

The Worship of God

December 22, 2024

10:30 a.m.

First Baptist Church

Gainesville, Florida

****Please stand as you are able**

Welcome to Worship

Pastor Ray Johnson

Prelude

Gentle Mary Laid Her Child (Bennett)

Grace Brodbeck, Piano

Call to Worship & Invocation

Marshall Haning

All creation holds its breath.

The time is almost here.

The heavenly choir of angels waits for its cue to sing.

Excitement is all around us.

Prepare your hearts—The grace of God takes on human form.

Good news! Emmanuel, God-with-Us, comes to us.

We gather to make ready our hearts

for the coming of Christ, our hope.

****Opening Hymn #180**

The First Noel

The first Noel, the angel 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.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, 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 wherever it went.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught
And with his blood mankind hath bought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel, Born is the King of Israel.

Lighting of the Fourth Advent Candle

Sue Taylor & Lukas Langenburg

****Offertory Hymn #189**

Child in the Manger

Child in the manger, infant of Mary;
Outcast and stranger, Lord of all;

Child who inherits all our transgressions,
All our demerits on Him fall.

Once the most holy Child of salvation
Gently and lowly lived below;
Now as our glorious Mighty Redeemer,
See Him victorious o'er each foe.

Prophets foretold Him Infant of Wonder;
Angels behold Him on His throne;
Worthy our Savior of all our praises;
Happy forever are His own.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Bill Smith, Deacon

Offertory

The Coventry Carol/Silent Night

Beth Herring, Flute

Choir Anthem

Noel Peace Canon (Schram)

Sanctuary Choir

Message

*Prince of Peace
Isaiah 9:1-7 (New Century Version)*

Pastor Ray

****Closing Hymn #176**

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

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 ev'ry nation, Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

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.

Benediction

Pastor Ray

Song of Sending (from Hymn #175)

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Postlude

Grace Brodbeck, Piano

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