

DEPARTING TO SERVE

Hymn 91

Silent Night STILLE NACHT
Michael Baughman, guitar

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, 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.

†Hymn 87 *Joy to the World! The Lord is Come* ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n 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.

†Benediction Jeff Harris

†Sending Forth *Go, Tell it on the Mountain* -Work, Jr. Children's Choir Wilson Edwards, djembe

Postlude *Go, Tell it on the Mountain* -Kerr †Please stand if you are able.

We thank our instrumentalists Donis Schweizer, Kelsey Lynch, and Wilson Edwards; and our soloists Kim McFarland, Sarah Benedict, and Gary Benedict, for their musical offerings this evening.

Christmas Food Boxes Given in Honor or Memory 2018

Don & Carol Batts	In Memory of James & Mabel Chambers
Don & Carol Batts	In Memory of Joseph P. Wray
Don & Carol Batts	In Honor of Bud and Georgia Pace
The Dusenbury Family	In Memory of Debbie Garrett
Mike & Di Greene	In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. James Chambers
Mike & Di Greene	In Memory of Mr. Charles Greene
JT & Cathy Johnson	In Memory of Christopher Todd Johnson
The Justice Family	In Memory of Ned Covil, Herman & Erie Justice
Dean & Marilyn Kimbrell	In Memory of 1 Lt. Timothy Cunningham
The McEntire Family	In Honor of Gerald & Carole McEntire
The McEntire Family	In Honor of Ellis & Linda Fincher
Billy & Kim McFarland	In Memory of Bill and Dot McFarland
Billy & Kim McFarland	In Memory of Johnny Shytle
Billy & Kim McFarland	In Memory of Vailon & Louvenia Shytle
Linda W. Martin	In Memory of Ramey J. Martin
Linda W. Martin	In Honor of the Stewart J. Martin Family
Linda W. Martin	In Honor of the Steven L. Martin Family
Linda W. Martin	In Honor of the Jeffrey W. Martin Family
Linda W. Martin	In Honor of the Jonathan D. Martin Family
Rick Poole	In Honor of Jim & Rachel Hawkins
Ken & Leslie Raymond	In Memory of Sam Pace, Charles Sylvia, Bill Reddix
Frances Wray	In Memory of Joseph P. Wray

Welcome! We are grateful to worship with you. If you are a guest, we hope you will experience God's love through our worship and among our congregation. If this is your first time with us, please complete a welcome card, which can be found in the pew pocket, and place it in the offering plate later in worship.

Nursery Care is provided for children from birth to three years.

The Annual Shepherd's Feast is Christmas Day, at Polk Middle School, from 1pm-4pm. Come for turkey and all the trimmings! This feast is for young and old, those who have plenty, and those who have little. All are welcome.

Year-end contributions are accepted until Sunday, December 30.

Hearing devices are available in the Narthex.

Baskets for recycling bulletins are located at the exits.

THIS WEEK AT FIRST BAPTIST TRYON

Monday, December 24	4:00	pm	Christmas Eve Worship
Tuesday, December 25			Merry Christmas!
Wednesday, December 26			Church Office Closed
Thursday, December 27			Church Office Open
Sunday, December 30	10:00	am	Sunday School
	11:00	am	Worship
Tuesday, January 1			Happy New Year!
Sunday, January 6	10:00	am	Sunday School
	11:00	am	Worship, Epiphany

CHURCH STAFF

The Reverend Dr. Jeff C. Harris, Pastor
The Reverend Jim Hawkins, Minister of Music
The Reverend Jaime Fitzgerald, Minister to Youth
Jodi Harris, Minister of Education and Children
Kay Greene, Pianist
E. Leslie Raymond, Organist
John Spinks, Sexton

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First Baptist Church Tryon, NC



December 24, 2018

Four O'clock in the Afternoon

Christmas Eve

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH AT WORSHIP

CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2018

Four O'clock

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

Music for Meditation Kay Greene, Donis Schweizer, Leslie Raymond
Please use this time for silent reflection.

Trinity Chime John Spinks

Anthem *In the Bleak Midwinter* -Hayes
Sarah Benedict and Kim McFarland, Soloists

Invocation Jeff Harris

†**Hymn 89** *O Come, All Ye Faithful* ADESTE FIDELIS

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!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
O sing, all ye bright hosts of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Lighting the Christ Candle

Otis, Lydia, Malik, and Olivia Miller

As we light the candle of hope, we pray for those feeling hopeless.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. Rom 15:13

As we light the candle of peace, we pray for all who suffer the consequences of war and for all victims of violence.

Turn from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it. Ps 34:14

As we light the candle of joy, we pray for the brokenhearted.

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Phil 4:4

As we light the candle of love, we pray for those who have never felt love, and for those who struggle to love others.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. I Jn 4:7

As we light the Christ candle, we give thanks that the true light, which enlightens everyone, has come into the world.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. Jn 1:5

†**Congregational Response** LYONS

*The Christ candle's light that shines for us here
Tells out the good news that God has come near!
God came, a poor baby, in one time and place,
To show all creation the wealth of God's grace.*

†**Passing the Peace** Jeff Harris

The Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Children participating in the Impromptu Nativity may exit now.

†**Hymn 85** *The First Nowell* THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell 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.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

For all to see there was 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.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
and with his blood mankind hath brought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Born is the King of Israel.

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

Luke 2:1-20 Phil Scoggins, Beth McCallister

Meditation *What Child Is This?*
Donis Schweizer, violin; Kelsey Lynch, cello

Impromptu Nativity Children

Anthem *The Sussex Carol* -Hagenberg

Sermon "Beyond Reason" Jeff Harris

Solo *Joseph's Lullaby* -Millard, Bannister
Gary Benedict

RESPONDING IN FAITH

Confession Jeff Harris

Unclutter our lives, Lord,
**we have too much,
consume too much,
expect too much.**

Grant us perspective;
**to see this world
through your eyes
and our neighbors'.**

Grant us compassion;
**where there is need
to play our part
not turn aside.**

Grant us gratitude
**for what we have,
our daily bread,
the gift of life.**

Unclutter our lives, Lord,
**give us space,
simplicity,
thankful hearts.**

Silence

Piano Meditation *What Child is This* Charley Dusenbury

Assurance of Forgiveness Ps 103:8-12 Jeff Harris

**The Lord is merciful and gracious,
slow to anger
and abounding in steadfast love.
He will not always accuse,
nor will he keep his anger forever.
He does not deal with us
according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens
are high above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love
toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far he removes
our transgressions from us.**

Words of Institution Jim Hawkins

Prayer of Thanksgiving Jeff Harris

Celebration of The Lord's Supper
Come to the table by the center aisle, take a piece of bread, dip it in the cup,
partake of it, and return to your seat by the side aisle. We use gluten-free bread.

Solo *O Holy Night* -arr. Hayes
Kim McFarland

†**Offertory Prayer** Jodi Harris
Tonight's offering goes to Heifer International.

Offering and Meditation -arr. Schram
Once in Bethlehem

†**Doxology 253, Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*