

Calm

and



Bright



† Processional Hymn 131

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Stanzas 1, 3, and 5

(Please turn to face the cross as it enters)

Lighting of the Second Advent Candle (responsive)

Kathy Emerson,
Hugh and Andy Emerson

We continue this season of waiting by lighting the second candle, anticipating the light of the star that shone over Bethlehem for all to see.

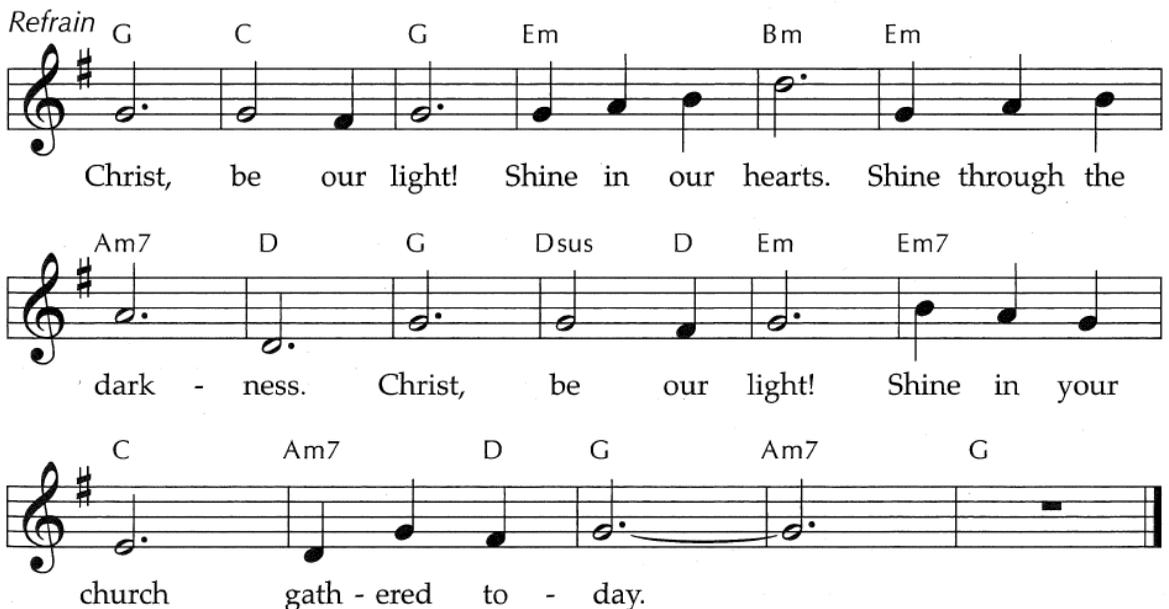
Wondrous God, we open ourselves to hear your call of belonging today, to become those who not only *see* the joy all around us, but can also *be* joy, and *bring* joy, to all around us—in our lives, our families, our communities, and our world.

**Fill us with your peace and light,
make the world so calm and bright.**

Congregational Response

Christ Be Our Light

Refrain



Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts. Shine through the
dark - ness. Christ, be our light! Shine in your
church gath - ered to - day.

†Passing the Peace of Christ

Psalm Players

Gloria

Mozart/Allen

Gospel Reading

Lili Vianello

Luke 2:8-20

In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, “Glory to God in the highest heaven,
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, “Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to Christ.

Prayers of the People

(As part of the prayer, you are invited to come to the front of the sanctuary
and light a candle for someone or something
in thanksgiving for that which brings you joy.)

Psalm Players

See Amid the Winters Snow

arr. Watson

Response to the light (unison)

**Wrap them in your love
Guide them with your holy light.**

Message

Joyous Belonging

Pastoral Resident,
Brittany McDonald Null

†Hymn of Response 173

O Come, All Ye Faithful

†Offertory Sentence

Offertory Anthem

Silent Night
Maddie Page, Soloist

Trotta

†Benediction (unison)

**Go with God into this day
May the Spirit guide your way
Offer joy to all you greet
Like Christ, see God in all you meet.**

Week at a Glance

Sunday, December 9

3:00 pm Columbia Handbells 30th Anniversary Concert

Sanctuary

4:00 pm First Kids' Music

Sanctuary

5:00-7:00 pm College/Young Adult Christmas Party

McEntyre's House

Monday, December 10

9-10:30 Senior Yoga

Parlor

1-3 pm Staff meeting

Library

5:30-7:00 pm Church Council Meeting

Conference Room

Tuesday, December 11

11:45 am – 2 pm Crafty Critters

E2

Wednesday, December 12

5:30 pm Psalm Players Rehearsal

Sanctuary

6 pm The Calling for Youth

Youth Suite

6:30 pm Chancel Bells Rehearsal

Sanctuary

7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal

Sanctuary

Thursday, December 13

6 pm Praise Band Rehearsal

Fellowship Hall

Announcements

Advent 2018 – Calm and Bright

Something holy takes place each Christmas Eve at First Baptist when we gather at 11 pm for worship. For our final act of worship, we surround the sanctuary with candlelight and sing together the beautiful carol, “Silent Night.” This year marks the 200th anniversary of the writing of this carol, and in commemoration, we have designed our Advent theme around the words, “Calm and Bright.” In our Advent worship we will explore the implications of a world that finds peace in Christ and of a world that radiates the light of Christ’s presence. Join us as we wait the coming of Christ’s light and the dawn of redeeming grace.

Christmas Dinner, Sunday, December 16

You are invited to celebrate the season with us Sunday evening, December 16 beginning at 5:00pm for 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 (ugly Christmas outfits are encouraged).

Contemplative Advent Small Group

This Advent Brittany McDonald Null, Pastoral Resident, will be leading a contemplative small group during the 10:15am Spiritual Formation hour. During the small group, they will engage in the spiritual practices of Lectio Divina and centering prayer and have conversations about contemplative living. For more information or to sign up contact Brittany at bnull@fbc-columbia.org

VAC Holiday Gift Program

Through the Voluntary Action Center Holiday Gift Program, First Baptist adopts several families who need help with Christmas gifts. All gifts should be brought back to church today. They will be going to VAC on Monday for distribution to families for Christmas.

Columbia Handbells Ensemble Winter Concert

The Columbia Handbells Ensemble will be holding their winter concert at First Baptist Church on Sunday, December 9 at 3:00pm in the Sanctuary. They will be performing some selections with the Columbia Youth Chorus. Tickets are \$7.00 in advance, \$10.00 at the door, and \$1.00 for children under 12. Contact Ed Rollins or Noah Hartsfield for tickets and more information.

Blue Christmas

Christmas can be a painful time for some. It may be the first Christmas without a loved one; it may be a time that has always been difficult. Though the Christmas season is often marked with expressions of excitement and joy, we want to recognize that for many, this season evokes a lot of pain and grieving. The anguish of broken relationships, the insecurity of unemployment, the weariness of ill health, the pain of isolation – these can all make us feel alone in the midst of celebration. We need space and time to acknowledge our sadness and grief; we need to know and see that we are not alone.

For these reasons, we are offering a special Blue Christmas service on Friday, December 21 at 6:30pm in the Fellowship Hall. Join us in sharing prayers, scripture, and music that remind us that God's presence is with those who mourn, now and always.

Christmas Poinsettia Honors and Memorials

Joe & Oleta Forsee in honor of our children.

Robert & Marilyn Zumwalt in honor of Rob, Jaime, Sophia & William Zumwalt.

Ed & Betty Felts in memory of our parents, Doil & Adalene Felts, and Buford & Opal Butler.

Gil & Donna Ross in honor of our new great-grandson, Westley Reddick.

Khaki Westerfield in honor of Jim & Miriam Butt, and the Yasuda family.

Kee & Diana Groshong in memory of Kee H. and Susan E. Groshong, Floyd and Helen Reese, Geraldine Reese Martin, Ellen Martin Mottaz, and Mrs. Dorothy Holliday. In honor of Reese, Susan, Natasha, and Thomas Groshong, Lisa Groshong and Trevor Harris.

Michael & Cheryl Brewer in honor of Michael's big birthday this season and in memory of all those who lost their lives on Earth sadly and senselessly this year.

Pam Humphreys in honor of my mother, Edna Humphreys, and in memory of Jone Huggins.

Gary & Colleen Ostercamp in honor of the music ministry of Neil & Whitney Ostercamp in St. Louis.

Ken & Sue Hammann in memory of Louis & Margaret Hammann, and Paul & Leona Zorich.

Paula & Mark Thomas in memory of Andy Thomas, and Helen & Ray Abell.

Norma Katt in memory of my father and mother, Fred & Dolly Corse.

The Little Family in memory of Jim Guthrie.

Jim & Verna Rhodes in honor of the families of Koge Yasuda and in memory of Jone Huggins.

Jim & Judy Elliot in honor of the McEntyre's, and in honor of Ed Rollins and Colleen Ostercamp.

Pat & Diane Fowler in memory of Nat Fowler and in memory of Howard Apgur.

The Tratchel Family in memory of Evan Tratchel and in memory of Jimmy Jones.

Dell Keepers in memory of George Keepers.

Margaret Sullivan in memory of so many Sullivan's that have passed.

Marlene White in memory of Jone Huggins.

Deb Carr, Ed Rollins, and Pat Breece in memory of Ryan Stoll.

John & Sandy Hall in memory of Robert Hall, Paul Weber Jr., Daniel Cookson, Roy Cookson, and Betty Cookson.

Worship Notes

Christ, Be Our Light, Bernadette Farrell, © 1993, published by OCP

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Thank you for worshipping with us today! If you wish to share this worship experience with a neighbor, the service is broadcast live, and the sermon is available on our website within a week.



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 years old 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):

Discussion Class in the Parlor on the second floor

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

Connections Group in the second floor library.

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, *Shelby Myers*, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director

Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist, *Jess Wolfe*, Child Development Center Assistant

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant, *Bethany James*, Nursery Director

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, *Michael Ide*, Custodian