

Poinsettias

In memory:

Mark Jones by Michelle Hopkins
Mickey LeCroy by Judy LeCroy and Family
Joe Blackwelder by David, Julie, Lauren and Rachel Huneycutt
Carolyn Phillips by Jim Phillips and Family
Lonnie and Jeanne Davis by Sandra Westervelt and Dan Davis
Mr. & Mrs. P.F. McCullath and Gilda Gordon by Myra Zidzik
Larry Beck by Sue Beck and Family

In honor:

Sarah Vick by The Bruce Hill Family

Announcements

Sunday, 12/21

9:00 a. m.	Sunday Morning Prayer Ministry	Conference Room
9:00 a.m.	Finance Committee Meeting	Parlor
9:30 a.m.	Morning Coffee Gathering	2nd Floor Lobby

First Baptist Office and MBCC will be closed December 24, 25, 26 and January 1

Christmas Lights Tomorrow Night

All children and their families are invited to visit the Christmas lights at Ray and Joyce Howell's home from sunset to 8:00 p.m. tomorrow night (Monday). Hot chocolate and cookies will be served. Please bring a flashlight to walk down the drive.

Christmas Eve Communion & Candlelight Service *Wednesday, December 24 5:30 p.m. Sanctuary*

Arrive early for this tradition of candlelight and communion. We will close the Advent season with the singing of "Silent Night" while the Sanctuary is illuminated by candles and filled with the anticipation of Christmas Day.

Special Christmas Eve Offering

We will be receiving a special offering at the Christmas Eve Service to help our church reach our budgetary commitments for 2014. If every family would consider a special Christmas gift in addition to their regular gift, it would make a tremendous difference. We invite you to come to the Christmas Eve Service prepared to make a special Christmas gift.

Year End Giving 2014

Please have all gifts to the church on or before Wednesday, December 31 in order to receive credit for 2014 tax deductions.

Informal Worship Sunday, December 28

9:45 a.m. - Sunday School - 11:00 a.m. - Worship

We will worship "informally." Dress casually. There will not be a bulletin or order of service. Feel free to share a Christmas story, a testimony, a song, a Scripture or a prayer. We will sing your favorite Christmas hymns.

Global Missions Offering

This is the time of year that we give a special offering to the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship for missions. You have a Missions envelope in your packet or just mark your check for CFB Global Mission offering. May we give so others can serve.



The Forty-first Annual Festival Of Nine Lessons and Carols

First Baptist Church

December 21, 2014

11:00 A.M.

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE	<i>From Heaven Above to Earth I Come</i>	Johann Bernhardt Bach
GREETING		
OFFERTORY PRAYER		Brannon Gilliam
OFFERTORY	<i>What Child Is This</i>	Timothy Albrecht
PROCESSIONAL	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	IRBY
	(solo)	
	<i>Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.</i>	
	(choir only)	
	<i>He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all, And his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall; With the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.</i>	
	(congregation and choir)	
	<i>Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, We shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; When like stars his children crowned all in white shall wait around.</i>	
	<i>And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own redeeming love, For that child so dear and gentle is our Lord in heav'n above, And he leads his children on to the place where he has gone.</i>	
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH		Waverly Blackwell
BIDDING PRAYER		Rev. Tommy Wilson
FIRST LESSON	Adam And Eve Rebel Against God	Chaplain Bruce Hill
ANTHEM	<i>Since By Man Came Death</i> Chorus No. 46	From Messiah G.F. Handel
SECOND LESSON	God promises to faithful Abraham that his descendents will be a blessing to all the nations of the earth.	Trey Johnson
ANTHEM	<i>There Shall A Star From Jacob Come Forth</i>	Mendelssohn
THIRD LESSON	A voice cries in the wilderness preparing the way of the Lord	Lamar Clark
ANTHEM	<i>Come To Us Emmanuel</i>	Schram
FOURTH READING	That Christ is to be born in Bethlehem is foretold	Tina Wall
ANTHEM	<i>The First Noel</i>	arr. Dan Forrest

FIFTH READING

The Angel Gabriel announces to Mary that she will be the mother of Jesus

Betty Jane Honeycutt

ANTHEM

O Loving Mother

Chepponis

SIXTH READING

Saint Luke tells of the birth of Christ

Margaret Ann Maddox

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN (congregation seated)

Joy to the World

LOWELL MASON arr. John Rutter

(verse 1) 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,

(verse 2) Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hill, and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

(verse 3) Choir Only

(verse 4) He rules the world with truth and grace;
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of his love, wonders of his love,
And wonders, and wonders of his love.

SEVENTH READING

The Shepherds go to Bethlehem

Grayson Lambros

ANTHEM

The Shepherd's Carol

arr. Dan Forrest

EIGHTH READING

The Magi Visit The Messiah

Rev. Tommy Wilson

ANTHEM

Three Kings of Orient

arr. John Rutter

NINTH READING

Saint John Unfolds The Great Mystery Of The Incarnation

Dr. Ray Howell III

CAROL (congregation stand)

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,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;
Glory to God 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 glory given;
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.

CLOSING PRAYER

Dr. Ray Howell III

CAROL (congregation, standing)

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
with th' angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord;
Late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th' incarnate Deity,
pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

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.
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new born King!"

POSTLUDE

Magnificat

Jean François D'Andrieu

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Paul Freeman, Minister of Music

SOLOISTS

Judy LeCroy (Once in Royal David's City)
Jim Barton, Ralph Ashley, Ken Auman

Beverly Khemlani, Accompanist

ORCHESTRA

Peter Shanahan, flute
Dr. Thomas Pappas, oboe
Beverly Khemlani, organ/piano
Dr. William G. Harbinson, trumpet 1
Jon Myers, trumpet 2
Keith Grush, horn
Chris Ferguson, trombone
Wes Richardson, tuba
Danny Burkhart, timpani
David Freeman, percussion
Andrew Emmett, violin 1
Lucia Kobza, violin 2
Jessica Ronnevik, viola
Karl Ronnevik, cello
Jordan Loveland, bass

The Deacons of the week are Tobin Shepherd and Jim Tate.

Acknowledgements

The orchestra is funded in part by the Endowment Fund which includes the Novella McLendon Tyler Fund. The flowers in the baptistery are given to the Glory of God and in memory of Novella M. Tyler and Frances B. McLendon by Parker McLendon and family.