

*The Third Sunday of Advent*



*First Baptist Church*

*Whiteville, North Carolina*

*December 11, 2016*

# THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

## The Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2016

Morning Worship

Eleven o'clock

\* Please stand as you are able.

**Greeting**

Rev. Ryan Clore

**Meditation**

Advent is a season of waiting.  
But we do not wait alone.  
God is with us.  
We gather with those who have seen the signs,  
heard the whispers, felt the tugs in their hearts.  
God is birthing hope into this waiting world.  
Let us worship with hearts open to joy.

**Prelude**

*Carol of the Bells*                      The Youth and Adult Handbells  
arr. Carl Wiltst

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 146:1-2, 5-10

Congregation

Leader: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

People: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God  
all my life long.

Leader: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the  
LORD their God, who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in  
them;

People: who keeps faith forever; who executes justice for the oppressed;  
who gives food to the hungry.

Leader: The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.

People: The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the  
righteous.

Leader: The Lord watches over the strangers; he upholds the orphan and the  
widow, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

All: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations.  
Praise the LORD!

**Invocation**

Rev. Clore

**\* Hymn of Praise, No. 79 *Blessed Be the God of Israel***  
(stanzas 1, 2, 4 and 5)

FOREST GREEN

Children are invited to come forward for the Children’s Sermon on the last stanza of the Processional hymn.  
Children age five and younger who wish may attend Children’s Worship.

**Children’s Sermon**

The Candle of Joy

Melvin Ezzell

**Congregational Response**

*Advent: Joy*

MUELLER

We pray that your Word may be born in our hearts, that we may shine  
bright with the joy it im - parts. We pray as we wait for Em -  
man - u - el's birth, the light of our hope may il - lu - mine the earth.

**Pastoral Prayer**

Rev. Eddie Fort

**The First Gospel Reading**

Luke 1:26-38

Tricia Sanderson

**Response**

*To a Maid Engaged to Joseph*

Chancel Choir  
ANNUNCIATION

To a maid engaged to Joseph,  
The angel Gabriel came.  
“Fear not,” the angel told her.  
“I come to bring good news.  
Good news I come to tell You,  
Good news, I say, good news.”

But Mary was most troubled  
To hear the angel’s word.  
What was the angel saying?  
It troubled her to hear,  
To hear the angel’s message,  
It troubled her to hear.

“How shall this be?” said Mary,  
“I am not yet a wife.”  
The angel answered quickly  
“The power of the Most High  
Will come upon you shortly;  
Your child will be God’s child.”

“For you are highly favored  
By God, the Lord of all.  
Who even now is with you.  
You are on earth most blest,  
You are most blest, most blessed,  
God chose you, you are blest!”

“Fear not, for God is with you,  
And you shall bear a child.  
His name shall be called Jesus,  
God’s offspring from on high.  
And He shall reign forever,  
Forever reign on high.”

As Mary heard the angel,  
She wondered at his words.  
“Behold, I am your handmaid,”  
She said unto her God.  
“So be it, I am ready  
According to your Word.”

**\* Offertory Hymn, No. 108**

*How Great Our Joy*

JÜNGST

**Offertory Prayer**

Anna Ezzell

**Offertory**

*Prelude in C*

Bryce Russell  
Johann Sebastian Bach

**\* Offertory Response**

*Doxology for Advent*

VENI EMMANUEL

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.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

**\* Worship through Song**

*I Shall Know Him When He Comes*

The Chancel Choir  
Douglas Wagner

I shall know Him when He comes,  
not with sound of pipe or drum,  
but by the holy harmony  
which now His coming makes in me.

He shall not in castle, warm,  
live in splendor, safe from harm.  
But in a manger, crude He'll sleep,  
Warmed by the breath of cows and sheep.

He shall wear no royal robe,  
or a crown of precious gold,  
but He my Lord, my King shall be  
always, ever there for me.

Come, Lord Jesus, tarry not.  
Find in me a resting spot.  
My heart is open, come dwell within.  
Let life be born in me again.

**The Second Gospel Reading**

Matthew 1:18-25

Rev. Clore

**Sermon**

Holy Inconvenience

Rev. Clore

**\* Hymn of Commitment, No. 121**

MARGARET

*Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne*  
(Stanzas 1, 2 and 5)

**Benediction**

Rev. Clore

**\* Benediction Response**

*Advent Blessing*

The Chancel Choir  
Eddie Fort

May God's Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love  
be with you throughout this Advent Season.  
Amen.

Please remain in place until the acolytes come forward to remind us to take the Light of Christ out of this sanctuary and into our community and world.

**\* Postlude**

The Advent Meditation was copied from *Call to Worship*, Volume 46.4 Advent, published by the Office of Theology and Worship of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). The official journal of the Presbyterian Association of Musicians and the United Church of Christ Musicians Network.

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## OPPORTUNITIES FOR THE WEEK

### **Sunday, December 11**

9:45 a.m.	Sunday School
10:30 a.m.	Chancel Choir Warm-up
11:00 a.m.	Morning Worship & Children's Worship
3:00 p.m.	Hospice Memorial Service
5:00 p.m.	Youth Choir
6:00 p.m.	Youth Bible Study

### **Monday, December 12**

10:00 a.m.	Staff Meeting
4:00 p.m.	Knit Wits (Knitting Ministry)

### **Tuesday, December 13**

11:00 a.m.	Hymn Sing
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### **Friday, December 16**

12:00 p.m.	Hospice Meals Served
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**Deacons of the Week:** Rose Langston / Kate Carter

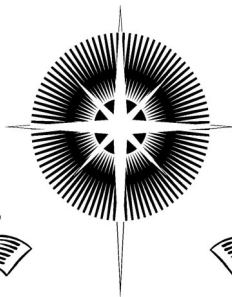
A faint, stylized illustration of a nativity scene is visible in the background of the first section. It shows a manger with a baby, a woman, and a man, all under a star.

Sunday, December 18, 2016

11:00 a.m.

Chancel Choir Presents

“God is With Us”

A decorative graphic featuring two large bows with pine branches, connected by a flowing ribbon that frames the text below.

Christmas Eve Service

Saturday, December 24th

5:00 P.M.



**First Baptist Church  
412 North Madison Street  
Whiteville, North Carolina 28472**

***Ministerial Staff***

Rev. Ryan Clore, Pastor  
Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music



***Support Staff***

Mrs. Teresa Malpass, Ministry Assistant  
Mrs. Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant  
Mr. Jim Council, Interim Organist



Church Office Hours 8:30 A.M.—4:30 P.M. Monday—Friday  
Phone: (910) 642-2139 Fax: (910) 642-5874  
Web Site: [www.fbcwhiteville.com](http://www.fbcwhiteville.com)  
Email: [fbcoffice@embarqmail.com](mailto:fbcoffice@embarqmail.com)  
CCLI #1445259



First Baptist Church

Growing Toward Christ

Whiteville, NC