

A Service of Worship

First Sunday of Advent

November 30, 2025

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

Welcome Rev. Dr. Mike Hatfield

Prelude *Sarabanda and Giga* Corelli
Baxter Jennings; Thor Wright, bassoon

Call to Worship

Leader: A winter sky, dark and deep, pulling our hearts
toward hope.

**People: A winter sky, clear and endless, drawing a sigh
from our soul.**

Leader: When will our longing be over? When will a star
appear and a cry be heard?

**People: He is coming soon. We have Advent dreams and
Advent hopes. He is coming soon.**

Hearing the Scriptures

Reading the Word of Hope Susan & Bill Sapp
Isaiah 2:1-5
The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

Lighting the Candle of Hope The Sapps

A Prayer for the Advent of Hope Dr. Hatfield

Leader: O Creator, promise for the world, hear our prayers
during this time of waiting.

**People: We hear your call to journey toward the light,
and yet we stumble.**

Leader: Our journey toward your promise of Christ's coming
is filled with doubt, pain and often despair that
there is meaning in the waiting.

**People: Our losses, our worries overtake us, so that we
dwell in darkness rather than moving toward
the light.**

Leader: Create in us the thread of hope that pulls us forward
from promise to the miracle of new life.

*Please stand as you are able

**People: Create in us a clean spirit so that our journey is no
longer weary but filled with the energy of
adventure!**

Leader: As the Christ child comes, so we, too, come back to
you this day. Amen.

Our Song of Advent 133 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
VENI EMMANUEL

**O Come, O Come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!**

Children's Worship Dr. Mike

Committing Our Lives

*Hymn 135 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Prayer of Commitment & Lord's Prayer Dr. Hatfield
**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.**

+*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

Epistle Reading Romans 13:11-14 Roslyn Wingett
The Word of the Lord; **Thanks be to God.**

Advent Solo *Enveloped* Jenni Watson
Dr. Thor Wright, saxophone
*Walking through a forest of beech trees, at first noticing delicate
sounds of trees, small rivers and echoing birdsong. But the more
you listen, the more you hear the interplay of sounds. A sense of
being enveloped, physically and aurally -- by the forest.*

Sermon *Journey to Bethlehem: Wake Me Up When We Get There*
Dr. Hatfield

Living In Hope

*Song of Response
Hymn 161 *Once in Royal David's City* IRBY

*Benediction Dr. Hatfield
*Go forth and begin the journey of Advent. Begin your
preparations, start the planning, look to the future, but in all
you're doing, keep focused on the great gift, Jesus of Nazareth, the
Christ child at the end of our journey to Bethlehem. Amen.*

Postlude *Allemanda* Corelli
A musical reflection on our worship of God today.

Today is the First 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.

We welcome Edward Thorburn Wright as guest accompanist this
morning in worship. Thor grew up in Camden, SC and started
saxophone and later bassoon in high school. He studied at the
University of South Carolina while pursuing an engineering major.
He has played in community organizations for well over
40 years.

+Giving in Worship at First Baptist – We welcome your gifts to
support the mission and ministry of First Baptist Church. You can
give in worship by dropping your offering (check/cash) in our
offering plate in the Narthex, or you can give online anytime at
fbcmartinsville.com/give.

Nursery Schedule

Our nursery is available for children seven and under. The nursery
is down the hall from the Narthex and to the right.

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.

Our 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 #, #

Reminders

Church Family: John Burgess, Mary Clifton, Martha Drane, Ann
Grogan, Nancy McDaniel, Imogene McMillan, Betty Prillaman,
Shirley Reeves, Shirley Roark, Benny Shires, Yvonne Turner

December Birthdays: 6 Jean Rood, Weslyn Brannock, 13 Ebb
Williams, 26 James Stokes, 29 Chrissy Kinzer, 31 Jim Frith

Deacon of the Month: Ruth Anne Collins
She will assist other deacons with visitations as needed.

Opportunities for the Week

Sunday, November 30
9:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School-Rm 105-107/Zoom
11:00 a.m. Worship-Sanctuary/Online

Monday, December 1
10:00 a.m. WMU Meeting-Rm. 105

Tuesday, December 2
10:30 a.m. Administrative Planning Meeting-Rm 105
5:00 p.m. Personnel Committee-Rm. 105

Wednesday, December 3
10:00 a.m. Library Committee-Library

Thursday, December 4
10:00 a.m. Bible Study-2 King-Rm 105/Zoom
4:00 p.m. Piedmont Arts Tree Lighting-Art Garden
5:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal-Choir Room

Announcements

Special Called Business Meeting after Worship
There will be a special called Business Meeting immediately following worship to accept the Nominating Committee’s recommendation for two Trustees, Dr. Dennis Knight and Dr. Ross Gale, to serve their second seven-year term as Trustee.

Adult Trip to Wake Forest’s “Moravian Lovefeast”
Sunday, December 7th at 4:00 p.m.
First Baptist & Chatham Heights are planning an Adult Trip to Winston Salem on Sunday, December 7th for a “Moravian Lovefeast” at Wake Forest’s “Wait Chapel”. The doors open at 6pm and the Prelude begins at 6:20 pm. This is a traditional service of music, scripture and candle lighting. We will meet here at the church to ride together on the bus & van. **Please contact the church office if you plan on going to reserve your seat on the bus.**

“Journey to Bethlehem”
ELC Christmas Pageant- December 10th at 7:00 p.m.
Sanctuary
This year’s ELC pageant will tell the story of the birth of Jesus, along with festive Christmas songs sung by our all our children.

Christmas Poinsettias
If you would like to contribute to the Christmas poinsettias in the Sanctuary, in memory or in honor of someone, please fill out the form located in the Narthex and return it to the church office by December 15th. Names will be included in the Sunday, December 21st bulletin.

Breakfast with Santa, December 13th at 10:00 a.m.
Chatham Heights Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
Bring the children and enjoy a tasty breakfast and fellowship with our sister church! After breakfast, have your child’s picture taken with Santa.

Welcome to First Baptist Church!

We are #yourcitychurch in Martinsville...

Coming together with 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.

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.

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, contact us at info.fbcmartinsville.com, (276) 632-6336, mike@fbcmartinsville.com or his cell (276) 340-7550.

Our doors are always open. Come see and serve what God is doing among us as we worship in Christ’s name.



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

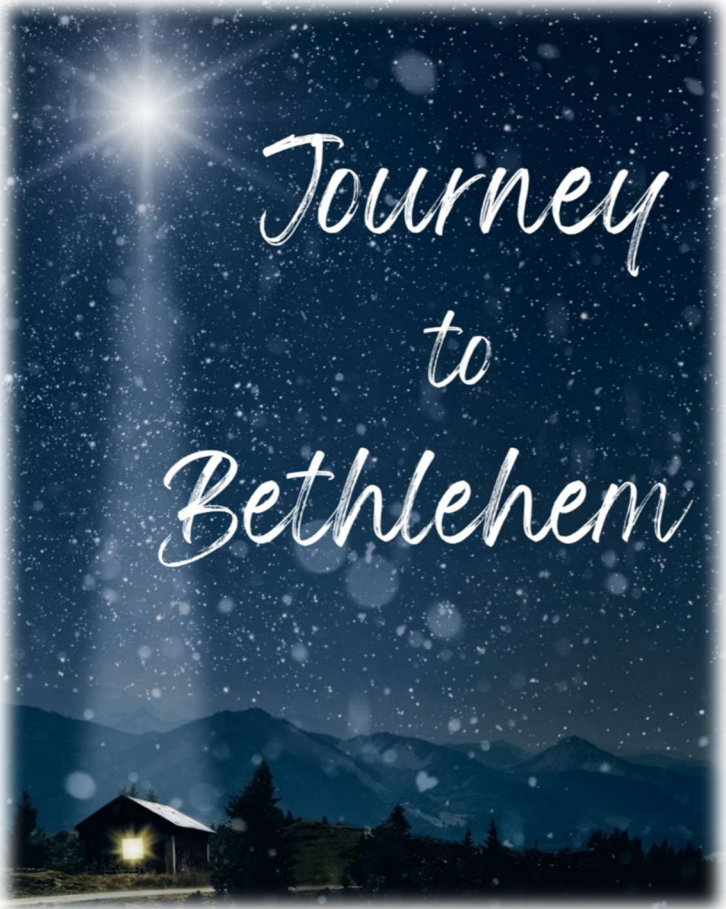
Rev. Dr. Mike Hatfield
Senior Pastor

Rev. John Fulcher
Interim Associate Pastor for
Music & Worship

Baxter Jennings
Organist

www.fbcmartinsville.com
facebook.com/FirstBaptistMartinsville/

“Live Faith, Be Love, Speak Hope”



Season of Advent

*Hymn 135 *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Israel’s strength and consolation, hope of all the earth’ thou art;
dear Desire of every nation, Joy of every longing heart.

Born thy people to deliver, born a child and yet a king,
born to reign in us forever, now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine sufficient merit raise us to thy glorious throne.

*Song of Response

Hymn 161 *Once in Royal David’s City* IRBY

Once in royal David’s city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall:
With the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth, our Savior holy.

Jesus is our child-hood’s pattern, day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles like us he knew:
And he fells for all our sadness, and he shares in all our gladness.

And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love;
For that child, so dear and gentle, is our Lord in heaven above,
And he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.

Mission Opportunities & Special Services

Churchwide Christmas Missions Offering: Heifer International

The WMU is sponsoring a churchwide mission project during December. **Last year we raised enough for Heifer International to enable us to give the gift of one Water for Life systems; send two Girls to School; purchase two honeybee hives; purchase two flocks of chicks and two garden seeds.** We hope to do the same this year! 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 31st.*

Patrick Henry Elementary Food Pantry

A church wide mission project again this school year will be for Patrick Henry Elementary School. The school provides food bags for students who need extra food over the weekends. See the bulletin board for items needed.

Grace Network Oct.-Dec. 2025 Food Assignment: Juice (40-64 oz)

Place items in the Missions Room 103.

Joint Longest Night Service-December 21st at 4:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church Chapel

During this service, you will be invited to name and light a candle for the loss or disappointment you are experiencing. Remember that though it is dark now, the Light of the world is coming!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service-4:00 p.m.

Sanctuary

This special service is for all the family to enjoy. Join us as we welcome the birth of the Christ-child.