



Advent

P R E P A R E H I M R O O M

December 11, 2022

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bay Area Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

December 11, 2022

To all who are spiritually weary and seek rest;
to all who mourn and long for comfort;
to all who struggle and desire victory;
to all who sin and need a Savior;
to all who are strangers and want fellowship;
to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness;
and to all who will come,
this church opens wide her doors
and offers welcome
in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

REFLECTIONS

Advent is patience. It's how God has made us a people of promise, in a world of impatience.

-Stanley Hauerwas

I marvel at the Lord, the Creator of the universe, who is born, not surrounded by gold and silver, but by mud and clay.

-St. Jerome of Bethlehem (340-420)

There's no other religion that says God has suffered, that God had to be courageous, that he knows what it is like to be abandoned by friends, to be crushed by injustice, to be tortured and die. Christmas shows he knows what you're going through. When you talk to him, he understands.

-Tim Keller

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Marilyn Smith and Kathryn Felts

CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 2:10-14

Leader: Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news
of great joy that will be for all the people.

**People: For unto you is born this day
in the city of David a Savior,
who is Christ the Lord.**

Leader: And this will be a sign for you:
you will find a baby wrapped in swaddling
cloths and lying in a manger.

**All: And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude
of the heavenly host praising God and saying,
(Loudly) “Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace among those with whom he is pleased!”**

ADVENT HYMN*

Trinity Hymnal #203 (1,2,3)

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

PRAYER OF ADORATION

SONGS OF PRAISE*

Glory in the Highest

Silent Night

He Shall Reign Forevermore

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Our God and Father, while we long for this to be the most meaningful Advent season ever, we sadly confess we have done so little with so much. Forgive us Lord, for not bending the knee, for not reading your Word, for not searching our hearts, for not facing our sins. Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God! Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year, we may have a fresh sense of your presence and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Trinity Hymnal #201 (1,2,3,4)

O Little Town of Bethlehem

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Zephaniah 3:14-17

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing.

————— TIME OF COMMITMENT —————

TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Giving an offering is one way for members and friends of BAPC to support the church's mission and ministry. If you are our guest today, please do not feel under any obligation to give.

Giving options include the offering box in the lobby, mailing a check to the church office at 670 E. Medical Center Blvd., Webster, TX 77598, or giving online at www.bapc.org/giveonline.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Kauflin, Clow, arr. Sorenson

O Come, All You Unfaithful

DISMISSAL OF CHILDREN FOR CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Children ages 4 years through 2nd grade are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 103. If you and your child have not yet received matching security tags, please accompany them to the table in the lobby for check-in.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-12

² Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the east came to Jerusalem, ²saying, “Where is he who has been born king of the Jews? For we saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.” ³When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and assembling all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born. ⁵They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it is written by the prophet:

⁶“And you, O Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who will shepherd my people Israel.”

⁷Then Herod summoned the wise men secretly and ascertained from them what time the star had appeared. ⁸And he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word, that I too may come and worship him.” ⁹After listening to the king, they went on their way. And behold, the star that they had seen when it rose went before them until it came to rest over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. ¹¹And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh. ¹²And being warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they departed to their own country by another way.

MESSAGE

Pastor Chris Yates

We Have Come To Worship Him

SONG OF RESPONSE*

Go Tell It On The Mountain

BENEDICTION*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Welcome! We're so glad you're here with us today.
For a full list of upcoming events, Bible studies and more,
please visit www.bapc.org/calendar**

Today	No Sunday School	
Today	Christmas Concert & Dinner	5pm
12/13	High School and Middle School Youth Group	7pm
12/16	Friday Small Group	1:30pm
12/17	The Meaning of Chrismon: A Kids' Christmas Event	5pm
12/17	Christmas In The Pines	6pm
12/18, 12/25, 1/1	No Sunday School	
12/24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	5:30pm



Choir Concert and Dinner, Tonight at 5pm

This annual tradition is the highlight of the Christmas season! Join us this evening at 5pm for a free Christmas concert and a catered dinner afterward. Forgot to purchase tickets? Visit bapc.org to purchase them today, or you may drop checks into the offering box in the lobby.



Poinsettia Dedications, now through December 16th

Poinsettias are a thoughtful way to honor a loved one or show appreciation to a friend or family member. Help us beautify our sanctuary this Advent by purchasing a poinsettia and dedicating it to a loved one. Dedications will be featured in the bulletin and slides on December 18th and plants may be gifted or taken home on Christmas Eve. Visit the lobby table or bapc.org to purchase!



Christmas in the Pines, December 17th at 6pm

Carols, cocoa, cookies, and more! All are invited to an outdoor time of worship, fellowship, and refreshments under our lit pine trees. Please bring a blanket or chair with you for seating, and feel free to invite a friend or neighbor.



Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

Make plans to join us at 5:30pm on Christmas Eve for our candlelight service of songs and readings! On Sunday, December 25th, we will gather for worship at 10:30am. Please note that we will not have Sunday School, donuts and coffee, or Children's Church on 12/25, in order to allow our volunteers to spend time with their families.

MISSIONS UPDATE

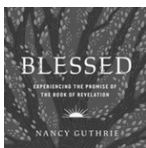
During the month of December, please be in prayer for Larry and Sandy Rockwell, who have been serving with MTW among the Quechua people in the Andes of Peru since 2004. Their primary ministry focus is reaching this indigenous people group in the highly isolated mountain villages with the Gospel. They accomplish this in a variety of ways, including using a technique called Orality, or storying, to convey the progress of redemption from Genesis to Acts. Since the Quechua are mainly subsistence farmers, Larry has also been sharing conservation agricultural techniques with them to help improve their crops in a way that will better provide for their families and open the door for sharing God's word with them in their language of Quechua.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



**The Bible Recap
Beginning January 1**

Reading through the Bible in a year can sound daunting- but it doesn't have to be! Join us for support and encouragement as we follow "The Bible Recap" reading plan on the YouVersion app together in 2023. Need help getting signed up? Please contact Marcy Ramsey.



**New Women's In-Person Bible Study
Beginning in January**

Join us for a study of the book of Revelation, using Blessed by Nancy Guthrie. Together, we'll work to understand the imagery in Revelation, learn how we can answer its call to follow Christ, and experience the promised blessings. This class will meet in person on Wednesdays starting January 18th at 10am and 7pm, and on Zoom on Tuesdays starting January 24th at 7:30pm.

YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S MINISTRY



**The Meaning of Chrismon: A Kids' Christmas Event
December 17, 5pm**

Chrismon trees are a historical tradition in the church. Kids ages 0-5th grade are invited to craft Chrismon ornaments with us and learn how their symbols relate to Jesus. Dinner will be served to the children prior to the start of Christmas in the Pines at 6pm.



**High School Christmas Party
December 21, 7pm**

Celebrate Christmas with us during Youth Group on December 21st! We'll have pizza, games, and a gift exchange. Please contact Curtis Briggs for more information.



**Middle & High School Youth Groups
Wednesdays, 7pm**

Build friendships, deepen your knowledge of God, and discover practical ways to live out your faith with us each Wednesday at 7PM! High school students meet in the upstairs youth room, middle school guys in the conference room, and middle school girls in the upstairs middle school room.

VOLUNTEER ROTATION

Elder of the Day

Today: Curtis Briggs
Next Week: Bill Calhoun

Deacon of the Day

Today: Dennis Radford
Next Week: John Cover

Greeters

Today: Ned Penley + Niko Laliotitis
Next Week: Bill + Lauren Shaw

Children's Church

Today: Banks Family
Next Week: Simpson Family

Nursery

Today: Karen Radford + Kathryn Felts
Next Week: D'Souza Family

Communion Preparation

January: Kathryn Felts
February: Linda Hendrickson

SUNDAY SCHOOL

We will not have Sunday School on
December 11th, 18th, 25th or January 1st.
Sunday School will resume on January 8th, 2023.

FELLOWSHIP - 10AM

Donuts, coffee, and conversation in the gym

WORSHIP - 10:30AM

Nursery for 0-3 years, Rooms 108 & 106
Children's Church for ages 4 years through 2nd grade,
dismissed from service. Pick up in Room 103.

GIVING UPDATE

December Giving Goal:	\$52,520	YTD Giving Goal:	\$301,990
December Actual Giving:	\$31,513	YTD Giving Total:	\$275,250

STAFF & LEADERSHIP

Chris Yates, Pastor
Kaitlin Fenner, Director of Business Operations
Whitney Kelley, Director of Communications & Media
Traci Lewis, Director of Accounting
Hannah Stahl, Director of Youth & Children's Ministries
Kathy Wright, Choir Director

Elders

Mike Bliss
Curtis Briggs
Bill Calhoun
Chris D'Souza
Josh Mehling

Deacons

John Cover
David Kelley
Andrew Kroese
Dennis Radford
Morris Tuck