

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The First Sunday of Advent    December 2, 2018

*“O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.”*

COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS  
BORN TO SET THY PEOPLE FREE

Prelude to Worship

*Come, Thou Almighty King*

Alma Evett

Invocation

Greg Barmer

Hymns of Praise

83 *Arise, Your Light is Come*  
82 *Emmanuel*

FROM OUR FEARS AND SINS RELEASE US  
LET US FIND OUR REST IN THEE

Lighting the Hope Candle

Hope Setzer

Today is the first Sunday of Advent, the Sunday of Hope. Our hope is in God, and in his son, Jesus Christ. He is the One God has used to save and redeem his people.

*We live in a world where plowshares are beaten into swords, school children carry guns, and we feel the threat of poverty and an uncertain future - a world much like the one to which the prophet Isaiah declared, “hope in the Lord.” There is great reason for hope, he declares!*

And so today, we light this candle to remind us that Jesus is our only hope. He is the hope of the world. We thank God for the promises He has made to us and for the light He has brought into the world.

*O God of Hope, Emmanuel, God with us - we pray that You will send your light into our hearts. Live in us, Lord, and help us to live in You. Transform us by the power of your Holy Spirit so our worship and our lives are ready for the day of your final appearing.*

The Congregation Responds

*Come to Us, O Child of Light\**

*Come to us, O Child of Light, born to us this holy night.*

*Grant us grace for canceled sin and make us pure within.*

*Come to us, O Child of Light, You alone turn faith to sight.*

*Darkness gone, the light has come. Christ is born in us today. Christ is born in us today.*

Blessing of the Children

Joy Stallings

# ISRAEL'S STRENGTH AND CONSOLATION HOPE OF ALL THE EARTH THOU ART

Faith Story

Stan Edwards

New Testament Lesson

*Luke 1:26-55*

Choral Message

*Mary's Song*

Jewel Cook, soloist

Sanctuary Choir

The Good News from God's Word

*Do You Hear What I Hear?*

*The Song of Mary*

Greg Barmer

Our Response to the Gospel, Hymn 76

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

BY THINE ALL SUFFICIENT MERIT  
RAISE US TO THY GLORIOUS THRONE

The Celebration of Our Lord's Supper

The Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

*Pastorale on a French Carol*

Worshippers

An Advent Doxology

*“Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!”*

Worshippers

Postlude

*Joy to the World!*

## *The Sanctuary during Advent and Christmas*

*Far from the usual red and green are the liturgical colors of purple, white, and even pink at times, that all serve to point us toward the redemptive work of Christ. Purple, symbolic of repentance and fasting, as well as royalty, is traditionally used during both Lent and Advent (beginning 4 Sundays prior to Christmas Day). White and gold are symbolic of purity and celebration. At the center of the Advent Wreath is the larger white Christ Candle lit on Christmas Eve. At times the Wreath may include one pink candle as a reminder to rejoice in anticipation of Christ's coming. The Chrismon (meaning “Christ monogram”) Tree ornaments are all made of white and gold to symbolize the holiness and purity of Christ. Each ornament represents a Biblical symbol.*

*None of these elements serve as “decorations,” but as reminders of our Sovereign God, righteous beyond our understanding, coming in humility and love to dwell with us and cleanse us from the horror of our sin.*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome! Please take a moment to register your attendance using the red pads located at the end of each pew.

The deacon of the week for December 2 is Stuart Warren.

This Evening, 6pm – Church-wide Christmas Dinner with the Hickory Grove Quartet and some amazing surprise entertainment. Only a few tickets remain and this morning is the last opportunity to purchase.

Mark Your Calendars:

Dec. 9, 6pm – *Here I Am to Worship, a Christmas Festival of Music*, 6pm

Dec. 16, 4pm – Church-wide Christmas Caroling, return for soup and hot chocolate. Please sign up for dinner.

Dec. 24, 5:30pm – Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion

Dec. 30 – Bible study 9:45am, a single worship service at 11am, no breakfast.

Prayer Points this week:

- ~ health concerns for our missionary family
- ~ minister of music search, youth minister search

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### HOW TO JOIN FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

At the end of the pastor's message, an invitation is extended to anyone who does not have a personal relationship with Jesus Christ to accept Him. The invitation is also extended to those who wish to become members of First Baptist Church. The Hymn of Response is then sung as an opportunity for those people to come to the front of the sanctuary and talk with the pastor about their desires. When you come forward, simply tell the pastor why you are coming: (1) To accept Christ as your personal Savior; or/and (2) To become a member of First Baptist Church.

Decisions can be made for membership:

- By profession of faith - If you are not yet a Christian but would like to be, or if you are a Christian and have never been baptized as a Believer, our pastor will pray with you and guide you in your decision.
- By transfer of letter - If you are a Christian and a member of another church we will write the church and request that a letter of transfer be sent.
- By statement - If you are a Christian, have been baptized as a Believer, and do not have current membership in a church or are currently a member of a church that does not grant letters of transfer, you can receive membership by your affirmation of the above.

### Ministerial Staff

Dr. Greg Barner, Pastor    Rev. Kerrie Clayton, Interim Minister of Music  
Rev. Greg Hombirg, Minister of Youth/Education    Mrs. Joy Stallings, Minister of Children/Outreach  
Alma Evett, Organist    Barbara Owens, Pianist    Rev. Indalecio Treviño, Hispanic Pastor

Church office 252-946-8074    [www.thefirstbaptistchurch.com](http://www.thefirstbaptistchurch.com)

Services are broadcast on Suddenlink Channel 25 on Sundays at 1:00 PM &

Tri-County Channel 13 on Sundays at 11:00 AM and Tuesdays at 10:00AM.

Watch live on Sundays at 11am on the First Baptist website. Find us on Facebook @washingtonfirstbaptist.

*You're Welcome!*

**First Baptist Church**  
Washington, North Carolina