

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
RALEIGH, NC

ORGANIZED MARCH 8, 1812



November 27, 2022

THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP  
THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

November 27, 2022

Eleven o'clock

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 and assurance. But it is also a season of expectation and celebration, patient waiting for the wondrous new thing God might do among us. So, we light the first Advent candle and share sacred music that points to hope and fulfillment. All of the texts express a deep longing for something more, we pray for something more and better, and then we reflect upon how we might open our lives more fully to the new thing God is doing.

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GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Warren Howell

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

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"  
John Purifoy

Maureen Howell, organ  
Becky Mercer, flute

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Anna and LaCount Anderson

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come, thou Rod of Jes - se, free thine own from Sa - tan's  
 3. O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine  
 4. O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen wide our  
 5. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here un -  
 tyr - an - ny; from depths of hell thy peo - ple save and  
 ad - vent here; and drive a - way the shades of night, and  
 heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and  
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife and quar - rels cease; fill

*Refrain*

til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 give them vic - tory o'er the grave.  
 pierce the clouds and bring us light! Re - joice! re - joice! Em -  
 close the path to mis - er - y.  
 all the world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin hymn, 12th C.; tr. John M. Neale, 1851; st. 5, Henry Sloane Coffin, 1916  
 MUSIC: Thomas Helmore, 1854; based on plainsong phrases

VENI EMMANUEL  
 8.8.8.8.8.8.

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession

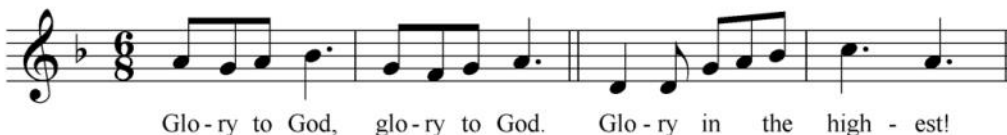
The Prayer of Confession (unison)

**God of peace and mercy, we are a people with hearts of strife. Instead of loving you, we turn away. Instead of loving our neighbor, we take up arms against them. Too often our words and actions wage war and fall short of your hope for creation. Forgive us, O Lord, for our hostile hearts and help us see the light that comes from the highest mountain where all nations shall stream together. Guide us so that we may be the ones to beat swords into plowshares and spears into pruning hooks. Transform us so we may follow in the ways of our Savior, the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

The Silence

The Assurance of Forgiveness

The Act of Praise



—Jacques Berthier, Taizé, 1978

## LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Anthem

“Lost in the Night”

Sanctuary Choir

Finnish Hymn/Kyle Haugen, arr.

Lost in the night do the people yet languish,  
Longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,  
Plaintively heaving a sigh full of anguish,  
Will not day come soon?  
Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?  
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow,  
Giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?  
Will you help us soon?  
Sorrowing wanderers, in darkness yet dwelling,  
Dawned has the day of a radiance excelling,  
Death's dreaded darkness forever dispelling.  
Christ is coming soon

—Words: Olav Lee, tr., 1932

<sup>11</sup>Besides this, you know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; <sup>12</sup>the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; <sup>13</sup>let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: **Thanks be to God.**

## The Gospel

Matthew 24:36–44

<sup>36</sup>“But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>37</sup>For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. <sup>42</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

## The Morning Prayer

Christopher Chapman

## 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.**

*Unison*

1. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri - um-phant breaks;  
 2. Not as of old, a lit - tle child, to bear, and fight, and die,  
 3. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and earth's dark night is past;  
 4. Then let the end - less bliss be - gin, by wea - ry saints fore - told,  
 5. The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau - ty brings:

when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
 but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.  
 O haste the ris - ing of that morn, the day that e'er shall last.  
 when right shall tri - umph o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.  
 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings!

WORDS: Ancient Greek hymn; tr. John Brownlie, 1907  
 MUSIC: Traditional American melody; *Kentucky Harmony*, Part Second, 1813

MORNING SONG  
 C.M.

The Sermon

Christopher Chapman

“For What or Whom Are We Preparing?”

### 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.*

1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near! Let  
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove. His  
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sav - ior's rule em - brace, and  
 ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear. Greet  
 rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love. Lift  
 ti - dings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place. All  
 One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.  
 high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.  
 lands will bow re - joic - ing, their ad - o - ra - tion voic - ing.  
*Refrain*  
 O blest is Christ who came in God's most ho - ly name.

Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. composite:  
 adapt. Charles P. Price 1982  
 Music: Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697

### 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

“Postlude on BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN”  
 Paul Manz

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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Today’s banner is provided in loving memory of Allen and Jane Burris by Joe, Cece, Hannah, and Gordon Middleton and David Burris.

The Deacon on Call is Dawn Wade. A nine-year member of First Baptist, Dawn is a member of the Sharing Thoughts Sunday School class and serves on the Weekday Preschool Council and as a co-leader for the Girls in Action. She and her husband Robert have two children: Amelia and Ryland.

Centerpoint: Wednesday, November 30; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and program at 6:15pm. This week’s program focuses on Cooperative Baptist Fellowship global mission personnel who are representing the presence of Christ in south Florida, eastern Kentucky, and Southeast Asia and ways that we can partner with them through the 2022-2023 Offering for Global Mission.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website ([www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice](http://www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice)), by email ([dmast@fbcraleigh.org](mailto:dmast@fbcraleigh.org)), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu for November 30 is: chicken and rice with gravy and veggie medley; non-meat option: mock chicken and rice; kids: chicken nuggets.

The Theology on Tap gathering for November and December will be held Thursday, December 1, at 6pm at The Raleigh Times (14 E. Hargett St). Please join us!

Hanging of the Greens will be held next Sunday, December 4, at 6pm, followed by a reception. Remember a loved one with a donation toward the purchase of holiday decorations for our sanctuary during Advent and Christmas. Forms — found in Sunday School boxes, on our website, or in the *Rose Window Weekly* — must be received with payment by Friday, December 2.

If you can donate 2–3 dozen homemade or store-bought cookies for the Hanging of the Greens reception, use the QR code to the right to sign up. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.



Our annual stewardship emphasis has begun with the theme *For It Is in Giving That We Receive*. We encourage you to respond by November 30 by mailing in a pledge card or by pledging online at [www.fbcraleigh.org/stewardship](http://www.fbcraleigh.org/stewardship).

During November, our mission project is collecting food (pasta, rice, and dried beans) for the Food Bank of Central and Eastern NC. Place your contributions in the marked drawer of the Lewis Lobby cabinet.

Diaper changing stations are located in the men’s and women’s bathrooms on each floor of the Lewis building, and a nursing room is located in our preschool suite on the first floor.

Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Worship bags are located in the narthex and in the Gathering Room; preschoolers (birth – kindergarten) are also welcome to join the supervised play in the preschool suite on first floor.



**Calendar Highlights**  
**November 27–December 4**

Sunday, November 27

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 5:00 Youth choir and pizza party (choir room/Mellow Mushroom)

Monday, November 28

- 10:00 Clothing ministry closed
- 6:30 High school Bible study (Wade home)  
Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302)

Tuesday, November 29

- 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room)
- 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor)

Wednesday, November 30

- 5:15 Meal served (Fellowship Hall)
- 5:45 PreK–K music/Grade school missions (preschool suite/children's suite)
- 6:15 Centerpoint (Fellowship Hall)
- 6:30 Grade school music (sanctuary)/PreK–K missions (preschool suite/children's suite)  
Handbell choir rehearsal (302/sanctuary balcony)
- 6:45 Adult choir rehearsal (sanctuary loft)
- 7:00 Youth choir rehearsal (sanctuary)

Thursday, December 1

- 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom)
- 10:30 Thirty-Niners (FH)
- 6:00 Theology on Tap (Raleigh Times, 14 E. Hargett St)

Saturday, December 3

- 10:00 Hanging of the Greens rehearsal (S)

Sunday, December 4

- 9:45 Sunday School
- 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube)  
JBC worship (226)
- 6:00 Hanging of the Greens (S)
- 7:00 HoG reception (FH)

To facilitate your giving to FBC, use the QR codes below to link to the website for our main electronic giving, VANCO Faith, and the page that lists all our e-giving options and instructions.

Use this QR code to e-give to FBC on line:



Use this code to e-give through PayPal  
and other options:

