



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 31, 2023

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

10:45 am

Christmastide

Welcome/Opportunities for Service/Invocation Chad Hartsock

Prelude *O Come All Ye Faithful* arr. Kelveren

Call to Worship *Who Could've Dreamed* arr. Duren
Worship Ensemble

Who could have dreamed a night so sacred,
with all the wonder it could bring?
Who could have known a simple, lowly, manger
would be a throne room for a King?
Who could have dreamed this newborn Baby
had come to earth to save us all?
Whose hands once hung the stars and knows them by name?
Whose feet once walked down heaven's halls?
Such holy love, such wondrous grace;
such majesty now born into an unexpected place.
Silent night, so glorious;
who could have dreamed this Child would be God with us?
Who could have dreamed this Savior sleeping
had come to earth to pay the highest cost?
Who could have looked into that holy stable
and seen the shadow of the cross?
Such holy love, such wondrous grace;
such majesty now born into an unexpected place.
Silent night, so glorious;
who could have dreamed this Child would be God with us?
God with us.

Responsive Reading 101 *A Child Is Born for Us* Ray Lloyd and People

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

(Children meet your leader at the front of the sanctuary for Bible Study)

Prayer of Confession (based on Colossians 3:12-17) Mike Wilkins and People

Leader: God of love, in gratitude for your gracious deeds, we look to the coming new year for renewal.

All: You have made us your children; now we ask for your help in turning our lives toward you. Make us thankful people, praising you in all we do.

Leader: Free us to sing with joy the psalms and hymns of praise.

All: Teach us to forgive others as Christ forgives us.

Leader: Show us the way of compassion, kindness, and patience.

All: Give us grace to let the peace of Christ live in our hearts. We pray in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

Prayer Response 107 *O Little Town of Bethlehem (verse 4 only)* ST. LOUIS

O holy Child of Bethlehem
Descend to us we pray
Cast out our sin and enter in
Be born in us today
We hear the Christmas angels
The great glad tidings tell
O come to us abide with us
Our Lord Emmanuel

Musical Offering *The Star Carol* Hutson/Burt

Lucy Wilkins, solo; Melanie Simpson, piano

Long years ago on a deep winter night,
High in the heavens a star shone bright,
While in a manger a wee baby lay,
Sweetly asleep on a bed of hay.

Jesus, the Lord was that Baby so small,
Laid down to sleep in a humble stall;
Then came the star and it stood over head,
Shedding its light 'round His little bed.

Dear Baby Jesus, how tiny Thou art,
I'll make a place for Thee in my heart,
And when the stars in the heavens I see,
Ever and always I'll think of Thee.

Offertory Prayer Ray Dalton

Offertory *There's a Song in the Air* Held

*Hymn of Christmastide 145	<i>Star-Child</i>	STAR-CHILD
Sermon	<i>Good News for a New Year</i>	Mike Wilkins
*Hymn of Commitment 148	<i>What Child Is This</i>	GREENSLEEVES
Preparing to Depart	<i>See Amid the Winter's Snow</i>	arr. Wagner
	(Please remain seated and reflect on our worship together.)	
Departing	<i>The Work of Christmas</i> Worship Ensemble	Forrest

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flock,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost, to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry, to release the pris'ner,
to rebuild the nations;
to bring peace among us all,
to make music from the heart.

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flock,
the work of Christmas begins.

*Benediction		Mike Wilkins
*If you can do so, please stand for this portion of the worship service.		CCLI #120972

**Reprinted by permission from *Season of Light and Hope: Prayers and Liturgies for Advent and Christmas*, by Blair Gilmer Meeks, Abingdon Press, Nashville, 2005.

Deacons & Minister of the Week: Ray Dalton & Betty Watkins / Nenetta Measels

THE COMING WEEK AT FBC

Monday, January 1—Church Office Closed

Tuesday, January 2—Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 3

No WNS or Common Prayer

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

Monday, January 8

8:00pm Upper Room Ladies Bible Study/Zoom

Tuesday, January 9

10:00am Tuesday's Neighbors/Parlor

1:00pm Staff Meeting/Parlor

Wednesday, January 10

5:00pm Youth Gathering/214

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

6:45pm Chancel Ensemble Rehearsal/Music Suite

7:15pm Budget & Finance Committee Meeting/Parlor

Thursday, January 11

8:30am Men's Breakfast/Bojangles, Jefferson City

2:00pm Senior Fellowship Team Meeting/301

Friday, January 12—Church Office Closed

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

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

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