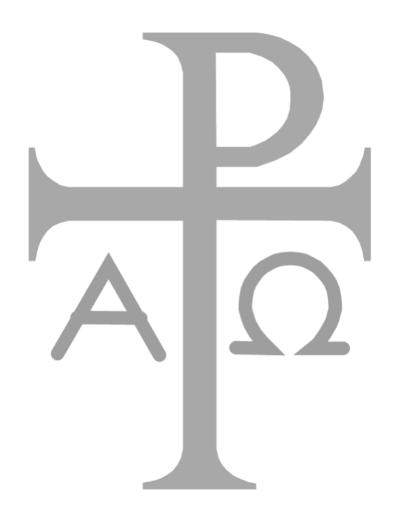
# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH RALEIGH, NC

Organized March 8, 1812



December 11, 2022

## THE CHURCH IN WORSHIP THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 11, 2022 Eleven o'clock

About our Worship: On this third Sunday of Advent, we continue our preparation for the coming of the Christ with the lighting of an Advent candle, prayers of confession, and songs of joyful expectation. We also continue a longstanding Baptist tradition of emphasizing in this season mission work we are connected to around the world by hearing from three of our members who have recently participated in partnership work with CBF field personnel in Romania. As we prepare our own hearts and lives for the inbreaking on God's realm in Christ, we recommit ourselves to helping spread the word about this realm and helping bring it near to more and more people.

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#### GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

The Greeting of Worshipers

Leah Reed

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

"How Brightly Beams the Morning Star"

John Carter

Maureen Howell

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Curt Reffner and Camie Ward



WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719; para. of Psalm 98 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1848; based on G. F. Handel, 1742 ANTIOCH C.M.Repeats

#### CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

The Call to Confession

The Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of majesty and glory, we are thirsty for your grace. You made a way for us in the wilderness, and still, in our foolishness, we go astray. We hide our eyes from your presence. We do not listen to your word. We are lifeless when we ought to dance and speechless when we ought to sing. Forgive us, O Lord.

Speak peace to our fearful hearts, strengthen our weak hands, and make firm our feeble knees as we seek to follow in your holy way. Amen.

The Response (sung)

O ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low, who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.

O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

Words: Edmund H Sears, 1849 Music: Richard S. Willis, 1850

The Assurance of Forgiveness

#### LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

The Hebrew Bible

Deuteronomy 10:17-19

**Dolores Bailey** 

<sup>17</sup>For the Lord your God is God of gods and Lord of lords, the great God, mighty and awesome, who is not partial and takes no bribe, <sup>18</sup>who executes justice for the orphan and the widow, and who loves the strangers, providing them food and clothing. <sup>19</sup>You shall also love the stranger, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt.

Psalm 146:5-10

<sup>5</sup>Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord their God, <sup>6</sup>who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them; who keeps faith forever; <sup>7</sup>who executes justice for the oppressed; who gives food to the hungry. The Lord sets the prisoners free; <sup>8</sup>the Lord opens the eyes of the blind. The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down; the Lord loves the righteous. <sup>9</sup>The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin. <sup>10</sup>The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.

The Christian Testament James 5:7–10

<sup>7</sup>Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. <sup>8</sup>You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. <sup>9</sup>Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! <sup>10</sup>As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord.

PEOPLE: Thanks be to God.



Words: Mary Louise Bringle, 2002 Music: William P. Rowan, 2000

The Morning Prayer Leah Reed

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 Gospel Matthew 11:2–11

<sup>2</sup>When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" <sup>4</sup>Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

<sup>7</sup>As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>8</sup>What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. <sup>9</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' <sup>11</sup>Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.

LEADER: This is the Gospel of Christ.

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

The Anthem

"Song of Mary" (from *Celebrate Life!*)

Buryl Red

Sanctuary Choir Tonya Carter, solo

Sing, my soul the greatness of the Lord Rejoice, my spirit in God my Savior So tenderly has He regarded me So wondrously has He exalted me All generations shall call me blessed For His name, His name is Holy He is the mighty one His mercy is ever sure.

Words: adapt. from Luke 1:46-55

The Sermon

Nancy Phillips, Sheila Jordan, and Libby Barnes

"Romania Mission Immersion"

#### 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 Offertory Prayer

The Offertory

"For the Beauty of the Earth John Ferguson

Maureen Howell

Dix

\*The Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings (sung)

For thyself, best gift divine, to the world so freely given; for that great, great love of thine, peace on earth and joy in heaven, Lord of all, to thee we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.

> Words: Folliott Pierpoint, 1864 Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838

#### 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

"Chorale Prelude on JOY TO THE WORLD"

John Dixon

Maureen Howell

\*The congregation may stand.

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The Deacon on Call is Dolores Bailey. A nine-year member of First Baptist, Dolores is a member of the Everette Miller Friendship Sunday School class. She serves on the Counting Team and the Nominating Committee and as a volunteer in the Clothing Ministry. She and her husband Bob live in Garner.

The offering helper today is Asher Helms.

Thanks to Becky Mercer (flute) for sharing her musical gifts in today's service.

Online Advent devotional guides may be found at:

https://theology.mercer.edu/advent/ https://www.pts.edu/devotional\_1 https://www.ctsnet.edu/advent/ https://katebowler.com/advent2022/

Church Conference: Wednesday, December 14; meal served at 5:15pm, prayer time and meeting at 6:15pm. See the *Rose Window Weekly* for documents and Zoom link.

Wednesday night meal reservations may be made at the church website (<a href="www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice">www.fbcraleigh.org/foodservice</a>), by email (<a href="dmast@fbcraleigh.org">dmast@fbcraleigh.org</a>), or by calling the church office (919-832-4485). The menu for December 14 is: orange chicken and fried rice; non-meat option: mock orange chicken; kids: pizza rolls.

Each year in December we launch the Global Missions Offering which supports CBF field personnel around the world, usually hearing from one of these personnel. This year, we will hear from three of our own members — Libby Barnes, Sheila Jordan, and Nancy Moore Phillips — who have just returned from partnership mission work in Romania, helping provide food relief for people living with war in Ukraine. These three women are the proclaimers in worship today, speaking to their experience, the needs they encountered, the questions that were raised, and the hope they observed.

On Sunday, December 18, at 5 pm, you are invited to join us as our children lead us in worship, recalling Jesus' birth in *The Christmas Story*. Please bring an offering of warmth (gently used or new blankets or jackets and preferably new scarves, mittens, or toboggans) that night. Following our service in the sanctuary, we will have a birthday party for Jesus in the Fellowship Hall, complete with cake and ice cream. The offering is also our December mission project, so if you are unable to attend the event and would still like to donate, you may place your donations in the drawer in the Lewis Building cabinet any time during December. All donations will be given out to our Clothing Ministry guests.

Sign up now for Salt Shakers 2023! Email Jessica Helms (<u>jessica.brickell.helms@gmail.com</u>) by January 10 to be assigned to dinner groups which will meet on four dates throughout the year. This is a great way to get to know people at the church! See the *Rose Window Weekly* for more details.

67 stewardship cards totaling \$483,710.00 have been received. Your gift matters! Please return your stewardship card to the church, or you may pledge online (<a href="www.fbcraleigh.org/stewardship">www.fbcraleigh.org/stewardship</a>). Also, if you are not receiving offering envelopes and wish to, wish to change what you receive, or wish not to receive envelopes for 2023, please go to the church website (<a href="www.fbcraleigh.org/offeringenveloperequest/">www.fbcraleigh.org/offeringenveloperequest/</a>).

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 December 11-18

#### Sunday, December 11 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship/Romania & Global Missions presentation (sanctuary & YouTube) JBC worship (226) Deacons' meeting (Fellowship Hall/Zoom) 12:15 Monday, December 12 10:00 Clothing ministry Finance Committee meeting (Zoom) 6:15 High school Bible study (Wade home) 6:30 Music Made in Heaven rehearsal (302) Tuesday, December 13 9:00 Thirty-Niners to Raleigh Christmas Breakfast 10:00 Staff meeting (conference room) 10:45 WMU Group 2 (Springmoor) Wednesday, December 14 5:15 Meal served (Fellowship Hall) Church Conference (Fellowship Hall) 6:15 7:30 Adult choir rehearsal (310/sanctuary) Thursday, December 15 7:00 Band of Brothers (Zoom) 10:00 Japanese dance class (Blue Room) Friday, December 16 5:00 Barnes/Crumpler wedding rehearsal (sanctuary) 6:00 Pathfinders class Christmas party (Brickell home) Saturday, December 17 11:00 Deacons' drop-in Christmas party (Ellis home) 3:00 Barnes/Crumpler wedding (sanctuary) Sunday, December 18 9:45 Sunday School 11:00 Worship (sanctuary & YouTube) JBC worship (Fellowship Hall) Children's worship (224) 5:00 The Christmas Story/reception (sanctuary/Fellowship Hall)

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:







Otniel Bunaciu Vice President for Romania Baptist World Alliance



Mary Kaylor
Associate Coordinator CBFNC



Cards from GAs and RAs



**Care Box Contents** 

### **CBFNC**



Romania Mission Immersion Team



Mihai Ciopasiu Director, Project Ruth



**4:7 Care Box** meets the caloric and protein needs for a family of four for seven days in war-torn Ukraine. Our specially selected box contains canned meats, grains, legumes, canned & dried vegetables, healthy fats, seasonings and sucrose. The total nutritional value of each box weighs in at more than 50000 calories and 1750+ grams of protein with a total content weight of 16kg+.

#### A typical 4:7 Care Box contains:

2 kg of flour
2 kg of white beans
2 kg of semolina pasta
1 kg of sugar
600g canned beef
600g canned pork
800g cans of tomato paste
Salt /Black Pepper/Garlic powder/Paprika

2 kg of long grain white rice 1 kg of red lentils 500g of buckwheat 1 liter of oil 2 large packages of dried soy granules 120g of cocoa powder 200g of dehydrated vegetables Active dry yeast (2 packets)



Winter Bags for Refugee Camps



Dish Cloths from Prayer Shawl Group



Brittany Garton
Assistant, Project Ruth

### The Greening of the Church

The fresh flowers, wreaths, garland, and Chrismon tree that adorn our sanctuary are given to the glory of God and in honor of or in memory of these loved ones and friends.

- The three wreaths on the rail in front of the church are given in loving memory of Dr. Clifford Byrum and Ruby Byrum by their family.
- The wreaths on the sanctuary doors are given in memory of Mr. and Mrs. John C. Brantley, Sr.; Mr. and Mrs. John C. Brantley, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Castlebury; and John C. Brantley, IV, by John C. Brantley, III.
- The Advent wreath is given in honor of their grandchildren, Emily and Matthew, and their parents, Alan and Kimberly Taylor, by Grammy and Granddad.
- The center wreath on the choir loft rail is given in loving memory of Mary Powell Ward and William Titus Ward, M. D., by their daughter Mary Powell Ward White and grandchildren: Mary Boney and Dunlop White, III, and their families.
- The right-side wreath on the choir loft rail is given in memory of Scott Lingafelt.
- The left-side wreath on the choir loft rail is given in honor of their grandchildren, Asher and Ryder Helms, by Sterling and Myra Brickell.
- The wreaths on the Clothing Ministry doors are given in memory of Daddy Ree, Mama Nette, Nana and Da by their grandchildren, J. D. and Sarah Catherine Rhodes.
- The wreath on the State lot door is given in memory of Ed Vick by Laura Anne Vick and their daughters, Jennifer, Carolyn, and Elizabeth.
- The wreath on the left choir loft door is given in grateful honor of Warren and Maureen Howell by the Sanctuary Choir.
- The wreath on the right choir loft door is given in loving memory of their parents, Mary Kellam and Jimmy Hollis and William and Lillian Dickens, by Carolyn and Kent Dickens.
- The two wreaths on the church office doors are given in memory of Madge and O. H. Dillard by their twelve disciples.
- The wreaths on the Infant Toddler Center entrance of the Lewis Education Building are given in loving memory of Julia C. Read by Vann and Jody Langston and Julia's grandchildren, Margaret and Jim.
- The wreaths on the Edenton Street doors of the Lewis Education Building are given in memory of Madge Dillard; O. H. Dillard, Jr.; Helen J. Davis; Norman Earl Davis, Jr.; Helen D. Smith; Charles Smith; Catherine C. Davis; Roger Allen Gregg, Jr.; and Dr. Roger Allen Gregg, Sr., by their family.
- The wreaths on the west parking lot doors of the Lewis Education Building are given in loving memory of Bill and Mark Simpson by Edith and Steve Simpson.
- Five pew wreaths are given in loving memory of Margaret Morton by Vann and Jody Langston.

In Honor of: Given By: George and Annette Barnes Mike and Paula Barnes Fannie Memory Mitchell The Bullard Family Clint and Betsy Neal ("Grandaddy and "Ma-ma") Maria, Tom, Katie, Ann, and Caroline Childrey The Formations class Tom and Maria Childrey Warren and Maureen Howell Tom and Maria Childey Catharine and Jerry Dudeck Their children, Tom, Kate, Joe, and Kirsten Their grandchildren, Olivia, Lotti, Chloe, and Remi Catharine and Jerry Dudeck Camden and Charlotte Sasser Diane Ellis **Greg Flowers** Marchelle Flowers Sonia Moore Greg and Marchelle Flowers Carolyn Crutchfield The Hager Family: Wayne, Karen, Matthew, Nathan, and Laura Nick, Lauren, Caroline, and Savannah Bradley Shirley and John Hobson Joan Hobson Shirley and John Hobson Their teachers John Hiott Fellowship Class Brenda Jordan Her son, Scott Harlow Fannie Memory Mitchell Brenda Jordan Fannie Memory Mitchell Lynn and Bill Loomis Lynn and Bill Loomis **FBC Choirs** Mr. and Mrs. T.A. Hopkins Sheila and Vance McDaniel Edith Simpson Sheila and Vance McDaniel Dr. Dan Day and Mary Carol Day Rachel Mullinax Hope Phillips Mary Barham Bonnie Baker Linda Sears The wonderful teachers we've had, especially

> Unity Sunday School class Beth, Rich, and Megan Wood

Linville Roach, John Smith, and Louis Meyer

Gladys Beane

In Memory of:	Given by:
Dr. John M. Lewis, Pastor Emeritus	Marie Andrews
Madge and O.H. Dillard	Marie Andrews
Annabel Knott	Crystal Bacon
Jerry T. Blanchard ("Daddy, Granddaddy	The Blanchards
Joe Overman ("Daddy, Papa")	The Blanchards
Glenn Davis ("Daddy")	Lindsey and Brantley Blanchard, Jr.
Sterling and Myra's parents	Sterling and Myra Brickell
Sterling's brother George Brickell	Sterling and Myra Brickell
Anna Helms	Sterling and Myra Brickell
Thornton Mitchell	The Bullard Family
Bob Parker	Janie, Jay, Claire, and Parker Carothers
Gia Belle Parker	Janie, Jay, Claire, and Parker Carothers
Robert Lewis	Maria, Tom, Katie, Ann, and Caroline Childrey
Charles and Katherine Childrey	
("Pop" and "Grandmama")	Maria, Tom, Katie, Ann, and Caroline Childrey
Jim Clary	Margaret Clary
The parents of Margaret and Jim Clary	Margaret Clary
Corbin and Nelson Cooper	Joann A. Cooper
Roberta and Bill Ray	Catharine and Jerry Dudeck
Lillian and Ray Dudeck	Catharine and Jerry Dudeck
H.F., Ginny, and Forest Flowers	Greg and Marchelle Flowers
Dick Moore	Greg and Marchelle Flowers
W. Randall Lolley	Pam Frey
Caralie Brown	Nancye Gaj
Steve Gaj	Nancye Gaj
Douglas and Evelyn Hager	The Hager Family: Wayne, Karen,
	Matthew, Nathan, and Laura
Dr. Graham Crutchfield	The Hager Family: Wayne, Karen,
	Matthew, Nathan, and Laura
Rev. Joy Crutchfield Hager	The Hager Family: Wayne, Karen,
	Matthew, Nathan, and Laura
Doris Frazier Baldwin	Ann Harris
Blayne Brown and Anna Helms	Chase and Jessica Helms
Scott Lingafelt, Harold Yelverton, and D	urwood Pegram Chase and Jessica Helms
Their deceased teachers	John Hiott Fellowship Class

:

Their parents and Adele Hite John and Sheila Hite Pauline Wilkins Garrard, Sam Garrard, and John Wilkins John and Shirley Hobson **Edward Hobson** John and Shirley Hobson Barbara Huggins and family Kay Huggins Carey Hunter Anne Hunter and their children Her parents, Mary Frances and Ernie Johnson **Emily Johnson** Her grandparents, Clarence and Emily Perry **Emily Johnson** Penny Frisbie **Emily Johnson** Her husband, John R. Jordan, Jr. Brenda Jordan Her mother, Sarah Williams Moore Brenda Jordan Lynn's parents, Wilton and Evelyn Wheeley Lynn and Bill Loomis Their parents Ron and Laura Maness Bill Simpson Sheila and Vance McDaniel Charlotte Womble Hope Phillips Tom Bray Hope Phillips Marion Johnson Hope Phillips Their parents Nancy and Bobby Phillips Kathy Mincey Dan Roberts Christy Alston Linda Roberts Maurice Baker Linda Sears Pat Motz-Frazier Mike and Courtney Selna Ted Selna Mike and Courtney Selna Howard Shell Frances Shell Aileen Simpson (the poinsettia is under her picture in the library) Edith and Steve Simpson Elmore Snead Brenda Snead Marianne Webb Joe Webb Her brother, William Titus Ward Jr. Mary Powell Ward White Lacy Beane Beth, Rich, and Megan Wood

