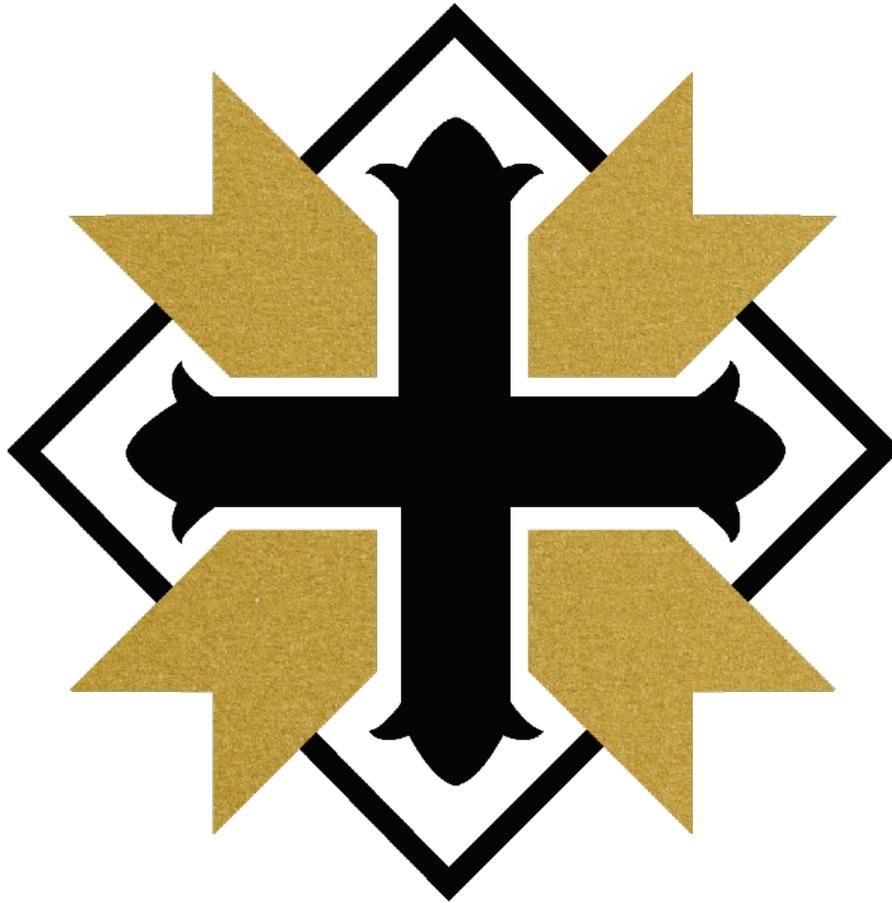


# FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Savannah, GA



## NATIVITY OF THE LORD

December 24, 2021 at 6:00 pm

## WELCOME

*First Baptist Church is a welcoming congregation  
located in historic downtown Savannah, Georgia.  
We believe Jesus treated everyone with a spirit of love and equality.  
Therefore, we accept every individual without regard  
to age, gender, race, ethnicity,  
sexual orientation, or socio-economic status.  
We affirm all persons as created in the image of God.  
At First Baptist Church, individuals can find family,  
families can find community, the injured can find healing,  
and all can seek truth and justice.  
We labor together in love for each other,  
our community, our world, and our God.  
No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcomed, you are accepted, you are loved.  
For more information about our church,  
please visit [www.fbc-sav.org](http://www.fbc-sav.org).*

## COVID REMINDERS

*We kindly ask that you maintain social distancing while in the sanctuary,  
and that you wear a mask at all times, especially when singing.  
Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.*

## CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

*There will be no nursery offered this evening.  
Children are welcome to be with their families in worship.  
Children's activity bags may be found in the narthex.*

## RESTROOMS

*The restrooms in the historic Sanctuary building are not operational at this time.  
Should you need to use the restroom, an usher will escort you  
to the Education Building directly across Whitaker Street.*

# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

December 24, 2021 at 6:00 pm

*Nativity of the Lord*

*The people are asked to be in silent prayer and meditation upon entering the Sanctuary.*

ORGAN MUSIC BY CANDLELIGHT (*Begins at 5:30 pm*)

*Dr. Justin L. Addington & Rev. James C. Richardson, Organists*

"Still, Still, Still/ Away in a Manger" by Ron & Linda Sprunger

"Silent Night" by Norman Warren

"Of the Father's Love Begotten" by Wilbur Held

"O Little Town of Bethlehem" by John Hebden Schaffner

"The Holy Boy" by John Ireland

"What Child Is This" by Gilbert Martin

"The Coventry Carol" by William Lloyd-Webber

"See Amid the Winter's Snow" by Malcolm Archer

"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly" by Justin Addington

"Go, Tell It on the Mountain" by Colin Curtis

"O Holy Night" by Lani Smith

## WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

*\* Indicates the people standing, as able.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & INVOCATION

*Rev. Katie Callaway & Rev. John Callaway, Co-Pastors*

\* HYMN - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Tune: ADESTE FIDELES

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant;  
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!

*O come, let us adore him;*  
*O come, let us adore him;*  
*O come, let us adore him,*  
*Christ, the Lord!*

True God from true God,  
Light from light eternal,  
Born of a virgin, a mortal he comes;  
Very God, begotten, not created! *(Refrain)*

Sing, choirs of angels;  
Sing in exultation;  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! *(Refrain)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! *(Refrain)*

- Text translated by John Mason Neale

\* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(In Unison)*

As Christians, we believe in a God who creates all things:  
People, religions, languages, beauty, and every color in the rainbow.  
As Christians, we believe in a God who becomes flesh,  
Is born in a stable, a refugee with nowhere to lay his head.  
As Christians, we believe in a God who fills us with the courage to  
Welcome the stranger, feed the hungry, and love the foreigner  
Because we were foreigners in the land of Egypt.  
This is who we are as Christians:  
People created to love, to welcome the stranger,  
And to walk, hand in hand with all God's people,  
Through God's starry night and into the dawn. Amen.

\* CHRISTMAS GLORIA PATRI (*Sung*)

Tune: GLORIA

**Glory be to God the Father,  
Glory be to God the Son.  
Glory be to God the Spirit;  
Ever three and ever one.  
Gloria in excelsis deo.  
Gloria in excelsis deo.**

*- Text adapted from Horatius Bonar*

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*Rev. Jamie Norris and Rob Harrelson*

ANTHEM - "Still, Still, Still" by Norman Luboff

*Members and Friends of the First Baptist Church Choir  
Jacqueline Dion, Liturgical Dancer*

*Still, still, still,  
One can hear the falling snow.  
For all is hushed,  
The world is sleeping,  
Holy star its vigil keeping.  
Still, still, still,  
One can hear the falling snow.*

*Dream, dream, dream,  
Of the joyous day to come.  
While guardian angels  
Without number,  
Watch you as you sweetly slumber.  
Dream, dream, dream,  
Of the joyous day to come.*

*Sleep, sleep, sleep,  
'Tis the eve of our Savior's birth.  
The night is peaceful all around you,  
Close your eyes,  
Let sleep surround you.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep,  
'Tis the eve of our Savior's birth.*

*-Text by Marilyn Keith & Alan Bergman*

## WE LISTEN TO GOD

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 2:1-5

REFLECTION - *Rev. John Callaway*

ANTHEM - "Gesù Bambino" by Pietro Yon  
*Carol Melton, Solo*

*When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows  
Upon a winter night,  
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose,  
The King of Love and Light.*

*The angels sang, the shepherds sang,  
The grateful earth rejoiced;  
And at his blessed birth the stars  
Their exultation voiced.*

*O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him,  
Christ the Lord.*

*Again the heart with rapture glows  
To greet the holy night,  
That gave the world its Christmas Rose,  
Its King of Love and Light.*

*Let every voice acclaim his name,  
The grateful chorus swell.  
From paradise to earth he came  
That we with him might dwell.*

- Text by Pietro Yon

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 2:6-7

REFLECTION - Rev. Katie Callaway

ANTHEM - "Jesus, Jesus, Rest Your Head" by John Jacob Niles  
*Evan Goetz, Solo*

*Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.  
All the evil folk on earth  
Sleep in feathers at their birth.  
Jesus, Jesus, rest your head.  
You have got a manger bed.*

*Have you heard about our Jesus?  
Have you heard about his fate?  
How his mother went to the stable  
On that Christmas Eve so late?  
Winds were blowing, cows were lowing,  
Stars were glowing, glowing, glowing.*

*To the manger came the wise men.  
Bringing from hin and yon,  
For the mother and the father,  
And the blessed little Son.  
Milkmaids left their fields and flocks  
And sat beside the ass and ox.*

- Text from an Appalachian Folk Carol

SCRIPTURE LESSON - Luke 2:8-14

REFLECTION - *Rev. John Callaway*

ANTHEM - "The Birthday of a King" by William Harold Neidlinger

*Dr. Justin L. Addington, Solo*

*In the little village of Bethlehem,  
There lay a Child one day,  
And the sky was bright with a holy light  
O'er the place where Jesus lay.*

*Alleluia! O how the angels sang.  
Alleluia! How it rang!  
And the sky was bright with a holy light,  
'Twas the birthday of a King.*

*'Twas a humble birth-place, but O how much  
God gave to us that day,  
From the manger bed what a path has led,  
What a perfect, holy way.*

*- Text by William Harold Neidlinger*

SCRIPTURE LESSON - LUKE 2:15-20

REFLECTION - *Rev. Katie Callaway*

ANTHEM - "He Shall Feed His Flock" from *Messiah* by George Frederic Handel

*Emily Richardson-Dion, Solo*

*Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened,  
And the ears of the deaf unstopped;  
Then shall the lame man leap as an hart,  
And the tongue of the dumb shall sing.*

*He shall feed his flock like a shepherd;  
And he shall gather the lambs with his arm,  
And carry them in his bosom,  
And gently lead those that are with young.*

*- Text from Isaiah 35 and 40*

# WE RESPOND TO GOD

## OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY - "O Little Town of Bethlehem" arr. Mark Hayes

*Rev. Jamie Norris, Piano*

*If you would like to participate in worship by giving monetarily, you may place a donation in the offering plate near the doors of the sanctuary or click "online giving" at [www.fbc-sav.org](http://www.fbc-sav.org).*

\* CHRISTMAS DOXOLOGY (*Sung*)

TUNE: REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising  
God the Father, Spirit, Son,  
Evermore your voices raising  
To the eternal Three in One.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

*- Text by James Montgomery*

\* HYMN - "The First Noel"

Tune: NOEL

**The first Noel the angel did say  
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay—  
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,  
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**They looked up and saw a star  
Shining in the east, beyond them far,  
And to the earth it gave great light,  
And so it continued both day and night.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

**And by the light of that same star  
Three wise men came from country far.  
To seek for a king was their intent,  
And to follow the star wherever it went.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

*(Continued)*

**This star drew nigh to the northwest,  
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,  
And there it did both stop and stay,  
Right over the place where Jesus lay.  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, born is the King of Israel.**

*- Author of text is unknown*

TIME OF RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**Pastor:** Lord, in your mercy,  
**People:** Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*In Unison*)

**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 sins  
As we forgive those who sin 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 and ever. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER RESPONSE (*Sung*)

**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.**

*- Text by Edmund Hamilton Sears*

# WE GO TO SERVE GOD

## LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*The deacons will pass the light of the Christ Candle to the first worshipper on each pew.  
Please tilt your unlighted candle toward the lighted one to avoid dripping wax.*

## HYMN - "Silent Night"

Tune: STILLE NACHT

**Silent night, holy night!  
All is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and Child!  
Holy Infant, so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night!  
Shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing "Alleluia;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!"**

**Silent night, holy night!  
Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord, at thy birth.**

**Silent night, holy night!  
Wondrous star, lend thy light;  
With the angels let us sing,  
Alleluia to our King;  
Christ the Savior is born,  
Christ the Savior is born!**

*- Text by Joseph Mohr*

## \* TAKING OUR LIGHT TO THE WORLD

*Please silently follow the ministers out to the front steps of the church.*

\* SINGING CAROLS ON THE FRONT STEPS

*Rev. John Callaway, Guitar*

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

Tune: MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,  
God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,  
Join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic hosts proclaim,  
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth,  
Born to give us second birth.**

*- Text by Charles Wesley*

"Away in a Manger"

Tune: MUELLER

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,  
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask you to stay  
Close by me forever and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in your tender care,  
And take us to heaven to live with you there.**

*- Text by Martin Luther*

*The carols are continued on the back page.*

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“Go, Tell It on the Mountain”

Tune: GO TELL IT

*Go tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills, and everywhere;  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
That Jesus Christ is born.*

**While shepherds kept their watching  
O'er silent flocks by night,  
Behold, throughout the heavens  
There shone a holy light. (Refrain)**

**Down in a lowly manger  
The humble Christ was born,  
And God sent us salvation  
That blessed Christmas morn. (Refrain)**

*- Text from an African American Spiritual*

“Joy to the World”

Tune: ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders of his love,  
And wonders, wonders of his love.**

*- Text by Isaac Watts*

\* PASTORAL BENEDICTION

*Rev. Katie Callaway & Rev. John Callaway*

*Please place your candle in one of the baskets on the steps as you leave.*