



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:

Announcements:

Today's worship service will be broadcast on KPXJ CW21 next Sunday at 8:00 am.

To our Guests: We are delighted that you joined us today! Near each entrance to the church, we have guest information packets. These include both information and a couple of small gifts you may enjoy. Please join us, again, in the future. Our Pastor would love to meet you as you leave the sanctuary!

Attention Parents: Our cry room is located in the Bridal Suite on the West side of our Foyer. There are kids' worship folders located in each side hall of the Sanctuary.

The WMU (pot luck) **Brunch and Program** is tomorrow at 9:30 am in the Parlor. The program focus will be the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and International Missions. There is no charge and all the ladies of the church are welcome.

Parent's Night Out is Friday, December 8 from 6:00-9:00 pm in the Activities Center. This will serve as the Children's Ministry Christmas Party. Register with Meredith.

The Children's Musical is Sunday, December 10 at 5:00 in the Chapel. Those attending are invited to bring a new toy for the children at The Gingerbread House. There will be a collection box near the Chapel.

Deacon's Meeting is Sunday, December 10 at 6:30 pm in Hunter Hall room 110.

Youth Christmas Party is Wednesday, December 13 from 5:30-7:30 pm in the Youth Center. The evening includes pizza, a tacky Christmas sweater contest, and a \$10.00 gift exchange. See Katie with details or questions.

The **Common Ground Christmas Market** is Saturday, December 16. There are many needs for this event. Please check your Sunday School box or at the front desk for the flyers with the details.

Poinsettias

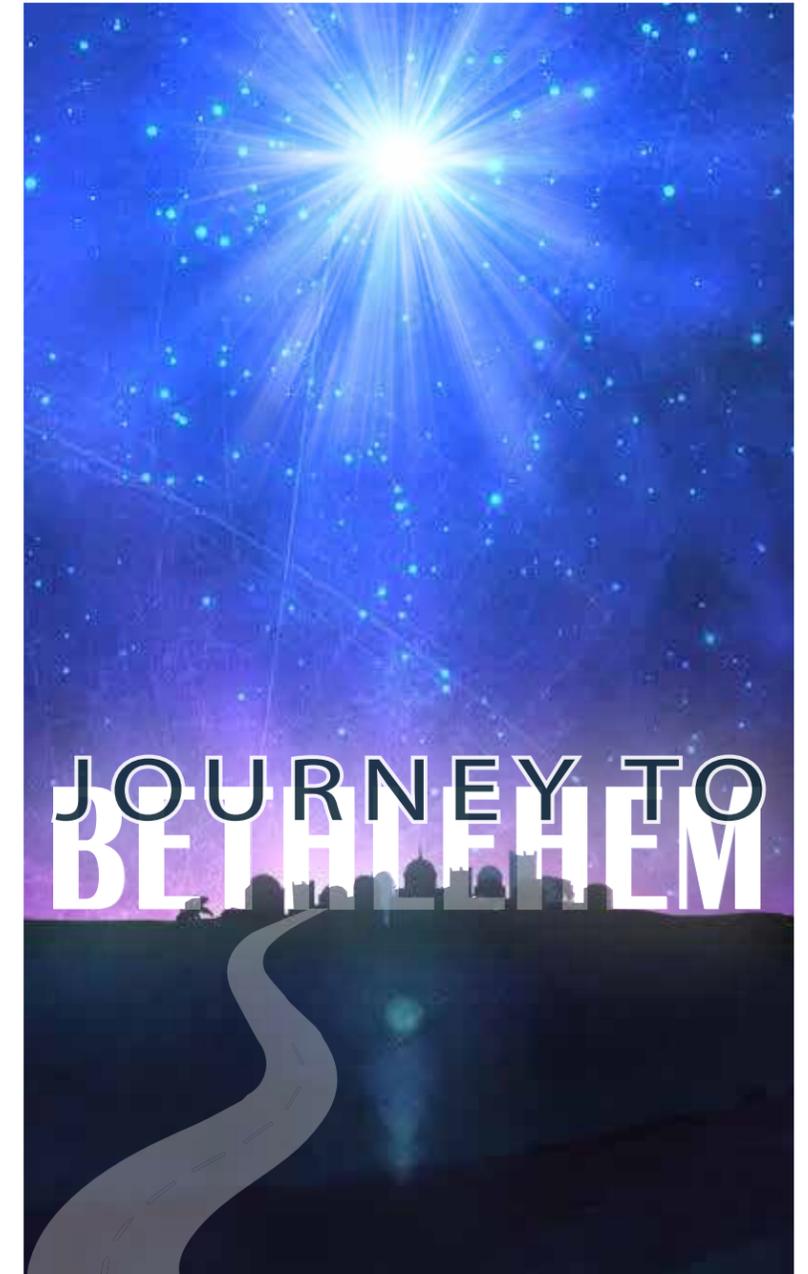
Poinsettias will be used in decorating First Baptist Church for Christmas. You can take part by donating one or more plants for this purpose and designating your gift in memory or honor of loved ones. If you wish to take part, please fill out the form below, attach \$8.50 per plant, and return it to the church office by Monday, December 11.

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
- Dr. James Gillespie, FBC School, Head
- Meredith Hanna, Minister to Children
- Andy Liu, Chinese Mission Pastor
- Rev. Katie Mussat, Minister to Students
- Tara Partington, Organist
- Eric Vandiver, Pianist
- Heather Vandiver, Music Associate
- Rev. Ronney Joe Webb, Minister of Family Life and Missions

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First Sunday of Advent
December 3, 2017

Worship

Prelude *He Whom Shepherd Men Came Praising*
Tara Partington, organ Paul Manz

Choral Introit *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*
Sanctuary Choir German Carol

*Carol of Praise 94 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

**Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Shepherds, in the field abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations, ye have seen His natal star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

**Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending, In His temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King.**

*Lighting of the Advent Candle of Hope
Ashley and Kristen Powers and Hollis

*Call to Worship

Leader: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Leader: Today is the First 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 Worshippers

Parent-Child Dedication Meredith Hanna
Wesley David Schimke

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

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.**
(continued)

**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.**

Scripture Reading Clista Adkins
Matthew 1:18-25 (pew Bible page 681)

*Hymn 93 *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

**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 heavens all gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.**

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

*Prayer of Thanksgiving Katie Mussat

Offertory Anthem *Would I Miss the Miracle?*
Sanctuary Choir Douglas Nolan

Sermon: Christmas Hope Jeff Raines
Romans 5:1-5 (pew Bible page 798)

*Hymn of Response 103 *Away in a Manger*

Opportunities for Service Ronney Joe Webb

Sharing of Decisions for Christ

*Congregational Benediction *The First Nowell*

**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 bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.**

Postlude

*Please stand