

First Baptist Church at Worship

Christmastide

January 5, 2020

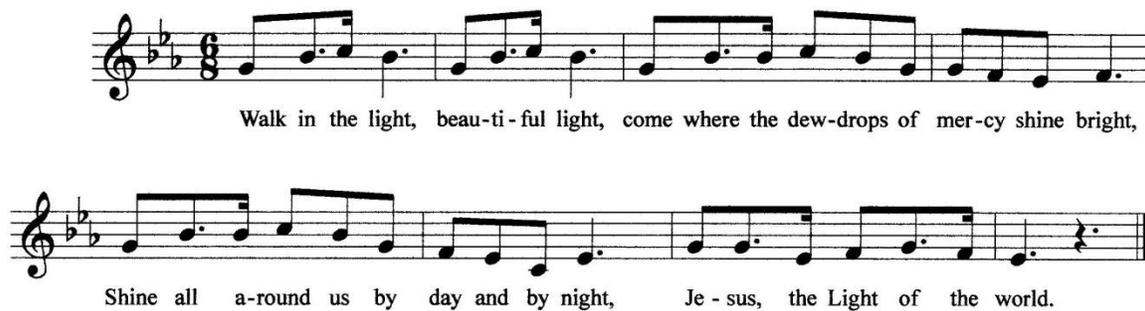
Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

The Community Gathers before God

Gathering Song

Jesus, the Light of the World

setting by André Thomas



Walk in the light, beau-ti-ful light, come where the dew-drops of mer-cy shine bright,
Shine all a-round us by day and by night, Je - sus, the Light of the world.

Hark! the herald angels sing, Jesus, the Light of the world:

“Glory to the newborn King.” Jesus, the Light of the world. REFRAIN

Hail, the heaven-born Prince of Peace, Jesus, the Light of the world:

Hail, the Sun of righteousness, Jesus, the Light of the world. REFRAIN

- traditional gospel song

Greeting and Call to Worship

Phil Majors

From distant lands and faraway places,

God calls us together.

Like a shepherd tending his flock,

God gathers us in.

Along straight paths and cleared byways,

God guides our journey.

Like a mother taking her firstborn's hand,

God brings us home.

Then let us sing aloud with gladness.

Let us worship the Lord with joy!

+Hymn 124

The First Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

+Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

... and inspire us to bear witness to Your abundant grace and enduring truth. Amen.

+Response

THE FIRST NOWELL

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord

Who hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his blood humankind hath bought.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

- traditional English carol

The Community Hears and Proclaims God's Word

Children's Sermon

Alice Tremaine

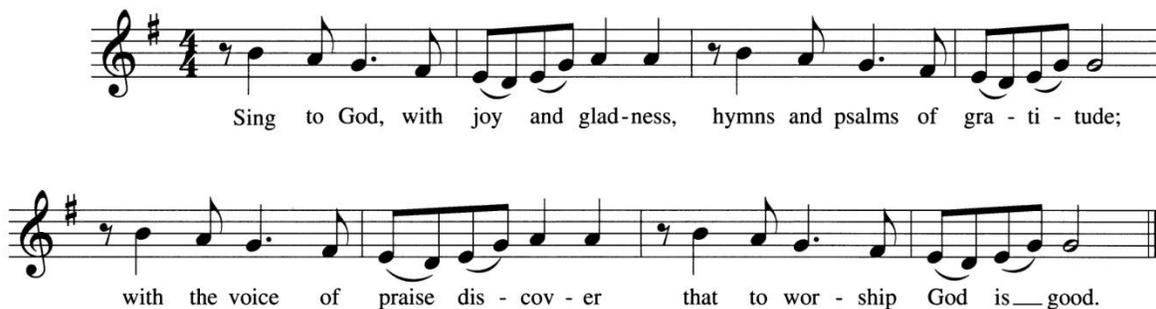
A Reading from the Epistles: Ephesians 1:3-14

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Psalms 147

GLENDON



Sing to God, with joy and glad-ness, hymns and psalms of gra - ti - tude;

with the voice of praise dis - cov - er that to wor - ship God is good.

God unites his scattered people, gathers those who wandered far,

Heals the hurt and broken spirits, tending every wound and scar. REFRAIN

Such is God's great power and wisdom none can calculate or tell;

Keen is God to ground the wicked and with humble folk to dwell. REFRAIN

God's discernment never favors strength or speed to lift or move;

God delights in those who fear him, trusting in his steadfast love. REFRAIN

- John Bell

A Reading from the Gospels: John 1:1-18

Phil Majors

The word of the Lord

Thanks be to God

Sermon

“Gather at the Table”

Alice Tremaine

The Community Shares in Christ's Life

Invitation to the Table

Phil Majors

The Celebration of Communion

Breaking the Bread

Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring

by J. S. Bach

*Jesu, joy of man's desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring, soar to uncreated light.
Word of God, our flesh that fashioned with the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown, soaring, dying 'round Thy throne.*

- Robert Bridges

Sharing the Cup

What Child Is This

setting by Alice Jordan

*What Child is this, who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!
Why lies he in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears, shall pierce him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!
So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!*

- William Dix

+The Peace

Paul Sims

*The peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.*

+Hymn 150

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

stanzas 1, 2, and 3

If you wish to present yourself for membership today, or if you have another decision to share, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

+Offertory Prayer

Phil Majors

Loose change received in January will benefit The White Flag Ministry.

Offertory Anthem

Good Christians Friends, Rejoice

setting by Hal Hopson

The Sanctuary Choir and the congregation

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today!

Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today, Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

+the congregation is invited to stand and sing:

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;

Now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!

Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.

Christ was born to save, Christ was born to save!

- Medieval Latin carol

The Community Departs for Ministry

+Commission and Blessing

Phil Majors, Paul Sims, & Alice Tremaine

Go forth as children of the Light; shine forth in the darkness.

Let the Gospel become flesh in you.

And may the love, peace, and joy of Christmas radiate from your life. Amen.

Organ Postlude

How Great Our Joy

setting by Anne A. Davis

This gift of God we'll cherish well, that ever joy our hearts shall fill.

How great our joy! Praise we the Lord in heaven on high!

- traditional German carol

+all who are able may stand

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Gayle Majors, Organist Ann Hacker, Pianist

Carolyn Garr, cantor

Sanctuary flowers are given in memory of

E. R. Hopper, Jr.

by

Billie Poynter and family