



Welcome to First Baptist Church, Shreveport. We are a family of faith, from diverse backgrounds and ages, committed to following Jesus together. We strive to grow together in faith, to love God in our worship, and to embrace the call of Jesus in missions and ministry. I hope you experience God in a special way in worship today. We have Bible Study groups for all ages at 9:15 am each Sunday, and these are a great way to get to know the church.

Welcome to the First Baptist Family!
Jeff

Sermon Notes:

The Season of Anticipation & Celebration: We invite the church family to memorize Luke 2: 8-16 in the month of December. And there were shepherds living out in the fields nearby, keeping watch over their flocks at night. An angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people. Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you; he is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign to you: You will find a baby wrapped in cloths and lying in a manger." Suddenly a great company of the heavenly host appeared with the angel, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger.

Announcements:

SCRIPTURE READING FOR NEXT WEEK: Jeremiah 4-6; Psalm 127; Luke 1-2
Today's worship service will be broadcast on KPXJ CW21 next Sunday at 8:00 a.m.

Finding Passes Instead of Sadness
A reflective service of music with guitar and voice
Sunday, December 6
5:00 pm - Chapel

BECAUSE OF WHO HE IS
Week of Prayer for Global Missions
December 6-13
Prayer Guides available at <http://www.amb.org/main/lottie-moon> or in the church office

Join us this Wednesday to prepare & care

THE gathering
christmas 2015

Family Dinner, 5:15 - Gift wrapping - Small Groups, Children & Youth, 6:00 - Choir, 6:30

Gift-O-Rama & Candy Cane Lane
Saturday, December 12
9:00 am-12:00 pm
1st-5th Graders
Hunter Hall 115
2's - Kindergarten
Preschool Hall
\$15.00 per child
Reservations required through Meredith
Substitutions available

pno parents' night out
Friday, December 11
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
\$5.00 per child

All ages in Activities Center for Children's Christmas Party
RSVP to Meredith @ 841-8432 or meredith@fbcshreveport.org

Poinsettias

Poinsettias will be used in the Sanctuary again this year. If you wish to purchase one, please fill out the form below, attach \$8.50 per plant, and return it to the church office by **Sunday, December 6**.
Name of Purchaser(s): _____
of plants purchased _____ @ \$8.50 each. Amount attached: \$ _____
Name of person(s) in whose _____ honor or _____ memory the plant is given. _____

Our Staff

- Dr. Jeff Raines, Pastor
- Rev. Clista Adkins, Minister of Discipleship
- Dr. Glen Adkins, Minister of Music
- Rev. Compi Chao, Chinese Mission Pastor
- Dr. James Gillespie, FBC School, Head
- Meredith Hanna, Minister to Children
- Rev. Katie Mussat, Minister to Students
- Tara Partington, Music Associate, Organist
- Eric Vandiver, Music Associate, Pianist
- Rev. Ronney Joe Webb, Minister of Family Life and Missions

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CCLI License #2347260



Ella Bylsma
4th grade

Worship

Prelude
Tara Partington, organ

Now Sing We, Now Rejoice
Paul Manz

Choral Introit
Sanctuary Choir

This Day of Celebration
John Purifoy

*Carol 87

Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come

**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.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as, the curse is found.**

**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.**

*Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope

Sara Margaret and Cody White

*Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Today is the Second Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in
which we recall the Hope we have in Jesus Christ.

**People: God so loved the world, that He sent His only
Son to the world.**

Leader: Today we light the Advent candle of Hope.

All: Behold the glow of God's light—the gift of Hope.

*Invocation

Welcome to Worshipers

Jeff Raines

Parent Child Dedication
Joseph David Koch

Jeff Raines and Meredith Hanna

Minister: Parents, do you receive your child with gratitude as a sacred gift from God to your family? Do you commit to one another as parents, providing a stable home and a safe place for your child to develop? Will you work to show in your parenting those characteristics set before us in Galatians: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness, and self-control?

Parents: We will.

Minister: Congregation, raising a child is a great task. Will you commit to supporting this family, encouraging them, and praying for them? Will you commit to model Christ for these children and to demonstrate dedication to God and service to one another?

Congregation: We will.

Prayer of Dedication

*Doxology

During the singing of the Doxology all children are invited to come to the front for the Children's Sermon

Children's Sermon

Jeff Raines

*Carol

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/We Three Kings

**God rest ye merry gentlemen, Let nothing ye dismay,
Remember Christ our Savior was born on Christmas day,
To save us all from Satan's pow'r when we were gone astray;
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

**Now to the Lord sing praises, all ye within this place,
And with true love and brotherhood each other now embrace;
This holy tide of Christmas all others doth deface:
O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,
O tidings of comfort and joy.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again.
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.**

**O star of wonder, star of night, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

Testimony

Mary Gurski

Scripture Reading
Luke 9:23-27

Katie Mussat

*Carol 88

Hark the Herald Angels Sing

**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 angelic host proclaim "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing "Glory to the newborn King!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold Him come, Offspring of the favored one.
Veiled in flesh, the Godhead see; Hail the incarnate Deity
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King"**

Hail! The heaven-born Prince of Peace!

Hail the Son of Righteousness!

**Light and life to all He brings, Risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, Born that man no more may die;
Born to raise the sons of earth, Born to give them second birth
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."**

*Prayer of Thanksgiving

Aaron Mussat

Offertory
Handbell Choir

We Three Kings
arr. Cynthia Dobrinski

Anthem
Sanctuary Choir

Angels' Carol
John Rutter

Sermon: A Christmas Cross
Matthew 1:18-25

Jeff Raines

*Carol of Response 101

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Opportunities for Service

Ronney Joe Webb

Sharing of Decisions for Christ

Jeff Raines

*Benediction

Postlude

*Please stand

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are given by
the children of Bobbye North in honor of her 90th birthday.