

# 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

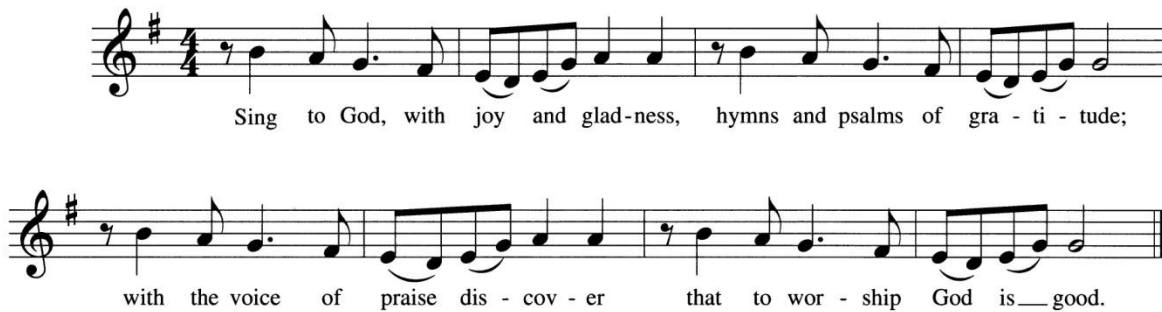
A Reading from the Epistles: Ephesians 1:3-14

*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*