

A Service of Worship

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

11:00 a.m.

As we enter sacred space for worship, quiet your heart and mind, centering your thoughts on God's presence among us.

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Prelude *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* arr. Raney
Baxter Jennings and John Fulcher, piano

Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Call to Worship Dr. Grammer

Leader: God comes! So don't let go of all the reasons to rejoice.

People: We will sing a song of Advent to the One who fills our lives with joy.

Leader: God comes! So don't stop lifting your prayers with thanksgiving.

People: We will sing a song of Advent, to the One who hears our words and silence.

Leader: God comes! So don't stop giving your hearts to God.

People: We will sing a song of Advent to the One who graces us with a peace we cannot begin to understand.

Invocation & 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 trespasses

As we forgive those who trespass 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.

*Hymn 157 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

With Minds Prepared

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 12:2-6 Christina Kinzer
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson Philippians 4:4-7
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able

Lighting of the Advent Candle Christina & Kody Kinzer, James

We light the candle of Joy, rejoicing in God's good will for all creation, and opening ourselves to God's gentle, transforming love. May God fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared.

Advent Response

Candles Glowing, Promise Showing Elana Levy
(see insert)

Children's Worship Pastor Ashley

After children's worship, children age 5 and under are invited to join our nursery workers for age-appropriate children's church.

*Hymn 34 *Rejoice, ye Pure in Heart* MARION

Prayer of Commitment Dr. Grammer

*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

Doxology OLD HUNDREDTH
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Anthem *Calypso Lullaby* Raney

Sermon *Infectious Joy* Dr. Grammer

With Lived Joy

*Song of Response
Hymn 20 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* ODE TO JOY

*Benediction Dr. Grammer

*Response 606 *Rejoice in the Lord Always* REJOICE

Postlude *Echoes of Joy* Stamm

Today is the Third Sunday of Advent, the inaugural season of the Christian year. Advent is a time of spiritual preparation for the coming of Christ; thus, it is a season of both joyous and solemn expectation. The liturgical color is purple, symbolic of a spirit of preparation.

Advent Candle Spotlight-Christina & Kody Kinzer, James

Each Sunday during Advent, we have one of our church families read the scripture texts and light the candles of the Advent wreath. Reading the text today is Christina Kinzer, who attends our Journey Small Group for young adults and worship each week, either virtually or in-person, along with her husband, Kody Kinzer, and son James, who also attends our FBC Kids time on Sundays and has been a part of our Early Learning Center (ELC) since he was 18 months old.

Christina is a native of the area and started attending First Baptist Church this fall after looking for a new church to attend. She joined FBC on October 31, 2021. Christina serves as Lead Teacher for the ELC Two-Year-Old class and has worked many different positions over the years at our ELC. Christina is in her senior year at Liberty University studying Early Childhood Education and plans to get a Masters degree in Clinical and School Counseling. Her husband Kody is a veteran and is currently recovering from a wreck the family had last December. Kody plans on attending PHCC in the spring to learn a new trade.

Christina, Kody, and James enjoy spending their spare time visiting family outside of the state, going on group outings with small Journey Small Group, as well as traveling. Kody is originally from King, NC and made the move to Virginia after they got engaged. The family lives just off the Mountain Valley area and Kody has enjoyed the new area and finding new things to do. The family also has an 8-year-old mixed-breed dog named Shana.

Worship is Live Streamed on Facebook and YouTube each Sunday morning at the worship hour and a video recording is posted on the church website/YouTube page within 24-48 hours. To listen by phone during the worship hour: **Zoom Call-in Number:** 1-833-548-0276; Meeting ID: 276 632 6336 #, #

Children's Worship Bags for all ages are in the Narthex (foyer at the back of the Sanctuary). These bags are intended to help children process what they are hearing and seeing as they worship with their families. Please return the bags after worship so they can be used in our next service.

Prayer Reminder

CHURCH FAMILY: John Abbott, Alice Bowman, Judy Szulecki Bunin, Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, Helen Dandridge, Martha Drane, Judy Epperly, Ann Grogan, Ted Hatcher, George Lester, Marvin Midkiff, Betty Minter, Betty Prillaman, Shirley Roark, Jimmie Sexton, Benny Shires, Irene Simpson, Stacey Steagall, Shirley Stone, Yvonne Turner, Gayle Williams

In Christian Sympathy to Ann Grogan and her family on the loss of her husband, Smitty Grogan, who passed away Tuesday, December 7, 2021. A funeral and graveside service were on Friday, December 10, 2021.

Congratulations to Helen Wright on the birth of her great grandson, Joseph Jackson Cappello, who was born on November 20, 2021. The proud parents are Mike and Clary Capello of Leesburg, VA and the grandparents are Brenda & Colin Eldergill of Richmond, Va.

December Birthdays: 4 Lee Lester, Jeanette Stone, 6 Jean Rood, 11 Danny Baptist, 13 Ebb Williams, Howard Fringer, 26 James Stokes, 31 Jim Frith

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Drive-Thru/Drop-in TODAY

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Dr. Grammer and her family invite you to drop-in/drive-thru and share some holiday fellowship TODAY from

3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., 1233 Mulberry Road, Martinsville, Va.

Christmas Poinsettias- Forms Due Tomorrow

If you would like to contribute to the Christmas poinsettias in the Sanctuary in memory or in honor of a loved one, please fill out the form (available in the Narthex) and return it to the church office tomorrow. The names will be included in next Sunday's bulletin.

Narthex & Bell Tower Floors

Beginning Monday, December 13th the floors in the Narthex & Bell Tower are being stripped, cleaned, and sealed. Our main entrance will be closed for most of that week. If you need to come in and have the code use the ELC entrance; otherwise please call the office and someone will let you in the ELC entrance. Please remember to wear your mask while on the ELC side.

Offering Envelopes for 2022 - pick up in the Bell Tower.

Pledges to date for 2022-31 pledges/\$ 130,742.00

Pledges in 2021-43 pledges/\$ 227,825.00

Worship Care Schedule

Sunday, December 12th-Nancy Thomas

Sunday, December 19th-Sylvia Knight

Deacons of the Month: Sylvia Knight and Linda Moore

Deacons of the month assist your pastor and other deacons with visitation as needed.

Gratitude for Giving...

GRACE NETWORK: Gifts has been given in memory of Jean Gray and Margaret Lester by Joretta Draper. GENERAL FUND: A gift has been given in memory of Margaret Lester by Cindy & Steve Edgerton. A gift has been given in memory of Phyllis Abbott and in honor of John Abbott by Anita & David Philpott.

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, December 12

9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Rm 105-107/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Journey Small Group-Rm 110/Zoom
9:45 a.m. Children's Sunday School-Church Nursery
11:00 a.m. Worship-In-Person/Virtual
3:00 p.m. Pastor Drop-In/Drive-Thru

Monday, December 13

10:00 a.m. Children's Chapel-Sanctuary

Wednesday, December 15

5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Sanctuary

Thursday, December 16

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-Zoom

Friday, December 17

5:30-7:30 p.m. Christmas Drive-Thru
at Chatham Heights Baptist Church

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

We are #yourcitychurch in Martinsville...

A diverse community of believers coming from many Christian traditions to worship, learn, and grow together as followers of Jesus.

Serving God in our church, our community, and the world by investing our energy and resources to living like Jesus called us to live — in service to God and neighbor.

Growing and changing our ministries to include more variety in our vision so as to meet the needs of our community. Come GROW with us!

If you do not have a church home, you are welcome here.

Come and see what God is doing among us as we worship and serve in Christ's name.

Want to know more? Contact our Pastor: libby@fbcmartinsville.com
or 276-632-6336.

Open Invitation

Our congregation wishes to partner with you and your family on a shared journey of faith. Whatever your background, we would love to explore with you how to join with us as we minister to this community together.

Please contact our pastor if you are interested in wanting to know more about following Jesus, how to join this church as an active participant, or if you'd like to recommit yourself to this church and its ministry.

Our doors are always open.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MARTINSVILLE, VA

23 Starling Avenue
Martinsville, VA 24112
(276) 632-6336

Rev. Dr. Libby M. Grammer
Senior Pastor

Rev. John Fulcher
Interim Minister of Music

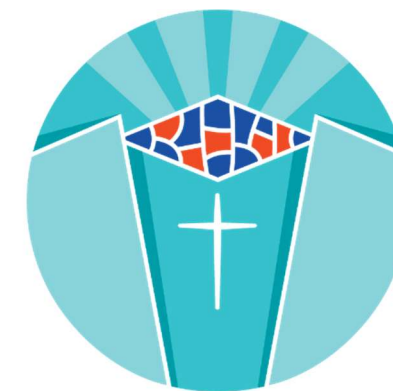
Rev. Ashley Harrington
Interim Minister Children & Families

Baxter Jennings
Organist

www.fbcmartinsville.com
facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/

Mission Statement:

The congregation of First Baptist Church, led by the Holy Spirit, covenants to worship Almighty God and to be disciples of Jesus Christ. Consistent with the Great Commission, we will share our spiritual gifts beyond our doors with enthusiasm, generosity, and grace.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
MARTINSVILLE, VA



Season of Advent

MISSIONS ANNOUNCEMENTS

Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign Donations

This Christmas season, in lieu of Ringing the Bell for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign, members of the FBC Women on Mission will be making monetary donations. Please make your check payable to First Baptist Church and in the memo line please write *Red Kettle. The deadline for donations is December 19th. Thank you for sharing your generosity and love this Christmas season.* Donations to date: \$ 825.27

Churchwide Christmas Missions Offering: Heifer International

Women on Mission & Mission Committee are sponsoring a churchwide Heifer International mission project during December 2021. **Our goal of \$475.00 will enable us to give the gift of a water pump to supply clean water for an entire community and to send a girl to school.** If we exceed our goal, we will supply a hive of honeybees and provide chicks for a family.

All these gifts have education supplied by Heifer to the recipients to enable them to effectively use the gifts for the family or community to eventually be self-supporting. You may write a check and/or use one of your offering Special Gift envelopes noting “Heifer International” on the “for” line. You can mail or bring it by the church or give online, adding Heifer International in the memo line. *The deadline for our campaign is December 29th.*

During the month of December, Heifer International will triple match our donation totals.

MHC Warming Center - Volunteers Desperately Needed!

The MHC Warming Center opens when temperatures drop below 35 degrees. It cannot open without dedicated **volunteers** who will make hot meals and deliver them, provide transportation to and from the center, check in the guests at intake, and stay overnight. They are in need of volunteers for overnight shifts and intake shifts to help the center stay open. Please consider volunteering so they don't close the doors to so many in need. Please check the bulletin board or our website for donation needs for the center and drop them off here at the church.

Grace Network Oct.-Dec. 2021 Food Assignment

Green Peas (15 oz.) Please drop the food off at the church.

Richard's Dinner, Saturday, December 25th

Annual Home-Cooked Christmas Dinner at the FBC Fellowship Hall. Anyone wishing to help serve meals, can call Scott Norman directly at 276-732-3422, and donations can be made to Grace Network, 16 Liberty Street, Martinsville, Va., 24112. If you know someone who needs a meal, call 276-403-9557.

*Hymn 157 *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice* IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear if of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this;
he has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not to fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save;
calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

*Hymn 34 *Rejoice, ye Pure in Heart* MARION

Rejoice, ye pure in heart, rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Refrain

Rejoice rejoice, rejoice, give thanks and sing!

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints on earth,
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, no blest mirth!

Refrain

Yes, on though life's long path, still chanting as ye go;
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe,

Refrain

Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array;
as warriors through the darkness toil till dawns the golden day.

Refrain

*Song of Response

Hymn 20 *Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee* ODE TO JOY

Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee, opening to the sun above,
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day!

All thy works with joy surround thee, earth and heaven
reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee, center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our brother all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.

An Advent Candle Lighting Song

Tune: W Żłobie Leży, a Polish folk melody
(the same as “Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”)
Lyrics by Rev. Elana Keppel Levy, 2021

Hymn *Candles Glowing, Promise Showing* Elana Levy

Hope

Candles glowing, promise showing
the great hope that calms our fear.
Darkness scatters, worry shatters,
Christ will always draw us near.
Calms our sighing, hears our crying,
helps our trying, love undying –
Christ will always draw us near!
Christ will always draw us near!

Peace

Candles glowing, promise showing
holy peace so still and bright.
New tomorrow, free from sorrow:
Living in Christ's holy light,
Shunning violence, loving neighbor,
joy of silence, trust our savior:
Living in Christ's holy light!
Living in Christ's holy light!

Joy

Candles glowing, promise showing
joy that fills our very soul.
Grace abounding, hymns resounding,
Christ restores and makes us whole.
Mercies gleaming, wonders beaming –
justice streaming, Christ redeeming –
Christ restores and makes us whole!
Christ restores and makes us whole!

Each week during Advent, we will add a verse.