

First Baptist Church at Worship

The Second Sunday of Christmas

An Epiphany Celebration

January 2, 2022

Ten-thirty O'clock in the Morning

Gathering

Greeting

Alex Lockridge

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with all of you.
And also with you.*

Organ Voluntary

What Child Is This?

setting by John Innes

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;
The Kings 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*

Call to Worship

Jeremiah Banks

*Arise, shine! Your light has come!
And the glory of the Lord has appeared among us!*

Hymn 87

Arise, Your Light Is Come

*FESTAL SONG

Prayer of Confession

Paul Sims

Eternal God, wondrous star, light no darkness can overcome, drive out the sin in our hearts. Forgive us for turning from Your way, for denying Your truth, for resisting the life You would have us live. Refresh us and restore us. Focus us on the brilliant light of Jesus Christ that we may see him more clearly and follow him more nearly, this day and every day.

Response

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.

(continued on page 2)

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

Proclaiming

A Moment for Children

Jeremiah Banks

A Reading from Hebrew Scripture

Alex Lockridge

Isaiah 60:1-6

Psalm 72

setting by Hal Hopson



We, too, bow down. In one voice we raise, ev - er to sing un - end - ing praise.

All hail to God's anointed, Great David's greater Son!

All hail, in time appointed, Your reign on earth begun!

You come to break oppression, to set the captive free,

To take away transgression and rule with equity. REFRAIN

The rulers bow before You, and gold and incense bring;

All nations shall adore You, Your praise all people sing;

To You shall prayers unceasing and daily vows ascend;

Your rule is still increasing, Your rule is without end. REFRAIN

- James Montgomery

A Reading from the Gospels

Paul Sims

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking,

“Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews?

For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.”

When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him,

“In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying,

“Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.”

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

- Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon "Arise, Shine; for Your Light Has Come" Alex Lockridge

Responding

Hymn 150 *As with Gladness Men of Old* *DIX

If you desire to become a follower of Christ or if you wish to present yourself for membership today, please come to the front of the sanctuary during the hymn and a minister will receive you. You are welcome here.

Offertory Prayer Alice Tremaine

Offertory *Beautiful Star of Bethlehem* by R. Fischer Boyce
Jefferson Calico & Nick Hibbard

*Oh, beautiful Star of Bethlehem, shining afar thru shadows dim,
Giving a light for those who long have gone;
And guiding the wise men on their way unto the place where Jesus lay,
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.
Oh, beautiful Star, the hope of light, guiding the pilgrim thru the night,
Over the mountain till the break of dawn;
And unto the light of perfect day it will give out a lovely ray,
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.
Oh, beautiful Star, the hope of rest, for the redeemed, the good and blest,
Yonder in glory when the crown is won;
For Jesus is now that Star divine, brighter and brighter he will shine,
Beautiful Star of Bethlehem shine on.*

Prayers of the People Alex Lockridge

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 Christmas

THE FIRST NOWELL

*To God, all glorious heavenly Light, to Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise our joyful songs of thanks and praise.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel!*

- Charles Coffin

Sending

Commission and Blessing

Alex Lockridge and Paul Sims

*Go now to seek out the Christ wherever he may be found;
share the good news with all who will hear.
Bring light to those in darkness, give a voice to the voiceless and hope to the hopeless.
And may God make you to share in the promised kingdom,
may Jesus Christ fill you with joy and peace,
and may the Holy Spirit help you to bear Christ's light everywhere you go. Amen.*

Sending Song

LIGHT OF MINE

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, ...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine, ...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Jesus gave it to me, I'm gonna let it shine, ...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine, ...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine, ...let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

- African-American spiritual

Organ Postlude

How Brightly Shines the Morning Star

setting by M. B. Bennett

Carolyn Garr, cantor

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"Psalm 72," Hal. H. Hopson. Copyright © 2008 Birnamwood Publications.

"Beautiful Star of Bethlehem," R. Fischer Boyce.

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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.

*supplemental organ music provided by William P. Young, III