

The First Baptist Church at Worship
2nd Sunday of Advent / Communion Sunday

December 4, 2011 10:30 AM

The Gathering

THE PRELUDE R. Alan Kimbrough, Organist

(We gather for personal and corporate reflection and prayer.)

"Wake, Awake" J. S. Bach
"Saviour of the Nations, Come" J. S. Bach

In Praise to the Lord

CHORAL INTROIT Chancel Choir

Prepare the Royal Highway #95 v. 1

*LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #126 *Angels, from the Realms of Glory*
REGENT SQUARE

James Montgomery was a person of deep devotion and long time editor of the Sheffield Register in England. He authored our opening hymn in 1816 using words to paint pictures of the birth of Christ calling on us to "Come and Worship."

*OPENING PRAYER Rev. C. Roland Marcus

*WELCOME & PASSING OF PEACE Dr. Rodney Kennedy

(Please register your attendance by filling out a yellow card from the pew rack and placing it in the offering bag this morning.)

We are invited to greet our nearest neighbors, extend our hand, and greet one another in the name of Christ.

(Please be seated.)

A MOMENT FOR THE M & M OFFERING David Coggins

A MOMENT FOR DEBORAH CIRCLE Johnelle Kennedy

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Jason & Sara Hentschel

Mark 1:4: "John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins."

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ, the Way. May the word sent from God through the prophets lead us to the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

ADVENT PRAYER

Merciful God, You sent your messengers, the prophets, to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation. Give us the grace to heed their warnings and to forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ, our Redeemer; who lives and

reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forevermore. Amen.

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

A Holy Hush, v. 2
J. MILDRED SCHELL & JAMES C. DILL



Reading & Proclaiming God's Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Allyson Black

Isaiah 40:1-11: Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins. A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all people shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!" And I said, "What shall I cry?" All people are grass, their constancy is like the flower of the field. The grass withers, the flower fades, when the breath of the LORD blows upon it; surely the people are grass. The grass withers, the flower fades; but the word of our God will stand forever. Get you up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good tidings; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good tidings, lift it up, do not fear; say to the cities of Judah, "Here is your God!" See, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms, and carry them in his bosom, and gently lead the mother sheep.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: **Thanks be to God!**

*THE GOSPEL LESSON Rev. Jim Earnest

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord according to Mark.
People: **Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Mark 1:1-8: The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. As it is written in the prophet Isaiah, "See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way; the voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. And people from the whole Judean countryside and all the people of

Jerusalem were going out to him, and were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the thong of his sandals. I have baptized you with water; but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Leader: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: **Glory be to you, O Lord.**

*FELLOWSHIP HYMN #90 *People, Look East*
BESANCON

Eleanor Farjeon was a Londoner and very prolific writer of different genres. Along with our fellowship hymn she also authored "Morning has Broken." The words of "People, Look East" call upon us to prepare ourselves for Christ's coming.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Johnelle Kennedy

(Children in preK-grade 4 will be led downstairs for Sunday School. Younger Children preK-K will go to Room #4 and older children grades 1-4 will go to Room #3B. Parents should pick up their children after worship service.)

ANTHEM Chancel Choir and Dawn Kalbfleisch, soloist
Breath of Heaven Grant/Eaton, arr. Courtney

THE SERMON Dr. Rodney Kennedy

"Gentle and Tender"

The Response of God's People

THE OFFERTORY R. Alan Kimbrough
"Veni, veni, Emmanuel" Paul Manz

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE #80 *Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love*
BAUGH

Hope, peace, joy, and love! These are gifts You bring from above. Jesus, Emmanuel, come to be light of Your peace reflected in me.

*OFFERTORY PRAYER Allyson Black

The Right Hand of Fellowship

Today we extend the Right Hand of Fellowship to:

Shannon "Shaun" Campbell
Shaun joins by Statement of Faith. His faith partner is Ryan Gade.

Debby Menzel
Debby joins by Statement of Faith. Her faith partner is Doris Landis.

(SEE INSERT)

Celebration of Holy Communion

(Celebrants: Rev. Jason Alspaugh and Rev. C. Roland Marcus)

INVITATION Rev. Marcus

CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Marcus

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. In humility and faith, let us confess our sins to God.

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves; we have not loved ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Pastor: Anyone in Christ is a new creation; the old has passed away; behold, the new has come. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Rev. Alspaugh

MUSICAL RESPONSE:



Our Lord God is with us, lift your hearts and voices high, let us give thanks to the Lord everywhere and at all times:
(MUSICAL RESPONSE)

God, all glory be to you at this blessed Advent time, for the gift of your own Son, born a poor child, peasant King. For the love you sent to us, for the life he shared with us, for the sacrifice he made, Lord of lords, and King of kings.
(MUSICAL RESPONSE)

On the night he was betrayed the Lord Jesus took the bread, blessed and broke it as he said, "Take and eat, this is my flesh." After supper, took the cup, gave you thanks, and giving said, "Drink this cup, it is my blood, poured for you and everyone."
(MUSICAL RESPONSE)

When we eat this holy bread, when we drink this holy wine, we his presence sense anew, and his victory await.

We remember and proclaim what your Son has done for us, in his life and in his death, as he rises and ascends.

(MUSICAL RESPONSE)

Now accept our sacrifice as surrender of ourselves. Send your Holy Spirit down on us here and on our gifts. Help us through this bread and wine to know the presence of our Christ. Make us one with him today and with humankind, we pray.
(MUSICAL RESPONSE)

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Debts & Debtors)*

BREAKING THE BREAD Rev. Alspaugh

#81 *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*
Congregation

SHARING THE CUP Rev. Marcus

"I Gave My Life for Thee" Bliss/McDonald
Debbie Lindley

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING Rev. Marcus

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

(Persons wishing to join First Baptist Church are invited to come forward while the organist plays the first verse of the recessional hymn. You may join First Baptist Church by confession of faith, transfer of letter, or statement of faith. The pastor will greet you as you come forward this morning.)

*RECESSIONAL HYMN #281 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*
BEECHER

Once again we turn to Methodist Charles Wesley for our closing hymn. As we go into the world let us think about Christ's love which excels all others. With that love we live with that Holy Spirit, the Grace of God, and promise of a world to come.

*BLESSING AND DISMISSAL Dr. Rodney Kennedy

*CONGREGATIONAL BENEDICTION #107 v.3 *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
ST. LOUIS

**How silently, how silently the wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, but in this world of sin,
where meek souls will receive Him still, the dear Christ enters in.**

*POSTLUDE R. Alan Kimbrough
"Saviour of the Nations, Come" Paul Manz



Reminder: Hanging of the Greens Today

Our annual celebration of the Hanging of the Greens begins at 5:00 today with making ornaments and tree decorating, followed by a potluck dinner at 6:00. After dinner (at 7:00) we will gather in the sanctuary for a children/youth-led worship service. Don't forget to bring your potluck dish, Mitten Tree items, and food items for the Food Bank.

First Baptist Church of Dayton

2nd Sunday of Advent



by Laura Rhodes

Our Mission Statement:

To celebrate God's love as a community of believers in Jesus Christ through worship, education, fellowship, and outreach to others.

Dr. Rodney Wallace Kennedy, *Lead Pastor*
Rev. Jason Alspaugh, *Associate Pastor Children & Youth*
Rev. C. Roland Marcus, *Associate Pastor*
Rev. James Earnest, *Assistant Pastor of Visitation*

Ryan Gade, *Pastor Intern*
Ray Landis, *Music Director*
Gregory Land, *Organist*
R. Alan Kimbrough, *Organist*
Debbie Lindley, *Pianist*
Linda Mullins, *Financial Secretary*
Linda Blair, *Church Secretary*
Jerry Cook, *Custodian*

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