



And None
Shall be
Afraid

Our Worship of God

December 3, 2017

11:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

The First Sunday of Advent

∞ And None Shall Be Afraid ∞

Greeting

Pastor Carol McEntyre

Invitation to Worship

“Do Not Fear”

Prelude

Communion Noel

Guilmant

Call to Worship (responsive)

It doesn't matter whether or not you can have faith;
whether or not you are cynical or despairing,
hope-filled or hope-less:
what matters to God is simply that you are here.

We are entering the time of Advent,
in preparation for Christmas.

Advent reminds us that if God is to be born again
in the most ordinary parts of our world and our lives
that we need to prepare for it.

**We need to make the space in our lives
where hope might be born.**

Welcome to this tiny corner of a sometimes harsh and scary world.
Together, let us practice being ready
in the faith that Christ will come.

†Processional Hymn 133

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Stanzas 1, 3 and 5

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

The Meaning of Advent

Anthem

Comfort, Comfort

arr. Ferguson

*“Comfort, comfort now my people; tell of peace!” So says our God.
Comfort those who sit in darkness, mourning under sorrow’s load.
To God’s people now proclaim that God’s pardon waits for them!
Tell them that their war is over; God will reign in peace forever!*

*For the herald’s voice is crying in the desert far and near,
calling us to true repentance, since the Kingdom now is here.
Oh, that warning cry obey! Now prepare for God a way!
Let the valleys rise to meet him, and the hills bow down to greet him!*

*Straight shall be what long was crooked, and the rougher places plain!
Let your hearts be true and humble, as befits his holy reign!
For the glory of the Lord now on earth is shed abroad,
and all flesh shall see the token that God’s word is never broken.*

Hanging of the Greens

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the
weak shall be strong, and none shall be a -
fraid.

Lighting the First Candle of Advent (responsive)

Bill Tucker and
Rebekah Robertson

Hope. Hope nonetheless.

Hope despite.

Hope regardless.

Hope still.

Hope where we had ceased to hope.

Hope amid what threatens hope.

Hope with those who feed our hope.

Hope beyond what we had hoped.

Hope that draws us past our limits.

Hope that defies expectations.

Hope that questions what we have known.

Hope that makes a way where there is none.

Hope that takes us past our fear.

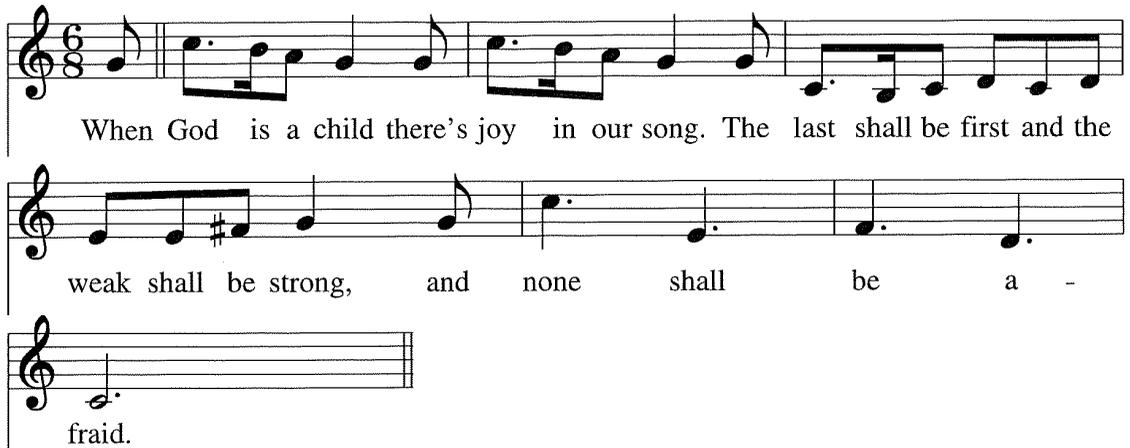
(Silent breath prayer from Psalm 118:6)

"The Lord is for me; I won't be afraid."

Hope calls us into life.

Hope holds us beyond death.

Hope blesses those to come.



When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

Gospel Reading

Jeremy Weingartner

Luke 1:5-17

In the days of King Herod of Judea, there was a priest named Zechariah, who belonged to the priestly order of Abijah. His wife was a descendant of Aaron, and her name was Elizabeth. Both of them were righteous before God, living blamelessly according to all the commandments and regulations of the Lord. But they had no children, because Elizabeth was barren, and both were getting on in years.

Once when he was serving as priest before God and his section was on duty, he was chosen by lot, according to the custom of the priesthood, to enter the sanctuary of the Lord and offer incense. Now at the time of the incense offering, the whole assembly of the people was praying outside. Then there appeared to him an angel of the Lord, standing at the right side of the altar of incense.

When Zechariah saw him, he was terrified; and fear overwhelmed him. But the angel said to him, "Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard. Your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you will name him John. You will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great in the sight of the Lord. He must never drink wine or strong drink; even before his

birth he will be filled with the Holy Spirit. He will turn many of the people of Israel to the Lord their God. With the spirit and power of Elijah he will go before him, to turn the hearts of parents to their children, and the disobedient to the wisdom of the righteous, to make ready a people prepared for the Lord.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Message

From Fear to Hope

Carol McEntyre

Observance of Holy Communion

Words of Invitation

In the beginning you set everything in motion,
Creator of heaven and earth.

With bold ingenuity you splashed the sky with light and stars,
sun and moon; wind and clouds, rainbows and wing-ed ones.

With a word you brought forth the waters, the waves, the mountains and valleys.
And you called forth our lives from the dust and called it good.

And so we proclaim this ancient song with all of the saints and angels:

Holy, holy, holy God!

God of power!

God of might!

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed are you!

Blessed are you!

You sent your Son, Jesus –

Your message-made-flesh to dwell among us:

Bringer of Hope, Prince of Peace,

Cup of Joy, Bread of Love.

Through Jesus you gave birth to your church
and sealed a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us,
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,
gave it to his disciples, and said:

“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the supper was over, he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**“Drink from this, all of you;
this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it,
In remembrance of me.”**

And so as we anticipate the birth of hope anew,
we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Touch us, O Spirit, with your transforming power.

Open us to your promise of resurrection from fear and death.

In partaking of these elements, make us a people ready as
your Body in and for an anxious world.

Let us become your messengers of hope in all that we say and do.

Make us one in this purpose, O God.

Amen.

The Bread Broken, The Cup Poured

†Advent Hymn 135

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory

Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming

arr. Bish

Advent Affirmation of Faith (unison)

*I believe in the spirit of Christmas,
for it is the spirit of our Lord Jesus Christ,
whose birth it celebrates;*

*I believe in the lights of Christmas,
for they remind me of Him who is the light of the world;*

*I believe in giving gifts at Christmas,
for Jesus said we must become children
to enter the kingdom of heaven.
And I believe in the angels' song about peace on earth
among persons of good will;
Lord, hasten its coming through me. Amen.*

†Benediction (responsive)

God go before you to lead you,
God go behind you to protect you,
God go beneath you to support you,
God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

May the blessing of God the Creator, Son,
and Holy Spirit be upon you.

Go in peace and love and serve the Lord.

Amen.

Postlude

O Come Emmanuel

arr. Held

Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 3

9:15 & 11:15 am Hanging of the Greens

4-4:50 pm First Kids Music

5:30-7 pm College/Young Adult Christmas Party

Fellowship Hall & Sanctuary

Sanctuary

McEntyre's House

Monday, December 4

9-10:30 am Senior Yoga

1-3:30 pm Staff Meeting

5:30-6:30 pm Finance Committee Meeting

Parlor

Conference Room

Conference Room

Tuesday, December 5

11:45 am-2 pm Crafty Critters

5:30-6:30 pm Nominations Committee Meeting

E2

Conference Room

Wednesday, December 6

6:15-7:15 pm The Calling for Youth

5:30 pm Psalm Players Rehearsal

6:30 pm Chancel Bells Rehearsal

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Youth Suite

Sanctuary

Sanctuary

Sanctuary

Thursday, December 7

6:30-7:30 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Saturday, December 9

9:30-11 am First Kids Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Sunday, December 10

5 pm Christmas Dinner

Fellowship Hall

Announcements

First Kids Music

We have one more Sunday rehearsal today at 4 pm to prepare for “Breaking News,” the Christmas drama to be presented at the church-wide Christmas dinner on Sunday, December 10. Children from age 4 through grade 5 are welcome to join the fun. Please note there will be a special rehearsal Saturday morning, December 9, from 9:30-11 am in the Fellowship Hall.

Christmas Dinner

Sunday evening, December 10 from 5-8 pm is First Baptist’s annual Christmas dinner. Come prepared for a lovely meal with turkey, ham, and beverages provided by the church, and wonderful side dishes and desserts prepared by you and your First Baptist friends. Our dinner this year will feature “Breaking News!,” the Christmas story as presented by First Kids.

Staff Open House

On Wednesday, December 20 from 3-6 pm the First Baptist staff is hosting an open house at the home of Michael and Carol McEntyre at 1604 Brady Place. As a staff, we feel grateful to serve at First Baptist. This is our way of saying “thank you!” Thank you, First Baptist, for being so good to us and for making our job easy!

Christmas Eve Worship

The ultimate celebration will be the Christmas Eve worship service, the most beautiful hour of the year. We celebrate the coming of Christ with the singing of carols, the telling of the Christmas story, and the tradition of sharing the light with candles to the strains of “Silent Night.” The service is a wonderful “homecoming” for all. It’s also the easiest time to invite others to worship with you, so bring family and friends to join the worship in the sanctuary at 11 pm.

VAC Family Sponsorship

Voluntary Action Center (VAC) is a non-profit that exists to help low-income individuals and families bridge the gaps between crisis and stability and improve quality of life in Boone County. Each year VAC coordinates the collection and distribution of food and gifts for approximately 4,000 people during the holiday season.

First Baptist is participating in the VAC holiday program by sponsoring 3 families. In addition to toys, books, and games, families often receive needed clothing and household supplies through this program. The cards listing the items that our families have requested are located on the bulletin board, in the hallway, outside the Sanctuary. Get involved by choosing an item that you would like to donate, take the card, bring item back wrapped with the card attached to the outside of the package.

If you aren't able to go shopping but would still like to help, you can make a donation to First Baptist Church with "VAC Family Christmas" in the memo line. Gifts will be collected through December 10. If you have any questions, you can contact Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Young Adults, and Missions, at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org.

Columbia Handbells Winter Concerts

The nationally recognized Columbia Handbells are back on stage for their annual crowd pleasing Winter Concerts, Friday, December 8 at 7:00 pm and Tuesday, December 12 at 7:00 pm in the First Baptist Fellowship Hall. The group will be presenting a terrific concert of songs about peace, seasonal carols, a sing-a-long, and of course, the famous bell carol – "Hark, hear the bells..." Tickets are \$7 in advance, \$10 at the door, and only \$1 for kids 12 and under.

2018 Pledges

If you have not yet been able to return your pledge for 2018, pledge cards are available at each entrance of our worship spaces.

Worship Notes

The Call to Worship was written by Cheryl Lawrie and posted on [**hold this space**].

<http://holdthisspace.org.au/all-of-who-we-are/>

Do Not Fear (music) WORDS: Brian Wren (1936-). MUSIC: John Carter (1930-). Words © 1989 Hope Publishing Company. Music © 1998 Hope Publishing Company.

The Advent candle lighting reading was written by Jan L. Richardson, and posted on **The Painted Prayerbook**. <http://paintedprayerbook.com/>.

The Words of Invitation for Communion are from a © 2017 compilation worshipdesignstudio.com/angels.

The Benediction was written by Cornelius “Neal” Plantinga Jr. president emeritus of Calvin Theological Seminary.

Jeremy Weingartner is our scripture reader today. Jeremy and his wife Andrea joined First Baptist in 2002, and were married in the church in 2003. Jeremy graduated from the University of Missouri with a BA in English and History, but is now pursuing an Associates of the Arts in Mechatronics at Moberly Area Community College. Andrea received her PhD in American History from the University of Missouri in 2013 and now teaches history at MACC full time. They have two children; Jonah is 5 and in kindergarten, and Marley is a busy 2 year old.



11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more contemporary worship experience, First Baptist Church offers Awakening Contemporary Worship at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday in the Fellowship Hall.

For Children During Worship:

1st- 5th Graders are encouraged to participate in worship with their family.

Children (Birth-Kindergarten) can be dropped off in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary, prior to worship where they will be cared for by our professional staff.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

Birth-Age 3 childcare is provided by our professional staff in the nursery, located next to the sanctuary.

First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups which dive into various topics (visitors and guests welcomed):

Faith Forum in the second floor classroom, next to the elevator.

Discussion Class in the parlor on the second floor.

Young Adult Small Group in the 2nd floor library.

Women's Small Group in the hospitality room off the sanctuary.

1112 E. Broadway | 573-442-1149 | www.fbc-columbia.org

Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and young Adults, and Missions

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident

Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Jess Wolfe, Child Development Center Director

Janet Deneke, Admin. Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator

Bethany James, Nursery Director † Jason Bell, Custodian