

# First Baptist Church at Worship

## The First Sunday of Advent

November 27, 2016  
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

### *Gathering*

Greeting

Paul Sims

Organ Voluntary    *The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns*    by Sam Batt Owens  
*Hail Christ the Lord! Your people pray, come quickly, King of kings!*  
text is that of hymn 97

Lighting the Candle of Hope

Alex Lockridge

*The first Advent candle denotes hope, not in expectation of the temporary,  
not in reliance on the unreliable, nor through faith in the fickle,  
but hope in the eternal promises of God. Here glows a light for hope.  
You see a candle of hope burning; what is your response?*  
***A Savior was prophesied, a Deliverer was promised,  
a King is anticipated, a Messiah is awaited.***  
*Our hope is in God who keeps every promise.*

+Hymn 79

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

VENI EMMANUEL

+Prayer of the Day

Paul Sims

*... and make us ready for the hope of your coming;  
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.*

+Response

HYFRYDOL

***Come, Thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart. Amen.***

- Charles Wesley, 18<sup>th</sup> century

# The Word

Children's Sermon

Larry Gray

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 2:1-5

Paul Sims

*The word of the Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

Psalm 122

setting by the Hal Hopson



*With joy I heard my friends exclaim: "Come, let us in God's temple meet;"*

*Within your gates, O Zion blest shall ever stand our willing feet.*

*Come, let us go to the house of the Lord. **REFRAIN***

*They come to learn the will of God, to pay their vows God's grace to own,*

*For there is judgment's royal seat, Messiah's sure and lasting throne.*

*Come, let us go to the house of the Lord. **REFRAIN***

*For Zion's peace let prayers be made; may all that love you prosper well!*

*Within your walls let peace abide, and gladness with your children dwell.*

*Come, let us go to the house of the Lord. **REFRAIN***

*For love of friends and kindred dear, my heart's desire is Zion's peace,*

*And for the house of God, the Lord, my loving care shall never cease.*

*Come, let us go to the house of the Lord. **REFRAIN***

*- The Psalter, 1912*

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 24:36-44

Alex Lockridge

*The Gospel of our Lord*

***Thanks be to God***

Anthem

***Keep Your Lamps***

setting by Andre Thomas

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, ... the time is drawing nigh.*

*Children, don't get weary, ... the time is drawing nigh.*

*Christian, journey soon be over, ... the time is drawing nigh.*

*- African-American spiritual*

Sermon

**"In Days to Come"**

Alex Lockridge

# Responding

+Hymn

*The Days Are Surely Coming*

AURELIA

If you wish to present yourself for membership today, or if you have another decision to share, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

*The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth,  
When you will see My promise: salvation come to birth.  
My righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land  
And you will be delivered by My almighty hand.*

*The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one,  
When you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.  
Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear,  
For I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.*

*The days are surely coming when we will know at last  
The fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass.  
Then righteousness and justice will spread throughout the land  
And we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.*

- David Gambrell, 21<sup>st</sup> century

+Offertory Prayer

Cierra Ledford

Loose change received in November will benefit our Shoebox ministry,  
which will be distributed through Operation Christmas Child and Olive Branch Ministries.

Offertory Anthem     *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*     by Kathleen Thomerson

*I want to walk as a child of the light. I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world. The star of my life is Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.  
I want to see the brightness of God. I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.  
I'm looking for the coming of Christ. I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race, we shall know the joy of Jesus.  
In him there is no darkness at all. The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

- 20<sup>th</sup> century

Prayers of the People

Alex Lockridge

## 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; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

## +Doxology for Advent

VENI EMMANUEL

*To You, O Christ, all glory be, whose advent sets Your people free;  
Whom, with the Father, we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore;  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## Sending

## +Hymn

*Christ Is Coming! Let Creation*

CWM RHONDDA

*Christ is coming! Let creation bid her groans and travail cease;  
Let the glorious proclamation hope restore and faith increase;  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, O blessed Prince of Peace!  
Come, O blessed Prince of Peace!  
With that "blessed hope" before us, let no harp remain unstrung;  
Let the mighty advent chorus onward roll from tongue to tongue:  
Christ is coming! Christ is coming! Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!  
Come, Lord Jesus, quickly come!*

- John MacDuff, 19<sup>th</sup> century

## +Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Paul Sims

## Organ Postlude

*Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord* by Charles Callahan

+all who are able may stand  
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Gayle Majors, Organist      Ann Hacker, Pianist  
Lexi Petrey, acolyte

*The Advent wreath is given in loving memory of  
Felix and Mattie Pace  
Leonard and Marie Leake  
by  
Kevin and Sherry Pace  
Daniel, Lindsay, Jackson and Harrison Lowe*