

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2016

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gather in God's Name

Greeting

Austin Carty

Organ Voluntary

O Little Town of Bethlehem

setting by Larry Wolz

... how still we see thee lie...

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Alex Lockridge

*The second Advent candle denotes peace, not the cessation of conflict,
not the absence of suffering, nor the loss of struggle, but the saving peace of God
in the midst of everything. Here glows a light for peace.*

You see a candle of peace burning; what is your response?

God does not give peace like the world gives.

God's peace passes understanding.

God's peace exists in the midst of turmoil.

God's peace forgets what it forgives and lives to save.

Our peace is in God who first loved us.

+Hymn 83

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

HYFRYDOL

+Prayer of the Day

Paul Sims

... that shoots of peace may spring forth so that we may live in harmony.

Amen.

+Response

ANTIOCH

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;

He come to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found

- Isaac Watts, 18th century

Proclaim God's Word

Children's Sermon

Alex Lockridge

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-10

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalm 72

setting by Hal Hopson



All hail to God's anointed, great David's greater Son!

All hail, in time appointed, Your reign on earth begun!

You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,

*To take away transgression and rule with equity. **REFRAIN***

You shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth,

And love and hope, like flowers, spring in Your path to birth:

Before You on the mountains shall peace, the herald, go,

*And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow. **REFRAIN***

- James Montgomery, 19th century

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 3:1-12

Austin Carty

The Gospel of our Lord

Thanks be to God

Anthem

Prepare!

by Allen Pote

Prepare the way of the Lord!

For God has chosen to come to earth, joining the human race.

Born a child in holy birth, taking a human face.

His name shall be Emmanuel, the baby born in the night.

God will be revealed in us. Piercing the darkness with light.

- 20th century

Sermon

“The Way of the Lord”

Austin Carty

Give Thanks to God

+Hymn

Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

HYMN TO JOY

Christians all, your Lord is coming, hope for peace is now at hand.

Let there be no hesitation, walk in faith where life demands.

Bear the word that God has given; share the birth that stirs your soul.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ will come and make you whole.

Christians all, your Lord is coming, calling you to serve in deed.

See the ones who hurt and suffer, hear their cry and act with speed.

Set all selfish ways behind you. Purge your hearts of sinful greed.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ in you will meet their need.

Christians all, your Lord is coming, he will rise up from the dead.

Lift the cup, of sin forgiven; bless the cup and break the bread.

Mend the ways where peace is broken, give yourselves to true Shalom.

Alleluia! Alleluia! Dwell as one in church and home.

- Jim Miller, 20th century

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Austin Carty and Alex Lockridge

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

(the Prayer of Thanksgiving continues)

Even so, come, Lord Jesus! Amen.

Breaking the Bread

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, 20th century

Sharing the Cup

An Advent Prayer

by Allen Pote

Come, holy Jesus, come to free us from our sin. Come, holy Jesus, and make us pure within.

Inspire each heart with illumined surprise, enkindle a flame anew.

Increase our faith and strengthen our lives, show us the joy of living life in you.

- 20th century

+The Peace

Paul Sims

The peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

+Hymn 256

We Are People of God's Peace TEMPUS ADEST FLORIDUM

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.

+Offertory Prayer

Elizabeth Reese

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

*"And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth,
and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn." (Luke 2:7)*

Organ Offertory

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

setting by Alice Jordan

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, the Rose I have in mind:

With Mary we behold it, the virgin mother kind.

To show God's love aright she bore to us a Savior, when half-spent was the night.

- 15th century German carol

+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.

Go in God's Name

+Hymn 562

Soon and Very Soon

SOON AND VERY SOON

+Commission and Blessing

Austin Carty and Alex Lockridge

Organ Postlude

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

setting by Anne A. Davis

... glory to the newborn King; peace on earth ...

+all who are able may stand

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Gayle Majors, Organist Ann Hacker, Pianist

Brooke Litteral, acolyte