

*First Baptist Church
Lexington, NC
The Forty-Third Annual
Festival Of Nine Lessons and Carols*

December 18, 2016

Fourth Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE	<i>Lo! How A Rose E'er Blooming</i>	arr. Roger Wilson
GREETING		Ray Howell
OFFERTORY PRAYER		Sparky Brooks
OFFERTORY	<i>From Heaven Above To Earth I Come</i>	Johann Pachelbel
PROCESSIONAL	<i>Once in Royal David's City</i>	arr. Dr. William G. Harbinson
	(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. 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		Grace Upton
BIDDING PRAYER		Ray Howell
FIRST LESSON	God Creates The Heaven and The Earth	Phil Mickey
ANTHEM	<i>Hymn of Creation</i>	Dan Forrest
SECOND LESSON	God Promises To Faithful Abraham That His Descendants Will Be A Blessing To All The Nations Of The Earth	Carter Skotthy

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL
(Remain Seated)

The First Nowell

John Rutter

*The first Nowell the angels 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!*

*They looked up and saw a star
Shinning 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!*

*And by the light of that same star,
Three wise men came from country far;
To seek for a King, was their intent,
And to Follow the star where ever it went;
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell,
Born is the King of Israel!*

*Then let us all with one accord,
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord;
That hath made heaven and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath brought;
Nowell, nowell, nowell, nowell
Born is the King of Israel!*

THIRD LESSON

**A Voice Cries In The Wilderness Preparing
The Way of the Lord**

Jillian Briggs

ANTHEM

Advent Canticle

Mark Shepherd

FOURTH LESSON

That Christ Is To be Born In Bethlehem Is Foretold

The Jackson

ANTHEM

How Great Our Joy

John Rutter

FIFTH LESSON

**The Angel Gabriel Announces To Mary
That She Will Be The Mother Of Jesus**

Betty Jane Honeycutt

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL
(Remain Seated)

It Came Upon A Midnight Clear

arr. John Rutter

*It came upon a 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 heaven's all glorious King,
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To Hear the angels sing.*

*Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled;
And still their heavenly music floats
O'er all the weary world;
Above the sad and lowly plains
They bend on hovering wing;
And ever o'er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.*

*Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
The thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring;
O hush the noise ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.*

*For lo! The days are hastening on,
By prophets bards foretold,
When, with the ever circling years,
Come round the age of gold;
When peace shall over all the earth,
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world send back the song
Which now the angels sing.*

SIXTH LESSON

Saint Luke Tells Of The Birth Of Christ

Kim Lingerfelt

ANTHEM

All Is Well

Lloyd Larsen

SEVENTH LESSON

The Shepherds Go To Bethlehem

Jim Tate

ANTHEM

The Shepherd's Lamb

Dan Forrest

EIGHTH LESSON

The Magi Visit The Messiah

Paul Freeman

ANTHEM

All On A Starry Night

Joseph Graham

NINTH LESSON

Saint John Unfolds The Great Mystery Of The Incarnation

Ray Howell

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

O Come, All Ye Faithful

arr. John Rutter

O come, all ye faithful, joyful, and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Choir Only – On Verse 2

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
O Sing, all ye citizens of heaven 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 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

Ray Howell

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

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 as man with us 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!"

BENEDICTION

God So Loved The World

John Stainer

POSTLUDE

Magnificat

Jean Francois D'Andrieu

Sanctuary Poinsettias

Given in memory of Betty G. Bunce and Eloise S. Bates by Bill, Beth, Taylor and Grayson
Given in memory of Mickey LeCroy by Judy LeCroy and family
Given in memory of Horace and Janet Conner by Miriam Conner and family
Given in memory of Horace Conner by David and Jack Colescott
Given in memory of Marge Colescott by David Colescott and Suzy Conner
Given in memory of Kelly Lowder by Richard and Ferry Lane Lowder
Given in Memory of Ann Bowyer by David, Julie, Lauren and Rachel Huneycutt
Given in memory of Joe Blackwelder by David, Julie, Lauren and Rachel Huneycutt

Welcome New Member

Last Sunday we welcomed Ava Leigh Fulbright into the fellowship of our church. Ava Leigh comes on her profession of faith. We will celebrate her baptism on New Year's Day.

Christian Sympathy

Heartfelt Christian sympathy is extended to Debbie Auman and her family in the death of her mother, Millie Fisher, of Lancaster, Pennsylvania on December 8, 2016.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion Service

5:30 p.m. on Saturday

Informal Christmas Day Worship - 10:30 a.m. (No Sunday School)

The Nine Lessons and Carols will be rebroadcast on WLXN radio Christmas Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Christmas Party for Patients of Cancer Services

Thursday at 6:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall

2017 Birthday Banquet on January 25

Tickets available January 1

Special Offering in Christmas Eve Service

We are receiving a special offering during the Christmas Eve Service to help us meet our 2016 budget. Please consider a special year end gift to enable us to meet all of our commitments. All 2016 gifts should be in the office no later than Friday, December 30.

Church Office and MBCC Closings

First Baptist Church Office will be closed December 22, 23 and 26, 2016 for the Christmas Holidays and January 2, 2017 for the New Year Holiday. Martha Best Children's Center will be closed December 23, 26 and 27, 2016 for the Christmas Holidays and January 2, 2017 for the New Year Holiday.

MUSICIANS FOR TODAY'S SERVICE

Director

Paul Freeman, Minister of Music

Soloist

Dolly Skinner (*Once in Royal David's City*)

Ralph Ashley (*Hold Great Our Joy*)

Sarah Frye, Ralph Ashley, Dolly Skinner, Brian Walker (*Advent Canticle*)

Accompanist

Beverly Khemlani

Sanctuary Choir

Soprano

Debbie Auman
Mary Bell
Courtney Foster
Debra Freeman
Sarah Frye
Sidney Minner
Dolly Skinner
Debbie Tate
Wendy Walker

Alto

Beth Bunce
Lori Gilliam
Bonnie Harvey
Betty Jane Honeycutt
Judy LeCroy
Eryn Myers
Ellen Smith

Tenor

Ralph Ashley
Jim Barton
Jimmy Davis
LeGrand Skinner
Will Tate
Brian Walker

Bass

Ken Auman
Chuck Bell
Herb Davis
Harvey Fulbright
Bruce Hill
Phil Ryalls

Orchestra

Rebecca Nussbaum, Flute
Hannah Senft, Oboe
Nicolae Soare, Violin
Kevin Murphy, Violin
Marian Wilson, Viola
Lee Richey, Cello
Jordon Loveland, Bass

Bill Harbinson, Trumpet
Jon Myers, Trumpet
Keith Grush, Horn
Chris Ferguson, Trombone
Dylan Scaringelli, Tuba
Danny Burkhart, Timpani
Beverly Khemlani, Organ/Piano