

# First Baptist Church at Worship

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2019

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

## While We Are Waiting, Come

Greeting

Phil Majors

Organ Voluntary

*Sing We Now of Christmas  
God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

setting by Owen Griffin

Lighting the Candle of Love – Harrison Lowe and Jackson Lowe

Call to Worship

Alice Tremaine

*Look, O house of David! The Lord will give you a sign:*

***The young woman shall bear a child***

*and shall name him Immanuel –*

***God-with-us.***

*Listen, O house of David: The Lord draws near.*

***With love in our hearts, let us worship God!***

+Hymn 126

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

REGENT SQUARE

+Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

*... that we, too, may come in wonder to worship the newborn King. Amen.*

+Response

*While We Are Waiting, Come*

by Don Cason

While we are wait - ing, come; while we are wait - ing, come.  
With power and glo - ry, come; with power and glo - ry, come.  
Come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come; come, Sav - ior, quick - ly come.

Je - sus, our Lord, Em - man - u - el, while we are wait - ing, come.

- Claire Cloninger

Act of Dedication

please see insert

# With Power and Glory, Come

Children's Sermon

Alice Tremaine

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture: Isaiah 7:10-16

*The word of the Lord*

*Thanks be to God*

Psalm 80

setting by Hal Hopson



*O Shepherd, hear and lead Your flock, as lambs, we crave Your care;*

*What strength from You can earth afford, what mercies can compare? REFRAIN*

*Restore to us a saving faith, the radiance of Your face*

*To lighten, to reveal the gift of Your redeeming grace. REFRAIN*

- Michael Morgan

A Reading from the Gospels: Matthew 1:18-25

Phil Majors

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet:

*"Behold, a virgin shall be with child, and shall bring forth a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel, which, being interpreted, is God with us."*

When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

*The Gospel of our Lord*

*Thanks be to God*

+Hymn 119

*His Name Is Called Emmanuel*

LASST UNS EFREUEN

Sermon

"W. W. J. D."  
(What Will Joseph Do?)

Phil Majors

# Come, Savior, Quickly, Come

+Hymn

*The Hands that First Held Mary's Child*

CAROL

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.

*The hands that first held Mary's Child were hard from working wood,  
From boards they sawed and planed and filed and splinters they withstood.  
This day they gripped no tool of steel, they drove no iron nail,  
But cradled from the head to heel our Lord, newborn and frail.*

*When Joseph marveled at the size of that small breathing frame,  
And gazed upon those bright new eyes and spoke the infant's name,  
The angel's words he once had dreamed poured down from heaven's height,  
And like the host of stars that beamed blessed earth with welcome light.*

*"This child shall be Emmanuel, not God upon the throne,  
But God with us, Emmanuel, as close as blood and bone."*

*The tiny form in Joseph's palms confirmed what he had heard,  
And from his heart rose hymns and psalms for heaven's human word.*

- Thomas H. Troeger

+Offertory Prayer

Paul Sims

Loose change received in December will benefit First Baptist Church's Benevolence Ministry

Offertory Anthem

*Alleluia! Gloria! Now Sing We All Nowell!*

by David Music

*Alleluia! Gloria! Now sing we all Nowell! Oh, be joyful! On this day is born Emmanuel!*

*Children, 'round the manger sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"*

*As the shepherd's once adored, kneeling to creation's Lord.*

*Sing a gentle lullaby for the Son of God most high.*

*On Christmas night all Christians sing to hear the news the angels bring,*

*News of great joy, news of great mirth, news of our merciful King's birth.*

*From out of darkness we have light, which made the angels sing this night:*

*"Glory to God and peace to men now and forevermore. Amen.*

Prayers of the People

Alice Tremaine

The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,  
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; and  
lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom,  
and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

+Doxology for Advent

VENI EMMANUEL

*To You, O Christ, all glory be, whose advent sets Your people free;  
Whom, with the Father, we adore, and Holy Spirit, evermore;  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## While We Are Waiting, Come

+The Peace

Paul Sims

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

+Hymn 124

*The First Nowell*

THE FIRST NOWELL

stanzas 1, 2, and 4

+Commission and Blessing

Phil Majors

*Go without fear into life's difficult places, for the earth is the Lord's,  
and you belong to the Lord.*

***We have been blessed, reassured, and prepared;  
our hearts have been cleansed and our faith renewed.***

*The dawn of God's truth greets us once more as we celebrate  
the coming of Emmanuel.*

***We know that God is with us wherever we go.***

***God's strength and might sustain us, now and forevermore. Amen.***

Organ Postlude

*Toccata on 'Sing We Now of Christmas'*

by Anna Laura Page

+all who are able may stand

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Gayle Majors, Organist

Ann Hacker, Pianist

Lorin Leake, cantor

David Garr, Edward Garr, and Samuel Garr, percussion

*The Advent wreath is given in loving memory of*

Felix and Mattie Pace

Leonard and Marie Leake

by

*Kevin and Sherry Pace*

*Daniel and Lindsay Lowe, Jackson, Harrison and Emerson*

# The Dedication of Emerson Blair Lowe

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Mighty God, by Your love we are given children through the miracle of birth. We give You thanks. May we greet each new son and daughter with joy, and may we surround them all with faith, so that they may know who You are and want to be Your disciples. Never let us neglect children, but help us to delight in them, showing them the welcome You have shown us all through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## Litany of Dedication

*In presenting Emerson to the Lord, do you promise – in dependence upon God’s grace and with the help of the church – to teach your daughter the gifts and claims of the Christian faith, and by prayer, word, and example to bring her up in the nurture, discipline, and instruction of the Lord?*

We do.

*Brothers and sisters of the household of faith, I commend to you this family. Your love, care, and example are as necessary to this covenant as their faithfulness in keeping their promise. Will you do all in your power to make this church a true spiritual home for them, lending them the support of your prayers and your example?*

***With God’s help we will so seek to follow Christ ourselves that Lindsay and Daniel will be strengthened and confirmed in their resolve, and that Emerson, surrounded by steadfast love, may be nurtured in the faith and strengthened in the way that leads to life.***

## Prayer of Dedication

*God of Grace, Perfect Parent of us all, we pray for these parents and all parents. Help Daniel and Lindsay to know You, to love You with Your love, to teach Your truth, and to tell the story of Jesus to their daughter so that Your word may be heard.*

*Bless Emerson. Guard her safely through injury and illness that she may live the promises You give. And keep us, with this child and all children, ready to listen and to love, even as in Jesus Christ You have loved us, Your grown-up children. For we pray in Christ’s name. Amen.*