

honest advent

2022 Advent Worship Series



Our Worship of God

November 27, 2022

9:15 am

(† Indicates those who are able, please stand)

Welcome

Pastor Carol McEntyre

†Call to Worship (responsive)

The story begins again!

Creation waits with expectancy for the arrival of a child.

This is an honest Advent,

One of pregnant teenagers and crying babies.

This is an honest Advent,

One of vulnerability, love, and participation.

This is an honest Advent,

One of mystery and grace.

So come, full of wonder, as we encounter the God who was, who is,
and is to come.

†Opening Song

Glory in the Highest

Blessing of the Christmas Tree

God who created all things, bless this tree as we decorate it and make it a joyful symbol for our Fellowship Hall. May its branches remind us of the shelter and shade you provide for us and for many creatures. May its trunk remind us of your strength. May its lights bring us peace. May we remember your gift to us this season, the gift of baby Jesus, Amen.

†Hanging of the Green

Scripture Reading

Adam Buckallew

Isaiah 9:6-7

For a child has been born for us,
a son given to us;
authority rests upon his shoulders,
and he is named
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Great will be his authority,
and there shall be endless peace
for the throne of David and his kingdom.
He will establish and uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.
The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Jennifer & Matt Boyer
Ellie & Emily

O God, today we light the first candle of Advent with hope.

We crave an honest Advent.

We know that real connection requires vulnerability.

**And so we are here as our whole selves,
full of expectancy and wonder.**

We remember the times we have waited for you to be present with us
and our world.

We are waiting for you now.

In the waiting and in the unknowing, we hope to
encounter your great mystery.

O come, O come Emmanuel, illuminate our lives.

†Song of Advent

O Come, Come Emmanuel

Scripture Reading

Adam Buckallew

Philippians 2:5-11

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus,
who, though he existed in the form of God,
did not regard equality with God
as something to be grasped,
but emptied himself,
taking the form of a slave,
assuming human likeness.
And being found in appearance as a human,
he humbled himself
and became obedient to the point of death—
even death on a cross.
Therefore God exalted him even more highly
and gave him the name
that is above every other name,
so that at the name given to Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth and under the earth,
and every tongue should confess
that Jesus Christ is Lord,
to the glory of God the Father.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sharing of Our Gifts

Song of Praise

Real

Message

Pastor Carol McEntyre

†Song of Response

Your Name

Life of the Church

†Benediction

We need an honest Advent

Not one of pomp, but one of grit.

A meaty, down-to-earth,

God-with-us kind of Advent.

One that reminds us that life with you is not just cerebral

But one that is rooted in your love

and that embraces all that we are.

So go forth from this hour trusting that the mystery of Advent
and the wonder of God can be encountered here and now.

Worship Notes

Litanies for an honest advent written by Rev. Brittany McDonald Null

Glory in the Highest, CCLI Song # 7096086 Jacob Sooter | Matt Papa

Blessing of the Christmas Tree, Prayer By Traci Smith from *Faithful Families for Advent and Christmas*

O Come, Come Emmanuel, CCLI Song # 31982 John Mason Neale | Thomas Helmore

Real, CCLI Song # 7012414 Chris Stevens | Nichole Nordeman

Your Name, CCLI Song # 7005511 Glenn Packiam | Paul Baloché

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Week at a Glance

Sunday, November 27 – Hanging of the Green

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour – Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary
- 2:00 pm First Baptist in Downtown Christmas Parade

Monday, November 28

- 1:00 pm Staff Meeting

Tuesday, November 29

- 1:00 pm Crafty Critters in the Conference Room

Wednesday, November 30

- 10:00 am Yoga Class
- 5:30 pm The Calling Dinner
- 5:45 pm Chiming Kids Choir (cKc)
- 6:00 pm The Calling Meeting
- 6:30-7:30 pm Chancel Bells

Thursday, December 1

- 10:30 am First Baptist Women's Zoom Book Study

Sunday, December 4

- 9:10 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 9:15 am Awakening Worship in the Fellowship Hall
- 10:15 am Spiritual Formation Hour – Adult, Youth & First Kids Sunday School
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship in the Sanctuary

Announcements

Visitors

If you are visiting, we are so glad to have you with us! If you would like to receive more information about First Baptist and our ministries, you can fill out a connection card at the welcome table, scan the QR code in the bulletin, or visit our website at fbc-columbia.org/connect



Christmas Parade- This Afternoon- November 27

In honor of our 200th Anniversary, First Baptist is planning to be in the Christmas parade. We would love to have as many First Baptist participants as possible. You can walk (roughly 1.6-mile) or ride on a flatbed truck. Everyone needs to be lined up a little before 2:00 pm. The lineup for the parade will be on Willis Street behind the Stamper Commons Building (located on SE corner of Broadway and College) on Stephens College Campus. Park at First Baptist, walk through Stephens campus and take the bridge over College Avenue, then proceed to Willis St. We are looking for four people to carry banners and at least 8-10 walkers to pass out candy and cards. Please be sure to check the weather and dress accordingly. Bring your First Baptist Church hat if you purchased one.

Gifts for VAC Holiday Giving

Each year First Baptist helps purchase Christmas gifts for several families through the VAC Holiday program. If you would like to support this effort, you can choose a card or cards from the board outside the sanctuary and **return the item by Sunday, December 4. All items need to be brought back to the church by this date, as they will be dropped off to be distributed on Monday, December 5 and we will not be able to connect them to families after that date.** You can also give financially to assist with the purchasing of gifts. This can be done online or at the church. Be sure to indicate VAC Holiday in the memo section of your online gift or on your check or envelope. Thank you for helping spread #KindnessFIRST this holiday season.

Calling All Extra Mile House Volunteers

In this season of Thanksgiving, First Baptist can add another blessing to celebrate. We are glad to announce that our Extra Mile family has found a permanent housing opportunity and was able to move into their new home in time for the holidays! This is the 4th family that we have helped transition from housing instability to a more permanent opportunity and I am grateful for the good work of the Extra Mile program, Love Columbia, and our First Baptist family to make this possible.

This also means that our volunteer teams will be needed the week of November 28-December 4 to help clear, clean, repair, and restock the home for our next family. Emails will go out soon with specific times and needs to those who have already signed up to serve. If you would like to be added to the Extra Mile volunteer list, email Michael McEntyre at mmcentyre@fbc-columbia.org to sign up.

Christmas Dinner - Sunday, December 11, 5pm - Fellowship Hall

We would like to invite you to join us for our Annual Christmas Dinner on Sunday, December 11 at 5:00 pm in the Fellowship Hall. Come prepared for a lovely meal of turkey, ham, and beverages provided by the church, and wonderful side dishes and desserts prepared by you and your First Baptist friends. Come feast and celebrate with us!

199 Reasons to Give

Each November, as we begin our budget planning process for our next year of ministry, we ask our faith community to consider partnering with us by pledging their financial support. Our theme for this year's annual pledge drive is *199 Reasons to Give*, which anticipates First Baptist's upcoming 200th anniversary. Your pledge ensures that our unique progressive Christian voice will continue. On Sundays, November 20 and 27, there will be a time set aside for people to offer their pledges during the worship services.

Honest Advent

This year our theme is Honest Advent. The Honest Advent theme is based around the work of Scott Erickson, a painter, illustrator, and self-described “creative curate.” His 2020 book, *Honest Advent: Awakening to the Wonder of God-with-Us Then, Here, and Now*, features his artwork along with 25 daily devotionals for the season.

We invite you to come with an open mind and curiosity as we explore the themes of vulnerability, love, identity, embodiment, and participation. Devotionals will be available for purchase for \$15 beginning November 27. In addition, the art show, which accompanies the book, with its alternative symbols for the season, some of which are beautiful, others provocative and thought-provoking, will be on display in our worship spaces and hallway.

Through Erickson’s book, an art show, and worship services, we will ask, “is Christ’s incarnation still happening in our midst?”

The Hanging of the Green, which marks the beginning of Advent, is November 27 during both worship services.

Upcoming Worship Opportunities

- December 24 at 11:00 pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- December 25 at 11:15 am – Christmas Combined Worship in the Sanctuary
- January 1 at 10:15 am – New Years’ Day Brunch Worship in the Fellowship Hall

Notes

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Church Staff

Rev. Dr. Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Pastor of Youth, Missions, and Administration

Brittany McDonald Null, Pastor of Families and Spiritual Formation

Shelby Myers, Awakening Worship Praise Band Director, Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Jonathan Ray, Music Director-Traditional Worship

Susan Goudie, Administrative Assistant

Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator, Michael Ide, Custodian