

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Greeting Austin Carty

Organ Voluntary *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* setting by Karl Osterland

Call to Worship Paul Sims

*There will be a highway in the wilderness,
a holy path for the people of God.
The messenger of God prepares the way.
Let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

+Hymn 102 *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* ANTIOCH

+Prayer of the Day Austin Carty

... and the journey of God's people will be joy. Amen.

+Response *Strengthen All the Weary Hands* setting by Don Brandon

1. *Strengthen all the weary hands, steady all the trembling knees, and say to all faint hearts:
Courage, courage, do not be afraid.*
2. *Waters flow in the wilderness, streams break forth amid arid deserts, burning sands turn to pools.
Be strong, fear not, for your God is near.*
3. *Then the ransomed shall return, they shall come to Zion with singing. Joy shall crown their heads.
Sorrow, sighing, all shall flee away.*
4. *Let the wilderness be glad, and the desert burst into blossom, dance and sing for joy!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!*



Cour - age, cour - age, do not be a - fraid.
Be strong, fear not, for your God is near.
Sor - row, sigh - ing, all shall flee a - way.
Hal - le - lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah!

- Martie McMane

The Word

Children's Sermon

April Carty

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 35

Austin Carty

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalms 146

CAROL

Come praise the Lord with all our lives, sing thanks and praise each day.

No other one is worth our hope, for God alone can save.

How blest are those who hope in You, Creator of all things.

You heal the sick, You feed the poor, Your presence justice brings.

The blind find sight, the fallen hope, You set the prisoner free.

You give the homeless living space, but fell the proud like trees.

Your reign, O Lord, will never end. How can we count its days?

All generations young and old shall live to sing Your praise.

- Fred Anderson

A Reading from the Epistles: James 5:7-10

Paul Sims

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Response

While We Are Waiting, Come

by Don Cason

While we are wait - ing, come; while we are wait - ing, come.
With power and glo - ry, come; with power and glo - ry, come.
Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come; come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come.

- Claire Cloninger

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 11:2-11

Austin Carty

The Gospel of our Lord

Thanks be to God

+Response

AURELIA

*"Are you the one," they asked him, "the one who is to come?
Or must we go on waiting for God's own Promised One?"
He gave John's friends an answer, so simple, yet profound.
"See for yourself," said Jesus, "the signs are all around.
"A lame man's bed is empty, he danced with joy today;
A beggar's cup unneeded, for she can see her way;
The leper's bell discarded, no longer cause for fear;
An ear long tuned to silence now suddenly can hear!
"Tell John what you have witnessed; go tell him what you've heard:
The sick and poor in spirit accept God's living Word.
And blest are those who love me, who doubt and yet believe,
Who hope and wait, expecting Love's blessings to receive."*

- Mary Nelson Keitham

Sermon

"What You See and Hear"

Austin Carty

Responding

+Hymn

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

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.

*O for a thousand tongues to sing my great Redeemer's praise,
The glories of my God and King, the triumphs of his grace!
The name of Jesus calms our fears and bids our sorrows cease;
'Tis music in the sinner's ears, 'tis life and health and peace.
He speaks, and, listening to his voice, new life the dead receive;
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice; the humble poor believe.
Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones, your loosened tongues employ;
You blind, behold your Savior come; and leap, you lame, for joy!
To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
By saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.*

- Charles Wesley

+Offertory Prayer

Sherry Pace

All loose change received in December will benefit our church's benevolence ministries

Offertory Anthem

Prepare the Way of the Lord

by William Rowan

*Prepare the way of the Lord! Make straight his path.
Every valley shall be exalted, every hill made low;
And the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain.
And the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all mankind shall see it together.*

- from Isaiah 40

Prayers of the People

Austin Carty

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

+Commission and Blessing

Austin Carty and Paul Sims

Organ Postlude

Partita on 'God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen'

by David Lasky

+all who are able may stand

Music reprinted under OneLicense.net Number A-722512

Gayle Majors, Organist

Ann Hacker, Pianist

Lorin Leake, cantor

James Ring, 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