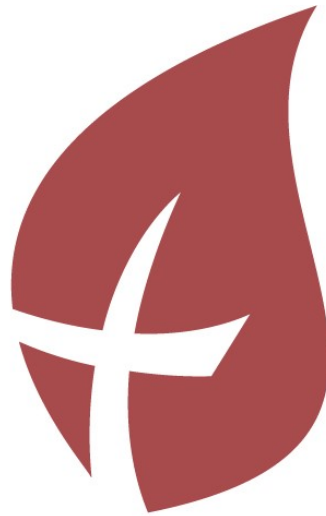


Sunday Morning Worship

December 17, 2023



FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

December 17, 2023

Welcome and Announcements

King's Kids Choir — *Good In Every Way*

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — Matthew 1:18-25

Song — O Come, All Ye Faithful

The Word Made Flesh

Prayer of Thanks

Song — Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Song — Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Scripture Reading — Luke 2:22-32

Pastoral Prayer

Message — Mike Rogers

Psalm 98: “God Is Faithful”

Song — Joy to the World

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — Matthew 1:18-25 (ESV)

¹⁸ Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹ And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her to shame, resolved to divorce her quietly. ²⁰ But as he considered these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹ She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.” ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet:

²³ “Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son,
and they shall call his name Immanuel”

(which means, God with us). ²⁴ When Joseph woke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him: he took his wife, ²⁵ but knew her not until she had given birth to a son. And he called his name Jesus.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John F Wade

Verse 1:

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

Chorus:

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Verse 2:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee
Born this happy morning;
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing

Verse 3:

True God of true God
Light from Light eternal
Humbly He enters the virgin's womb
Son of the Father
Begotten not created

The Word Made Flesh *

We confess the mystery and wonder
of God made flesh
and rejoice in our great salvation
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

With the Father and the Holy Spirit,
the Son created all things,
sustains all things,
and makes all things new.
Truly God,
He became truly man,
two natures in one person.

He was born of the Virgin Mary
and lived among us.
Crucified, dead, and buried,
He rose on the third day,
ascended to heaven,
and will come again
in glory and judgment.

For us,
He kept the Law,
atoned for sin,
and satisfied God's wrath.
He took our filthy rags
and gave us
His righteous robe.

He is our Prophet, Priest, and King,
building His church,
interceding for us,
and reigning over all things.

Jesus Christ is Lord;
we praise His holy Name forever.

Amen.

* The Ligonier Statement on Christology ("The Word Made Flesh") — is a summary of biblical truth intended to serve the church by encapsulating the historic, orthodox, biblical Christology of the Christian church in a form that is simple to confess. Learn more: christologystatement.com

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus

Charles Wesley

Verse 1:

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Verse 2:

Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child, and yet a King,
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.
By Thine own eternal Spirit
Rule in all our hearts alone;
By Thine all sufficient merit,
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Henry Van Dyke

Verse 1:

Joyful, joyful, we adore Thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee,
Op'ning to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness;
Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness,
Fill us with the light of day!

Verse 2:

All Thy works with joy surround Thee,
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around Thee,
Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea,
Singing bird and flowing fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Verse 3:

Thou art giving and forgiving,
Ever blessing, ever blest,
Wellspring of the joy of living,
Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother,
All who live in love are Thine;
Teach us how to love each other,
Lift us to the joy divine.

Verse 4:

Mortals, join the happy chorus,
Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us,
Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward,
Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us Sunward
In the triumph song of life.

Scripture Reading — Luke 2:22-32 (ESV)

²² And when the time came for their purification according to the Law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³ (as it is written in the Law of the Lord, "Every male who first opens the womb shall be called holy to the Lord") ²⁴ and to offer a sacrifice according to what is said in the Law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves, or two young pigeons." ²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. ²⁶ And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ. ²⁷ And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, ²⁸ he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

²⁹ "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰ for my eyes have seen your salvation

³¹ that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³² a light for revelation to the Gentiles,
and for glory to your people Israel."

Sermon Notes

“God Is Faithful” :: Psalm 98

Joy to the World

George Frederic Handel

Verse 1:

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

Verse 2:

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

Verse 3:

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

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
And wonders of His love
And wonders, wonders of His love

Praying with First Baptist Church

A Prayer Guide for the week of December 17

Prayer of the week:

One of the ways we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as a springboard and inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, we encourage you to use the prayer of the Apostle Paul from the book of Ephesians 3:14-17a:

“¹⁴ For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, ¹⁵ from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, ¹⁶ that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, ¹⁷ so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith...”

We recognize our need for God’s help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God’s word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God’s glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)

- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we are directly involved with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

Particular prayer items in the life of our church:

- Praise God for the new members recently brought into our church family; Evelyn Addo-yobo, Mary Ayeni Dina, Marc DiPietro, Noah Foster, Whitney Moorehead, Tim and Ashley Smith, Riyan and Evony Smith, and Melissa Anne Thomaswicks. Pray that God would unify us in Jesus Christ and that opportunities for fellowship would abound (Rom. 15:5-6, Acts 2:42)
- Pray that God would provide opportunity for gospel conversations with family and friends during the holiday season (Matt. 28:19).
- Pray that we would rejoice in and declare the miracles of Christmas as we remember that “nothing is impossible with God” (Luke 1:37).
- Pray for those in our church family who are grieving the loss of loved ones during this holiday season. Pray for God’s comfort in their time of bereavement. Pray that our church family would come around them to serve practical needs and give encouragement in their faith. (John 14:27; 2 Cor. 1:3-4).
- Pray that our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray that we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God’s steadfast love and mercy to the world. Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (Gal. 6:9; John 13:34-35)
- Pray that God would help us comprehend his good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Ralph and Margaret Austin, Joe Battice, Bob and Alice Copeland, Michael Davenport (death of Father), Chris Guerra (military deployment), Jackie Jones, Tyler Koch (military deployment), Lucie Lowe, Bonnie Trott, Glenn Walker

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 17

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship
6:00 PM Christmas Caroling Service &
Cookie Fellowship

Monday, December 18

Tuesday, December 19

Wednesday, December 20

Thursday, December 21 (First Day of Winter)

Friday, December 22

Saturday, December 23

Sunday, December 24 (Christmas Eve)

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 17

6:00 PM — Christmas Caroling Service & Cookie Fellowship

Announcements

1. Christmas Caroling Service & Cookie Fellowship — TONIGHT at 6pm. Join us for an evening of singing and hearing from the Scriptures about how God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Then, spend time enjoying one another's company over cookies and coffee. All we ask it that you bring some of your favorite Christmas cookies to share with the church family. Feel free to invite family, friends, and neighbors.

2. New Church Mobile App. Download today and get simple and easy access to all the things that help keep us connected as a church body; church calendar, weekly sermons, directory information, online giving, etc. Visit the church website at www.fbcum.org and click on the large icon on the homepage that says "download our new app". Follow the prompts and make sure you submit the email or phone number that we have linked to you in our church database. Questions? Need assistance? Contact Mike Whittaker at the church office (mwhittaker@fbcum.org or 301-952-0117).



3. Year-End Giving. We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBC Upper Marlboro. As we near the end of 2023, please remember that any gifts to be counted toward your 2023 annual giving statement must be postmarked, in the church office, or submitted online by Dec. 31.

You can give three ways:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: place your offering in the designated boxes in the church foyer
- by mail: send to the church office.



Three
WAYS to
GIVE
at

First Baptist Church
Upper Marlboro

7415 SW Crain Hwy

Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772

301-952-0117

Visit fbcum.org
for more information.



Online Giving

Visit www.fbcum.org and click the “giving” tab or scan the QR code with your mobile device to give online.



In-Person

Place your offering in the designated basket(s) in the church foyer on Sunday morning or drop it off in the church office during office hours.

Mail-In



Mail your offering directly to the church office at the address below:

First Baptist Church Upper Marlboro
7415 SW Crain Hwy
Upper Marlboro, MD, 20772