

# A Service of Worship & Communion

Second Sunday of Advent

December 4, 2022

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 *Ev'ry Valley Shall Be Exalted* Handel  
Baxter Jennings, organ

Welcome Rev. Dr. Libby Grammer

Call to Worship Dr. Grammer

Leader: The prophet Isaiah declared that justice and peace shall come through the family of Jesse.

**People: This justice shall be for all of creation.**

Leader: Peace shall be established in all the world.

**People: Get ready! Prepare for God's peace to reign!**

Leader: Blessed be God who does such wondrous things!

**People: We give thanks to God for this time  
of healing and hope.**

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 170 *It Came upon the Midnight Clear* CAROL

## Hearing the Scriptures

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 11:1-10 Taylor Vecchia  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

New Testament Lesson Romans 15:4-13  
The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

\*Please stand as you are able

Lighting of the Advent Candle FBC Kids Children's Ministry

*We light the candle of Peace, knowing full well that peace is elusive.  
May we trust that even where there is war and discord, God is never  
absent from us, but is always gently leading us to new possibilities.*

Advent Response

*Candles Glowing, Promise Showing* Elana Levy  
(see insert)

Children's Worship Pastor Libby

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

## Committing Our Lives

\*Hymn 171 *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

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.**

## Engaging the Scriptures

Anthem *Advent Processional* Page

Sermon *Grow Peace* Dr. Grammer

## Celebrating Communion

Prayer of Confession (*unison*) Dr. Grammer

**Eternal God, we confess that we are still not ready. We have  
not yet done all we can to be ready for your reign on earth as it  
is in heaven. We have procrastinated and delayed, and at other  
times simply forgot who we are and who you are in our lives.  
Call us into noticing this moment, this time of Advent, this  
season of preparation. Help us remember to make the time to  
allow your peace to enter in and reign in our hearts. We can  
find the way, trusting in you to guide us, as we watch and wait  
together.**

Assurance of Pardon

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*in unison*)

**We give you thanks, O God, for seasons like Advent, set aside to  
prepare us for your presence. You remind us that we are never  
alone as we journey with you, and alongside so many others, in  
preparation for your coming into our lives. Grant us your peace  
as we seek to see the world with your eyes and turn from our  
own way to your Kingdom way.**

## With Lived Peace

\*Response 708 *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* DENNIS  
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;  
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.

Postlude *Fantasia in D* Reger

*Today is the Second 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- FBC Kids Children's Ministry

FBC values children as part of the church today, and not simply as future participants. Children should be encouraged to grow in faith through education and spiritual formation, provided to them in age-appropriate ways. FBC Kids holds a Children's Sunday School hour in the Church Nursery with two teachers. Children of all ages are welcome. Children are a welcome part of worship at First Baptist Church. Parents can have their children present in the Sanctuary for all or part of the worship hour at 11AM each Sunday. Children are provided worship bags to help them focus on the service in their own ways.

**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, John Burgess, Mary Clifton, Martha Crawley, Helen Dandridge, Martha Drane, Nita Gauldin, Ann Grogan, Armand Harrell, George Lester, Marvin Midkiff, Betty Minter, Betty Prillaman, Shirley Roark, Benny Shires, Stacey Steagall, Shirley Stone, Yvonne Turner, Gayle Williams

**December Birthdays:** 4 Jeanette Stone, 6 Jean Rood, 11 Dan Baptist, 13 Howard Fringer, Ebb Williams, 26 James Stokes, 29 Christina Kinzer, 31 Jim Frith

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Worship Care Schedule

Sunday, December 4 – Roslyn Wingett

Sunday, December 11- Nancy Thomas

### Grace Network Oct.-Dec. 2022 Food Assignment: Small Bisquick

Please drop the food off in the Missions Room at the church.

### Christmas Poinsettias

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 located in the Narthex and return it to the church office by December 13th. Names will be included in the Sunday, December 18th bulletin.

### Pastor's Christmas Drop-in

**Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:00-5:00 p.m.**

Dr. Grammer and her family invite you to drop-in, Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at 1233 Mulberry Road, Martinsville, Va. Come share some holiday fellowship and if you like, bring your favorite appetizer, dessert, or drink to share!

### WMU Planning Meeting Monday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m.

We will meet in person in Room 105 to plan for next year.

Zoom will be available.

### Christmas Cards for Martinsville/Henry County Jails

#### Churchwide Missions Opportunity

This year, our Missions Committee has partnered with Chaplain Joe Collins of Good News Jail & Prison Ministry to provide Christmas cards for the corrections officers in the Martinsville and Henry County Jails. To join us in this ministry, simply buy a couple of extra Christmas cards and write them to a Corrections Officer and place them in the box in the Narthex by December 12<sup>th</sup>. For guidelines on how to write your cards, please contact the church office. Specially, there is no need to write anything on the outside of the envelope and you can sign the card with your first name, a pseudonym, or just initial it.

**Ladies Lunch & Learn Advent Study** began on Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>. It is not too late to join us for a 4-week study examining the story of Christmas! Each week is a new topic.

## 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](mailto: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

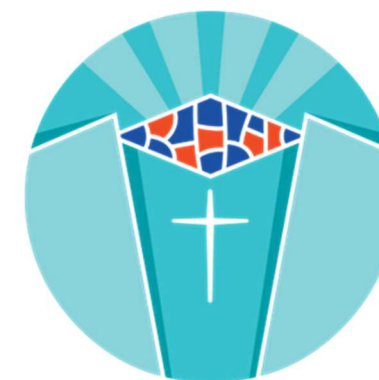
Rev. Dr. Libby M. Grammer  
Senior Pastor

Rev. David Cameron  
Associate Pastor for  
Music & Worship

Baxter Jennings  
Organist

[www.fbcmartinsville.com](http://www.fbcmartinsville.com)  
[facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/](https://facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/)

*"Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope"*



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
MARTINSVILLE, VA

*Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope*



*Season of Advent*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, CONT'D

**Churchwide Christmas Missions Offering: Heifer International** Women on Mission & Mission Committee are sponsoring a churchwide mission project during December. **Our goal is to raise \$500.00 for Heifer International to 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. Giving to Heifer in honor of a loved one can be a great Christmas gift for those on your gift list who already have all they need! 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 30<sup>th</sup>.*

Heifer International partners with approximately 1,600 companies who match donations contributed to the organization. During the month of December, Heifer International may be able to triple match our donation totals.

We partner with Heifer International to create lasting change in people's lives globally and to fulfill Jesus's call to care for the most marginalized. *"For I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink"* Matthew 25:35

### **ELC Pageant, Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

Join us! This year's pageant is called *"The Greatest Gift of All."* If you would like to usher, please let Beth or the church office know.

### **Christmas Cantata, "A Celebration of Carols," December 18<sup>th</sup>**

Join us as the combined choirs of Chatham Heights Baptist and First Baptist Church of Martinsville present "A Celebration of Carols" by Joseph M. Martin on Sunday, December 18th 9:30 AM at Chatham Heights Baptist and at 11:00 AM at First Baptist Church of Martinsville.

### **Longest Night Service with Chatham Heights Baptist Church Wednesday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at CHBC\***

We recognize this is not always "the most wonderful time of the year" for everyone. Sometimes we need to face the reality that even in the midst of colorful lights and celebration, we also face the longest, darkest nights - and sometimes also the darkest nights of our souls. Join us for our Longest Night service on Wednesday, December 21st at 6:00 p.m., held in the Chatham Heights Sanctuary. During this service, you will be invited to name and light a candle for a loss or disappointment you are experiencing. Remember that though it is dark now, the Light of the world is coming. *\*Childcare provided*

## Opportunities for the Week

### **Sunday, December 4**

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  
12:00 p.m. Christmas Dinner-Fellowship Hall  
1:30 p.m. Library Bake Sale-Fellowship Hall  
4:00 p.m. Choir Cantata Rehearsal-CHBC

### **Monday, December 5**

10:00 a.m. WMU Meeting-Rm 105/Zoom  
12:00 p.m. Ladies Lunch & Learn-Rm. 105  
5:00 p.m. Mission Committee/Zoom  
6:00 p.m. Stillwater Small Group Rehearsal  
7:00 p.m. Smith River Singers Rehearsal- Sanctuary

### **Tuesday, December 6**

10:00 a.m. Children's Chapel-Sanctuary  
12:00 p.m. Personnel Committee-Rm 105

### **Wednesday, December 7**

7:00 p.m. ELC Christmas Pageant-Sanctuary

### **Thursday, December 8**

10:00 a.m. Bible Study-Exodus/Zoom  
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

### **Saturday, December 10**

3:00 p.m. Pastor's Drop-in-1233 Mulberry Rd.

### **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

### **Advent Response *Candles Glowing, Promise Showing***

Elana Levy

#### **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!

### \*Hymn 170

### *It Came upon the Midnight Clear*

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:  
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,  
from heaven's all-gracious King."  
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats o'er all the weary world;  
above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,  
when with the ever-circling years shall come the time foretold,  
when peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,  
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

### \*Hymn 171

### *Hark! the Herald Angels Sing* MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King:  
peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with th'angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

*Refrain: Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"*

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord,  
late in time behold him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb:  
veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity,  
pleased as man with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. *Refrain*

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Sun of Righteousness!

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.

Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,

born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth. *Refrain*

Song

*Welcome To Our World*

Rice

CCLI Song #2317391

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