



# First Baptist Church

columbia

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*The Road  
to  
Bethlehem*

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*Advent  
2015*



## Lighting of the Advent Candles (responsive)

Lili Vianello and John Shrum

The road of our lives is full of unexpected turns:  
a job that doesn't work out,  
a marriage crumbles,  
an illness changes everything,  
a friend moves to a new community,  
a loss too significant to understand.

*Into this world, Mary and Joseph journey  
the unexpected roads of life.*

Unmarried, pregnant, frightened,  
a long arduous journey, no place to rest,  
an uncertain future thanks to Herod.

*Into this world, the unexpected coming of hope.*

Hope, not to take away our unwanted uncertainties,  
but to walk with us, to brighten our path,  
to lead us from despair to joy.

*Hope in a child who would one day walk his own unwanted path.*

## Prayers of the People and 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 sins as we forgive those who sin 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.*

## †Gospel Reading (responsive)

Mary Lou Spradling

### Luke 2:1-7

In those days Caesar Augustus declared,

*“Everyone throughout the empire should be enrolled in the tax lists. Everyone must go to their own cities to be enrolled!”*

This first enrollment occurred when Quirinius governed Syria. Since Joseph belonged to David's house and family line, he went up from the city of Nazareth in Galilee to David's city, called Bethlehem, in Judea. He went to be enrolled together with Mary, who was promised to him in marriage and who was pregnant. While they were there, the time came for Mary to have her baby. She gave birth to her firstborn child, a son, wrapped him snugly, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the guestroom.

The Gospel of the Lord.

*Praise be to Christ.*

## †Hymn 151

Go, Tell It On The Mountain

### In the Midst of It All

Barbara Doerrer-Peacock (adapted)

Read by Bob Russell

In the midst of it all...  
a government tax, a burdened journey,  
a burgeoned town,

no room  
in the midst of it all.

In the midst of it all...  
each single life, here and now,  
walks the hard pavement of ordinary life,  
wading through  
the sinking mud or flash flood  
of waking tasks,  
worried racks of anxious unknowns.

But, somewhere in this night,  
the desert night of long ago,  
on this daily desert of a road —  
a twinkling here, a shining there,  
a flower blooms  
in deepest winter.  
Hope has come  
and calms the shiver.

A warming kiss  
a soft embrace,  
a lighted window  
a stable place.

In the midst of it all...  
a hard won labor,  
grace is born in fleshly groans.  
The baby cries his birthday song  
as angels weep and sweep  
the heaven-to-earthbound glory.

And, hope has come,  
to each and every one of us  
whether our eyes are open  
and we perceive,  
or closed in lonely fear.

We will receive  
the hope come to us —  
whether open-hearted  
in abundant waves,  
or in unsuspected  
and surprising ways.

Hope has come.  
Hope has come...  
Arise and shine — with the sun!  
Hope has come  
in newborn grace  
to offer truth  
and God a face.

**Anthem**

African Noel

arr. Thomas

*Sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel,  
sing Noel, sing Noel, Noel, Noel,*

*Sing we all Noel, sing we all Noel,  
sing we all Noel, sing we all Noel,*

*Come, ye people, gather here  
To hear the news of good cheer.  
The King of Kings, the Lamb of God*

*is born today in Bethlehem.*

*Sing Noel, Noel,  
sing Noel, Noel, Noel.*

**Message** Carol McEntyre  
“From Nazareth to Bethlehem: Unwanted Journey”

**†Hymn 171** Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

**†Offertory Sentence**

**Offertory** A Festival of Christmas Carols arr. Bullock  
Psalm Players

**Benediction**

**Postlude** O Come, All Ye Faithful arr. Blersch

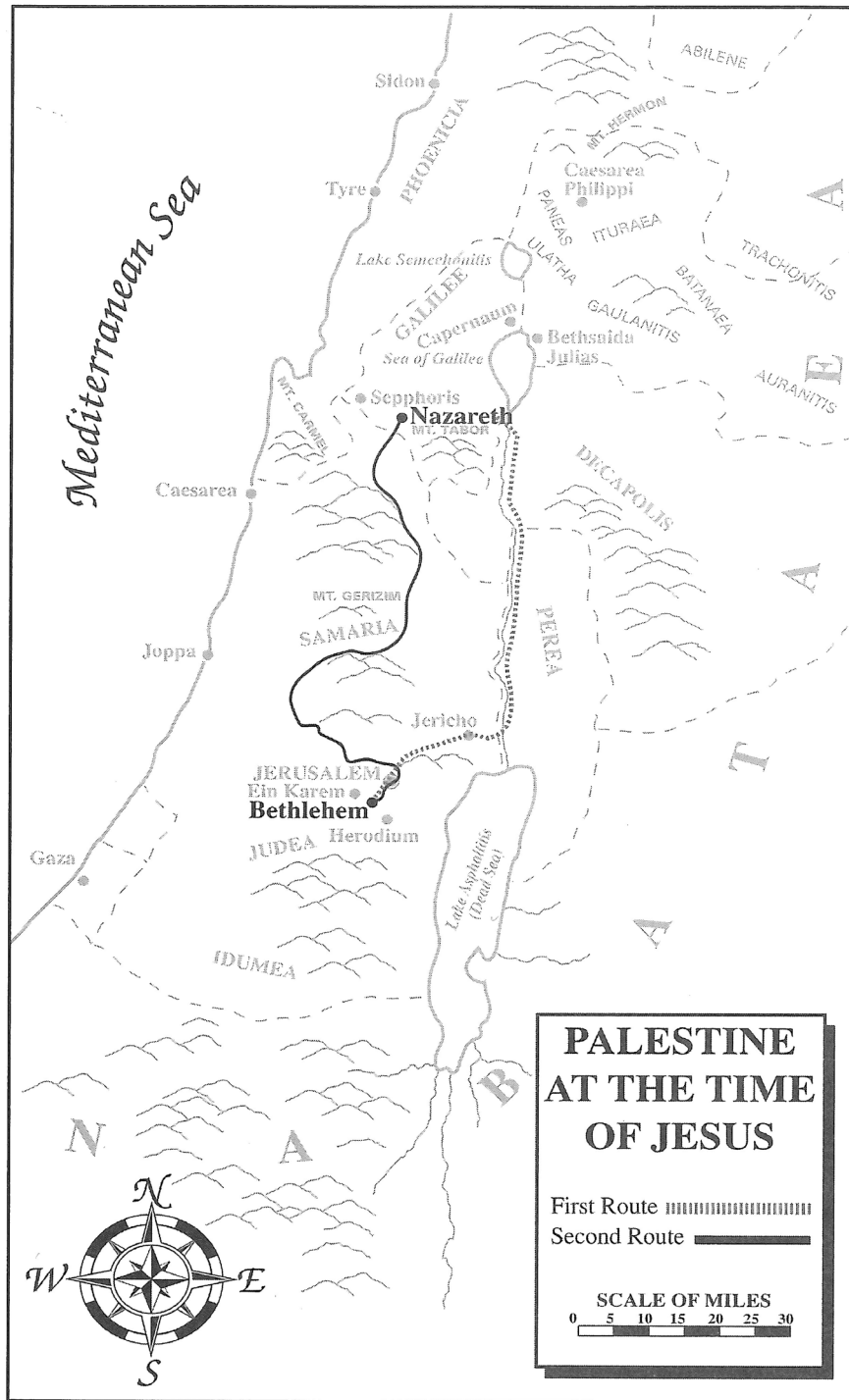


*Olive Wood Trees*



*The Jezreel Valley*





## Week At-A-Glance

### Sunday, December 20

4th Sunday of Advent

- 9:15 am Awakening Worship
- 10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 3:00 - 5:00 pm Staff Open House
- 5:00 pm Youth Christmas Party

Fellowship Hall  
 Various Classrooms  
 Sanctuary  
 McEntyre Residence  
 McEntyre Residence

### Monday, December 21

- 9:00 am Senior Yoga

Parlor

### Thursday, December 24

Office Closed

- 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service

Sanctuary

### Friday, December 25

Office Closed  
 Merry Christmas!

### Sunday, December 27

- 9:15 am Awakening Worship
- 10:15 am Sunday Morning Small Groups
- 11:15 am Traditional Worship
- 5:00 pm African Worship Service (in Swahili)

Fellowship Hall  
 Various Classrooms  
 Sanctuary  
 Fellowship Hall

## Poinsettias

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**Dave and Susie Bennett**                      *In memory of Darlene Hatfield, Bill and Maxine Bennett;  
In honor of their children and grandchildren; In honor of Bob Hatfield*

**Michael and Cheryl Brewer**                      *In memory of all who have lost their lives  
in war torn countries this year;  
In honor of the healing love of God*

**Jim and Judy Elliott**                      *In honor of Judy's mother, Betty Eads*

**Joe and Oleta Forsee**                      *For their parents*

**Kee and Diana Groshong**                      *In memory of: Kee H and Susan E Groshong, Floyd and  
Helen Reese, Geraldine Reese Martin,  
Ellen Martin Mottaz, Mrs. Dorothy Holliday.  
In honor of: Reese, Susan, Natasha, and Tommy Groshong;  
Lisa Groshong and Trevor Harris*

**Sandy and John Hall**                      *In memory of Betty and Roy Cookson;  
In honor of Mirek Henley and Zoe Gandy-Hall*

**Ken and Sue Hammann**                      *For their parents: Leona and Paul Zorich;  
Margaret and Louis Hammann*

**Pam Humphreys**                      *For Bill Krueger; her mother, Edna Humphreys*

**Abby Lee**                      *In honor of 2 Mom*

**Suzy Lee**                      *In honor of Mary Lou Spradling*

**Eli and Beth Marchbanks**                      *For Sheila Marchbanks, whose faith was true*

**Colleen Ostercamp**                      *In honor of Gary's 25 years as a chaplain  
at the University Hospital*

**Jim and Verna Rhodes**                      *In honor of the McEntyre children*

## Poinsettias

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**Deb Carr and Ed Rollins**                      *In memory of James and Margaret Carr;  
Betty Day; Carl Breece;  
In honor of John and Ruth Carr; Patricia Breece;  
Larry and Esther Rollins*

**Larry and Esther Rollins**                      *In honor of: Deb and Ed's December 22nd anniversary;  
Kathie and Steven Rollins; their niece, Jennifer Showalter*

**Keith and Sylvia Roys**                      *In honor of their children, grandchildren, and great-  
grandchildren*

**Bob Russell**                      *In memory of Marilyn;  
In appreciation of his children and grandchildren;  
In appreciation of his ministers*

**Ray and Jane Smith**                      *In memory of Gertie L. White and Charles L. Rutter*

**Andy and Carrie Steere**                      *In memory of their mothers,  
Joyce Steere and Janet Grass*

**Bob Stewart**                      *In memory of Bonnie Stewart*

**Mark and Paula Thomas**                      *In honor of Ray and Helen Abell*

**Khaki Westerfield**                      *For her family*

**Mimi Wingo**

**Sherry, Randy, and Chandler Wyatt**                      *In memory of Sterling Wyatt and William Wyatt*

**Koge and Gerda Yasuda**                      *In memory of their Lisbeth*

**Ann and Jim Yonce**                      *In honor of Mary Lou Spradling*

**Bob and Marilyn Zumwalt**                      *In honor of Marsha Randall*

## Announcements

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### Staff Open House

**TODAY** from 3:00-5:00 pm, the First Baptist staff is hosting an open house at the home of Michael and Carol McEntyre at 1604 Brady Place. As a staff, we feel grateful to serve at First Baptist. This is our way of saying, "Thank you." Thank you First Baptist for being so good to us and for making our job easy!

### Student Ministry

The Calling will not meet in December. **TODAY** is the youth Christmas party (from 5:00-7:00 pm at the McEntyre's). The Calling will start back on **January 10** with a trip to Lazer Lanes for bowling and fun. Merry Christmas.

### Christmas Eve Service

Celebrate the birth of the Christ child on Thursday evening, **December 24, at 11:00 pm** as we gather to sing carols, share in communion and gather around the sanctuary as candle light reminds us of the coming of the Light. Congregation Beth Shalom is gratefully providing Oneg (holiday) treats in the Children's Building Hallway and Narthex beginning at 10:30 pm. Deb Carr and Colleen Ostercamp share an extended Christmas Eve prelude beginning at 10:40 pm, the 22nd annual time these two have shared their gifts with us. Join us in a wonderful celebration of joy.

### Holiday Hours

The church office will be closed on **December 24 -25 and December 31 - January 1.**

## Announcements

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### Fellowship Adventures

Join us for dinner and a tour of Christmas Lights!

This time of year, my husband, Mark, and I have always loved seeing the Christmas lights and decorations around Columbia. We thought it would be fun to tour them together. Therefore, Fellowship Adventures will gather on **December 26** at 5:00 pm at Olive Garden for dinner followed by a tour of Christmas lights around town. Depending on how many people sign up, we may rent a van. Please RSVP to Paula Thomas at paulalou52@gmail.com. If you don't drive at night, let us know and we will pick you up. Merry Christmas from the Fellowship Team!

—Paula Thomas

### All Church Worship & Annual Ministry Celebration

Save the Date for All Church Worship at 11:15 am, followed by the Annual Ministry Celebration luncheon on Sunday, **January 17.**

### Winter Weather Cancellation Policy

Should snow, ice, or other inclement weather fall on the weekend, Sunday morning Awakening Worship and Small Groups will be canceled; we will join together in one combined 11:15 am worship service. On the weekdays, our policy is to cancel all events if Columbia Public Schools are canceled. Notification will be made on the church facebook page or at these local media stations: KFRU (1400 AM), KPLA (101.5 FM) Zimmer Radio Groups, KOMU-TV8, and KMIZ-TV17. We will be listed as First Baptist Church-Columbia.



# 11:15 am Traditional Worship Service

For those who may prefer a more contemporary worship experience, First Baptist Church offers Awakening at 9:15 a.m. each Sunday morning in the Fellowship Hall.

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Nursery: (ages birth-three) located on the first floor outside the sanctuary and is available from 9:15-12:15 while parents are in worship or Sunday Morning Small Groups.

Extended Session: children ages 3- 5 including kindergarten may be dropped off during both worship services in the nursery for extended session, an extension of First Kids Sunday School.

10:15 Spiritual Formation Hour:

First Kids Sunday School (3 year olds through 5th grade) is on the third floor.

Youth Bible Study (grades 6-12) is on the third floor.

Adult Small Groups:

Discussion Class in the Parlor on the second floor.

Faith Forum in the second floor classroom, next to the elevator.

Community Small Group in the library on the second floor.

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To view the live webcast of our 11:15 am Traditional worship service, go to [www.ustream.tv](http://www.ustream.tv). Search for fbcwebcast (one word), and you should be able to worship from anywhere!

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**First Baptist Church partners in mission with the American Baptist Churches USA,  
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship, and Alliance of Baptists.**

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1112 E. Broadway  
573-442-1149      [www.fbc-columbia.org](http://www.fbc-columbia.org)

Church Staff

Carol McEntyre, Senior Pastor † Ed Rollins, Associate Pastor

Michael McEntyre, Associate Pastor of Youth, College and Missions

Yvette Chambers, Director of Children's Ministry

Nene Peter, African Minister † Rubin Byishimo, African Worship Leader

Alex Bennett, Awakening Worship Coordinator † Colleen Ostercamp, Pianist and Organist

Madison Reynolds, Administrative Assistant † Brenda Rice, Project Coordinator † Glenn Owings, Custodian