

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Second Sunday of Advent

December 10, 2023

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

“Power From on High”

Gathering

Greeting Alex Lockridge

Lucas and Alex Tremaine, acolytes

Prelude arr. by T. Billingsley

Go Tell It on the Mountain

Lighting the Candle of Peace Nick Hibbard

Summer Walter, acolyte

When God's people were afraid of their enemies, desperate for peace in times of tumult, Isaiah spoke:

“Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.”

In this season of waiting and expectation, we pray for power from on high that God would come down and heal our broken world.

We light this candle as a sign of peace for this world, and we wait in anticipation for our coming Lord.

In peace, we worship the God who comforts.

+Hymn 79 VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Homily Alex Lockridge

“The Power of Peace”

Proclaiming

A Christmas Reading: Luke 2:1-7

Introit and Processional

O Come All Ye Faithful

A Christmas Reading: Luke 2:8-14

While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks by Night

A Christmas Reading: Luke 2:15-16

O Little Town of Bethlehem

Away in a Manger

Silent Night

A Christmas Reading:

Luke 2:17-20

How Great Our Joy!

Ding Dong! Merrily on High

Joy to the World

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

A Christmas Reading:

Matthew 2:1-12

The First Noel

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,

And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

See Him in a manger laid, whom the choirs of angels praise;

Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Responding

Offertory Prayer

Jeremiah Banks

Loose change received in December will go to the White Flag Ministry fund.

Offertory Hymn

It Came upon the Midnight Clear

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,

From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold:

“Peace on the earth, good will to men, from heaven’s all-gracious King.”

The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,

And still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world.

Above its sad and lonely plains they bend on hovering wing,

And ever o’er its babel sounds the heavenly angels sing.

*All ye, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are ending low,
Who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow, look now!
For glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing:
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing.*

*For lo! The days are hastening on, by prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song which now the angels sing.*

+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.*

Sending

+Commission and Blessing

Jeremiah Banks

*Beloved of God, may you go from this place blessed with comfort that you may also give comfort,
Supported by God's sustaining that you may also provide sustenance,
And surrounded by peace that you may also make God's just peace a reality. Amen.*

Organ Postlude

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

setting by David Lasky

+all who are able may stand

leading in worship today

Rev. Jeremiah Banks
Associate Pastor of Spiritual Formation

Dr. Yukiko Fujimura
Accompanist

Donna Davis
Organist

Carolyn Garr
Interim Music Director

Rev. Alex Lockridge
Senior Pastor

*The Advent wreath is placed in memory of
Felix & Mattie Pace and
Leonard & Marie Leake*

by

Kevin & Sherry Pace; Daniel, Lindsay, Jackson, Harrison, & Emerson Lowe

The FBC Choir dedicates today's Christmas program to the memory of Pat Parkey.

Christmas Choir

<u>Sopranos</u>	<u>Altos</u>	<u>Tenors</u>
Katie Bales	Marsha Barnett	Jefferson Calico
Patti Brasher	Cari Calico	Nick Hibbard
Kim Croley	Whitley Calico	
Pasty Faulkner	Ann Hacker	<u>Basses</u>
Elizabeth Reese	Maria Lockridge	Ed Garr
Alice Tremaine	Lauren Rose	Daniel Lowe
Pat Waddle	Debbie Tipton	Brandon Wood
Summer Walter	Katherine Whitaker	

<u>Narrator</u>	<u>Costumes</u>
Jill House	Rebecca Daniel
<u>Audio/Visual</u>	Nancy Rich
Troy Mock	Alice Tremaine

Cast

(in order of appearance)

Innkeeper: Cierra Pearson	Angels: Gracie Blevins, Chelsea Ferris, Kinley Lockridge, Ellie Petrey, Lily Taylor, Willow Taylor	Herod – Lucas Tremaine
Joseph: Kayden Lockridge		
Mary: Delilah Blevins		
Shepherds: Keaton Bales, Laurel Bales, Savannah Bales, Stella Bales, Wade Bales, Brooklyn Enriquez, Leo Enriquez	Townspeople: Benny Cornett, Kingston Diehl, Hailey Reynolds, Trevor Reynolds, Abigail Ridener, Alexis Ring, Josh Ring	Wisemen – Alex Tremaine, David Whitaker, Deacon Whitaker

*All choral music arranged by Benjamin Harlan and John W. Peterson

Today's organ music is from a library of more than 1,000 digitized hymns, anthems, and solo-organ music that Gayle Majors recorded over the last several years. We are thankful for Gayle's life, for her 36-year tenure as Organist for First Baptist Church, and for this fine legacy that she has left for us.

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