preaching (Sanctuary & YouTube)  
            Japanese Worship (Zoom)

Monday, December 27

- Church Office Closed (Christmas holiday)
- 6:00      Music Made in Heaven Rehearsal (Sanctuary Balcony)

Tuesday, December 28

- Church Office Closed (Christmas holiday)
- 10:45     WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)
- 7:30      Pathfinders Sunday School Class (Zoom)

Thursday, December 30

- 7:00      Band of Brothers (Zoom)

Friday, December 31

*First Night Raleigh*

Sunday, January 2

- 9:45      Sunday School
- 11:00     Worship (Sanctuary & YouTube)  
            Japanese Worship (302)