



First Baptist Church

J E F F E R S O N C I T Y T E N N E S S E E

December 24, 2023

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

10:45 am

Fourth Sunday in Advent--LOVE/CHRIST

Welcome/Opportunities for Service/Invocation Chad Hartsock

Prelude *Silent Night* arr. Dobrinski

Handbells: Julia Bass, Rachel Bass, Thomas Bass, Kaylin Hartsock, Steven Lloyd,
Kristi Sanford, Addison Snyder, Caroline Snyder, Noah Snyder; Angie France, director

Call to Worship—Light of LOVE Reading Thomas Bass and Pam Hester

Advent Wreath Lighting— Kevin, Bethany, Catherine, and Owen Davenport,
Bruce and Donna Davenport

Hymns of LOVE *Away in a Manger* arr. Hayes

Love Came Down at Christmas

Julia and Thomas Bass, Grayson and Pam Hester; Melanie Simpson, piano

Love came down at Christmas,

Love all lovely, love divine.

Love was born at Christmas,

Star and angels gave the sign.

Love was born at Christmas

in a simple cattle stall.

Love is born this Christmas

in the hearts of one and all.

Love be our example,
love be yours and love be mine;

love for one another

with the love of God divine.

*Hymn 80

Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love

BAUGH

Prayer of the People

Ricke Hester

Prayer Response 81 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* (verse 1 only)

PICARDY

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

And with fear and trembling stand

Ponder nothing earthly minded

For with blessing in His hand

Christ our God to earth descendeth

Our full homage to demand

Offertory Prayer Bruce Davenport
Offertory *Joseph's Lullaby* Berry
Sermon Scripture Reading Luke 1:26-38 Donna Davenport

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Hymn of Mary 91 *My Soul Proclaims with Wonder* WALNUT
Sermon ***Finding Christmas in An Unexpected Place: Mary*** Mike Wilkins
Light of CHRIST Reading Thomas Bass and Pam Hester
Advent Wreath Lighting— Ann Porter and Linda Heffner
*Hymn of Christmas *Silent Night, Holy Night* arr. Hayes
(please follow the text below)

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night holy night,
Son of God, love's pure light,
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.

Silent night, holy night,
Fill our hearts with Thy light.

In the darkness may we shine
With the promise of love divine;
Light of heaven on earth,
Light of heaven on earth.
Silent night! Holy night!
Wondrous star, lend thy light;
with the angels let us sing
“Alleluia” to our King:
“Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!”

Preparing to Depart

We Bring His Light

Purifoy

Rachel Bass, solo, Julia Bass, flute, and Thomas Bass, piano
(Please remain seated and reflect on our worship together.)

We bring light to all the world today,
light that will shine in your hearts.
Take this light of peace to all humankind,
It is Christmas, we bring Christmas,
God is with us, we bring His light.
We bring light to worship Christ our King,
Light that gives joy to the world.
Unto us is born a Child of hope,
He will teach us, He will save us,
He will love us, we bring His light.
We bring light to show the way of truth,
Truth that will now set all free.
All the love of God has come to us in a Savior,
Christ our Savior,
He is with us, we bring His light
We bring light to all the world today,
light that will shine in your hearts.
Take this light of peace to all humankind,
It is Christmas, we bring Christmas,
God is with us, we bring His light

*Departing

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
that Jesus Christ is born

*Benediction

Mike Wilkins

*If you can do so, please stand for this portion of the worship service.

CCLI #120972

THE COMING WEEK AT FBC

Monday, December 25—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, December 26

Wednesday, December 27

No church activities

Thursday, December 28—Church Office Closed

Friday, December 29—Church Office Closed

Sunday, December 31

10:00am Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Sanctuary

10:45am Worship Service/Sanctuary or Facebook and YouTube

10:45am Children's Bible Study/Birth-K Room
119, 1st-5th grade-Room 218

Monday, January 1—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2—Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 3

7:00pm Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Music Suite

Thursday, January 4

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

6:00pm Common Prayer & Bible Study/Music Suite

Friday, January 5—Church Office Closed

Sunday, January 7

10:00am Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Sanctuary

10:45am Worship Service/Sanctuary or Facebook and YouTube

10:45am Children's Bible Study/Birth-K Room
119, 1st-5th grade-Room 218

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

Welcome to First Baptist Church! Our membership is open to all persons regardless of race, social status, gender, and sexual identity and affirms our motto, "Breaking down barriers to proclaim the love of Christ".

CHURCH STAFF

Sierra Bevins, Ministry Assistant

Angie France, Organist

Rev. Josh Gibson, Administrative Coordinator

Dr. Chad Hartsock, Interim Minister for Students

Steven Lloyd, Custodian

Rev. Nenetie Measels, Interim Minister of Music

Cameron Rowlett, Video Editor

Gage Rustin, Youth Intern

Melanie Simpson, Pianist

Dr. Mike Wilkins, Interim Pastor

CONTACT US

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Phone: (865) 475-3826 | website: www.fbcjeff.org

Church Office Hours: Monday – Thursday, 8:30am—4:30pm, closed on Friday

Secure online giving: <https://onrealm.org/fbcjeff/give/now>

Follow us on *Facebook* and *YouTube*

Deacons & Minister of the Week:

Bruce Davenport & Jim Wilson / Chad Hartsock