

## Morning Worship

Invitation to Worship		Dr. Eric Spivey
Prelude		Grace Brodbeck
	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>	
Lighting The First Advent Candle		Bing and Sherry Noble
*Hymn of Praise #176		<i>Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>
*Invocation		
Welcome to Worship		Rev. Lynn Williams
*Passing the Peace		<i>Hope, Peace, Joy and Love</i>
Missional Moment		
Special Music	<i>Song of Emmanuel</i>	Sanctuary Choir
Scripture Lesson	Isaiah 11: 1-9	Eric Spivey
*Offertory Hymn #175		<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel</i>
*Offertory Prayer		Randy Jarmon
Offertory Music		Barbara Young
	<i>Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus</i>	
Message	<i>A Christmas Letter</i>	Eric Spivey
*Hymn of Response #180		<i>The First Noel</i>
*Song of Sending #182(Chorus)		<i>Go, Tell It on the Mountain</i>
*Corporate Benediction		
	<i>Go in Peace, Serve the Lord Thanks be to God</i>	
Postlude		Grace Brodbeck
	<i>Praise My Soul The King of Heaven</i>	

### AND THE PEOPLE GAVE: November 2019

Tithes & Offerings: .....	\$35,266.88
Year to Date:.....	\$405,967.06
Budget Spent to Date: .....	\$441,949.47



..... Goal: \$200,000.00
..... Given: \$88,948.00

### A Note From Pastor Eric

Marcia and I have already started preparing our little transition apartment for Christmas! As I carried in our Christmas boxes from our storage unit, we began playing Christmas music to set the Christmas mood. Soon, we were adorning our new artificial tree with our Christmas ornaments. Like paging through a scrapbook of memories, each ornament carries a story.

The travel ornaments tell the story of our family adventures. With great joy, we place the Navajo sandstone ornament purchased on the road to the Grand Canyon. The dark green Jericho glass ornament brings us back to our pilgrimage to Israel this summer. The Seattle space needle ornament reminds us of our trips to the Pacific Northwest to visit my sister.

After the travel ornaments come the “Kid Creation” ornaments. Most of these pieces of paper, aluminum foil and clay were created by our girls as they grew up. There is no earthly value to these trinkets, but they are placed with care in the most prominent places on the tree. Like snapshots, these kid creation ornaments take us straight back to the moments in the church preschool when they were made and given to us with such excitement.

Finally, at the bottom of the ornament boxes, piled in heaps through all the moving this year, we find our childhood ornaments. These 1970’s and 80’s ornaments look cheap. These plastic Santas mixed with small wooden nativities and felt-covered reindeers find their way to the back of the Christmas tree. These ornaments carry some memories, but not too many. There are so many ornaments, we wait to the end to place them on the tree, often with frustration. Yet, our Christmas tree would not be our tree without them. So, we complete the job.

As we enter the Advent season together, there will be moments like the ornaments on our Christmas tree. Like the travel ornaments, some experiences will bring great joy as we plan, prepare, and work to make them just right. Like the “Kid Creation” ornaments, there will be experiences that have no earthly value, but we would not miss for the world. Finally, there will be experiences this Christmas that are hard work. We might puff and complain while we do them, but we know it would not be Christmas without them. So, we do.

As you balance the next month of events, parties, and family experiences, let me encourage you to include Jesus. Prioritize family and corporate worship experiences to remember the incarnational power at the heart of the Christmas story. First Baptist Church has been working to create some of these moments for you: we will have our Hanging of the Green service on Wednesday, December 4; our children and youth will lead us in a Christmas program in our 11:00 worship on December 8; our Sanctuary Choir will perform a beautiful Christmas cantata with a small orchestra on December 15; and finally, we will have a beautiful Candlelight Christmas Eve service with communion.

I hope to see you throughout the month of December. Please take time to share with me your favorite Christmas ornament stories and the events you have planned for the month. Next year, we look forward to inviting you into our new house to see the ornaments on our Christmas tree.

You are loved.

*Pastor Eric*

### This Week at First...

<b>Sunday, December 1</b>	
12:00pm	Worship Search Committee Children & Youth Search Committee
<b>Monday, December 2</b>	
7:00pm	Men’s Book Study – <u>Simon Peter</u>
<b>Wednesday, December 4</b>	
5:30pm	Dinner – Baked Chicken
6:00pm	Prayer Gathering
6:30pm	Hanging of the Green Service
7:30pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal
<b>Thursday, December 5</b>	
3:00pm	Hope Lodge Dinner Preparation
6:00pm	Hope Lodge Dinner Served
<b>Friday, December 6</b>	
6:00-9:00pm	Parents’ Night Out
<b>Saturday, December 7</b>	
1:00-3:00pm	Ladies Christmas Tea
3:00-5:00pm	Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal – Christmas Cantata
5:15-9:00pm	Youth Progressive Dinner
<b>Sunday, December 8</b>	
8:30am	Early Worship
9:30am	Bible Study for All Ages
11:00am	Morning Worship
12:00pm	Worship Search Committee Children & Youth Search Committee

### Deacons of the Week:

Bill Smith: 352-222-4614 Elizabeth Vigotty: 352-514-9419

### Connection Opportunities Ahead

- Hanging of the Green Service* — Wednesday, December 4th, 6:30 pm
- Parent Night Out* for preschool & children — Friday, December 6th, 6 - 9 pm
- Ladies Christmas Tea* — Saturday, December 7th, 1:00 - 3:00 pm
- “The Amazing Christmas Story”* — Sunday, December 8th, 11:00 am  
presented by our students
- Senior Adult Christmas Luncheon* — Tuesday, December 10th, 11:30 am
- “Song of Emmanuel”* — Sunday, December 15th, 11:00 am  
presented by our Sanctuary Choir with guest orchestra  
& Christmas fellowship after the service
- Master’s Mission Meeting* — Tuesday, December 17, 10:00am  
Work on local mission projects.
- Christmas Eve service “Communion & Candles”*  
Tuesday, December 24th, 5:00 pm

## Advent Worship Schedule

2019

**Sunday, December 1st 8:30 & 11:00 am**

First Sunday of Advent - Hope  
Isaiah 11:1-9  
"A Christmas Letter"

**Sunday, December 8th, 8:30 am & 11:00 am**

Second Sunday of Advent - Peace  
Student Christmas Program  
Luke 2:1-7 "Carrying the Messiah"

**Sunday, December 15th, 11:00 am service only**

Third Sunday of Advent - Joy  
Christmas Cantata  
"Song of Emmanuel"

**Sunday, December 22nd, 8:30 am & 11:00 am**

Fourth Sunday of Advent - Love  
John 15:12-17  
"The Story of Barrington Bunny"

**Tuesday, December 24th, 5:00 pm**

Christmas Eve Service - Christ Candle  
John 8:12 "Light of the World"



**Sunday, December 29**

Title: **Simeon**

Scripture: Luke 2:21-35



**Family Promise**® Our next host week is coming soon. We will care for families from

Sunday evening, January 5 through Sunday morning, January 12. We need a variety of linens and groceries, prepared dinners and your time. Check the display under the clock to see how you can help. Contact Brenda Cohen at 352-538-2884 or [brenda.cohen@fbcgainesville.net](mailto:brenda.cohen@fbcgainesville.net)

### **POINSETTIAS FOR CHRISTMAS**

Help us decorate our sanctuary for Advent. To order a poinsettia in Honor or in Memory of someone, please contact Susan Balloon at [susanballoon@gmail.com](mailto:susanballoon@gmail.com) or 352-538-5651.

**The cost will be \$15**



#### 2020 Staff

Dr. Eric Spivey, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Lynn Williams, Executive Pastor and Minister of Discipleship  
Jueun Warf, Interim Music & Worship  
Branden Warf, Interim Youth Minister  
Braden Cain, Congregational Intern  
Kendall Browning, Family Intern  
Mrs. Elizabeth Byrd, Office Manager  
Mr. Mike Smith, Facilities Manager

#### Office Hours:

Monday - Thursday  
9:00 am - 4:00 pm,  
Extended Wednesday  
Hours  
9:00 - 5:30 pm  
14105 NW 39th Avenue,  
Gainesville, Florida  
32606  
(352) 376-4681  
•[info@fbcgainesville.net](mailto:info@fbcgainesville.net)  
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# ADVENT

*The Season of Hope and Expectation*



HOPE

December 1, 2019



**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH  
GAINESVILLE**

*Following Jesus and Living God's Love Together*