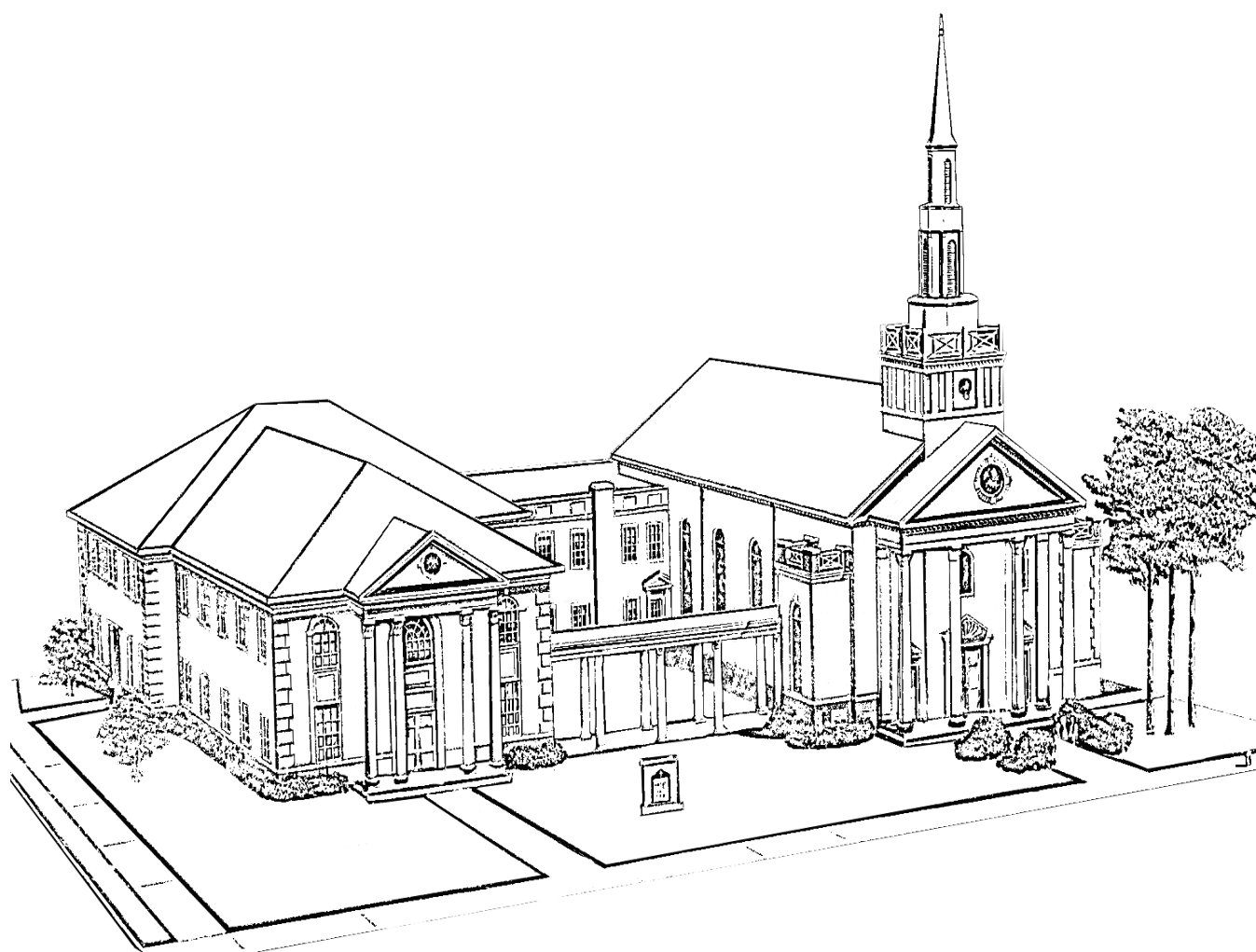


# *The Fourth Sunday of Advent*



*First Baptist Church*  
*Whiteville, North Carolina*  
*December 21, 2014*

# THE CHURCH AT WORSHIP

## The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 21, 2014

Morning Worship

Eleven o' clock

\* Please stand as you are able.

**Greeting**

Rev. Eddie Fort

**The Advent Wreath**

Lighting the Candle of Love

**Leader:** Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. We light the candle representing love. Jesus shows us God's perfect love. He exemplifies God's perfect love in human form. Those who believe in him and live in him, live in love. Love transforms and perfects all things. It never ends.

**People:** We light this candle today to remind us that God is love. We thank God for the hope he gives us, for the peace he bestows, for the joy he pours into our hearts, and for the love that redeems us and shows us the way.

**Leader:** Let us pray: O God of love, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts. Help us to be ready for the time of Christ's appearing. Grant that we may so dwell in him that his perfect love fills our entire being. Make our worship a time in which we celebrate your love and are made ready to show that love to the whole world—both today—and forevermore. Amen.

**Prelude**

Mrs. Leslie Bergbower

*Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn*

arr. David Lasky

Awake! Awake, and greet the new morn,  
for angels herald its dawning.  
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born,  
behold! The Child of our longing.

In darkest night his coming shall be,  
when all the world is despairing,  
as morning light so quiet and free,  
So warm and gentle and caring.

To us, to all in sorrow and fear.  
Emmanuel comes a singing,  
His humble song is quiet and near,  
Yet fills the earth with its ringing.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,  
though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light,  
Be strong and loving and fearless.

Acolyte: Pierson Young

**Call to Worship**

Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Rev. Fort

**\* Hymn of Praise, No. 88**

MENDELSSOHN

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

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

**Children's Sermon**

Rev. Trexler

**Hymn No. 109**

*Love Came Down at Christmas*

GARTAN

**The First Gospel Reading**

Luke 1:46b-55

Mrs. Gayle Powell

**\* Offertory Hymn, No. 85**

*The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

**\* Offertory Prayer**

Mr. Rick Kimball

**Offertory**

*The King Shall Come*

Mrs. Bergbower  
arr. Edward Broughton

**\* Offertory Response**

VENI EMMANUEL

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heav'nly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee, O Israel!*

**Worship through Song**

*Little Noel*

The Chancel Choir  
arr. John Leavitt

**Sermon**

"TO: The World, FROM: God"  
Luke 2:8-20

Rev. Trexler

**\* Hymn of Commitment, No. 106**

W ZLOBIE LEZY

*Infant Holy, Infant Lowly*

**\* Benediction**

Rev. Trexler

**\* Benediction Response**

*Advent Benediction*

The Chancel Choir  
William Brown

O Holy child of Bethlehem descend on us we pray,  
Cast out our sin and enter in be born in us today.  
Amen.

**Postlude**

*Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

Mrs. Bergbower  
arr. James Mansfield

**Sunday, December 21**

**9:45 a.m.** Sunday School  
**10:30 a.m.** Chancel Choir Warm-up  
**10:55 a.m.** Morning Worship, Children's Worship

**Monday, December 22**

**9:00 a.m.** Staff Meeting

**Wednesday, December 24**

**5:00 p.m.** Christmas Eve Service

**Sunday, December 28**

**9:45 a.m.** Called Church Conference (Fellowship Hall)

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

**Church Staff**

Rev. Eddie Fort, Minister of Music  
Leslie Bergbower, Organist  
Joshua Long, Ministry Assistant  
Dinah Reaves, Financial Ministry Assistant  
Deacons of the Week: Buster Carter / Brownie Cook  
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