



Advent

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

December 4, 2022

THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Bay Area Presbyterian Church

Order of Worship

December 4, 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

The Almighty appeared on earth as a helpless human baby, needing to be fed and changed and taught to talk like any other child. The more you think about it, the more staggering it gets. Nothing in fiction is so fantastic as this truth of the Incarnation.

-J.I. Packer

"Christmas is fast approaching. And now that Christ has aroused our seasonal expectations, he'll soon fulfill them all!"

-St. Augustine, 'Sermon 51'

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Andrew, Caroline, Callie, Nathan, & Micah Boone

————— TIME OF PRAISE —————

CALL TO WORSHIP

Isaiah 9:6-7

Leader: For to us a child is born, to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.

**People: And he will be called Wonderful Counselor,
Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

Leader: Of the greatness of his government
and peace there will be no end.

**People: He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom,
establishing and upholding it**

Leader: With justice and righteousness
from that time on and forever.

People: The zeal of the Lord Almighty will accomplish this.

**Please stand if you are able.*

As a courtesy, please set all communication devices to silent. Thank you.

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ADVENT HYMN*

Trinity Hymnal #214 (1,2,3)

Angels We Have Heard On High

PRAYER OF ADORATION

THE NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried;
and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

SONGS OF PRAISE*

My Soul Magnifies The Lord

It Came Upon The Midnight Clear

T I M E O F R E N E W A L

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

Merciful God, always with us, always coming: We confess that we do not know how to prepare for your Advent. We have forgotten how to hope in miracles; we have ignored the promise of your kingdom; we get distracted by all the busyness of this season. Forgive us, God. Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds, the intelligent courage of the Magi, and the patient faith of Mary and Joseph, that we may journey with them to Bethlehem and find the good news of a child born for us. We ask You to please make us ready for his coming again. Amen.

PRIVATE CONFESSION AND REFLECTION

WORDS OF ENCOURAGEMENT

Luke 1:76-78

“And you, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High; for you will go on before the Lord to prepare the way for him, to give his people the knowledge of salvation through the forgiveness of their sins, because of the tender mercy of our God, by which the rising sun will come to us from heaven.”

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Trinity Hymnal #211 (1,2,3)

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

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

Hanby, Young

Who Is He In Yonder Stall?

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 1:18-25

- ¹⁸ This is how the birth of Jesus the Messiah came about: His mother Mary was pledged to be married to Joseph, but before they came together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Because Joseph her husband was faithful to the law, and yet did not want to expose her to public disgrace, he had in mind to divorce her quietly.
- ²⁰ But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins.”
- ²² All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: ²³“The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel” (which means “God with us”).
- ²⁴ When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife. ²⁵But he did not consummate their marriage until she gave birth to a son. And he gave him the name Jesus.

MESSAGE

Pastor Chris Yates

Christmas Through The Eyes of Joseph

SONG OF PREPARATION*

What Child Is This?

GUIDELINES FOR THE RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

Communion is the family meal for Christians. We welcome all committed followers of Jesus Christ to partake of this sacrament: those who are baptized members of a congregation which proclaims the gospel, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength to live more faithfully for Christ. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer using the prayers that follow as guidelines. We hope that this time is helpful as you consider your relationship with Jesus Christ, and with his people, the church.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Minister: Therefore, lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise!

Minister: Together we proclaim the mystery of faith.

People: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

THE LORD'S SUPPER

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (concluding with the Lord's Prayer)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.

SONG OF RESPONSE*

Glory In The Highest

BENEDICTION*

DISMISSAL

Leader: Let us go forth to serve the world as those
who love our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

All: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER FOR THOSE SEARCHING FOR TRUTH

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. Enable me not to be intimidated by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Please guide me, teach me, and reveal to me the reality of who you are. Give me an understanding of you that is coherent, convincing, and that leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

PRAYER OF BELIEF

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I believe that you lived a perfect life so that through faith in you I might be received by God and declared righteous. I thank you that when you died on the cross you endured the punishment I deserve because of my sin, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete forgiveness. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and embrace you by faith as my Savior and Lord. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THOSE OVERCOME WITH SIN

Lord Jesus, grant that I may see in you the fulfillment of all my need, and may turn from every false satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely, and run with perseverance the race set before me, looking to you, the Pioneer and Perfecter of my faith. Help me not to be deceived by offers of false satisfaction and to delight in You more than anything else. Amen.

PRAYER FOR COVENANT CHILDREN (Not Yet Admitted to the Lord's Supper)

Lord Jesus, thank you for placing me inside your family, the church. Help me more and more to know you, to love you, and to follow you. Please work in my heart to believe the gospel for myself, not just because my parents believe. Give me a longing to know Jesus better and to serve Him with my whole heart. Amen.

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**

12/7	High School and Middle School Youth Group	7pm
12/8	Women's Christmas Tea	7pm
12/9	Men's Ministry Winter Kickoff	7pm
12/9	Friday Small Group	1:30pm
12/10	Christmas Concert Set-Up & Decorating	5-9pm
12/11, 12/18, 12/25, 1/1	No Sunday School	
12/11	Christmas Concert & Dinner	5pm
12/17	The Meaning of Chrismon: A Kids' Christmas Event	5pm
12/17	Christmas In The Pines	6pm
12/24	Christmas Eve Candlelight Service	5:30pm



Choir Concert and Dinner, December 11th at 5pm

This annual tradition is the highlight of the Christmas season! Join us on Sunday, December 11th at 5pm for a free Christmas concert and a catered dinner afterward. Dinner tickets may be purchased at bapc.org or 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.

MEN'S MINISTRY



**Men's Ministry Winter Kickoff
December 9, 7pm**

Join us as we kick off a new season of men's ministry with food, beverages, and a chance to share your input and ideas! Feel free to bring a snack or beverage and plan to meet us at Ethan Stahl's home on Friday, December 9.

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.

WOMEN'S MINISTRY



**Ladies' Christmas Tea
December 8, 7pm**

You're invited to our annual Christmas party at the home of Karen Calhoun! Please bring a wrapped ornament and an appetizer and join us for fellowship, carols, an ornament exchange and more. RSVP to Karen by phone or text; due to parking limitations please carpool if possible.



**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: Mike Bliss
Next Week: Curtis Briggs

Deacon of the Day

Today: Morris Tuck
Next Week: Dennis Radford

Greeters

Today: Cathy Mahlstedt + Kris Benavides
Next Week: Ned Penley + Niko Laliotitis

Children's Church

Today: Sam Kroese
Next Week: Banks Family

Nursery

Today: Laura Gelber + Della Brown
Next Week: Karen Radford + Kathryn Felts

Communion Preparation

December: Jack + Heather Amuny
January: Kathryn Felts

SUNDAY SCHOOL - 9AM

Adults

Hebrews, Room 88

Youth Membership Class

Room 94

9th - 12th Grade

Westminster Confession of Faith, Youth Room

5th - 8th Grade

Survey of the Old Testament, Room 91

3rd - 4th Grade

God's Grace in the Law, Room 104

1st - 2nd Grade

Obedying God, Room 102

PreK - Kindergarten

God Created All Things, Room 107

Nursery

Toddler Nursery, Room 108

Infant Nursery, Room 106

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.

**Children in PreK-2nd grade begin the Sunday School with a time
of singing and musical instruction from our Choir Director, Kathy Wright.*

GIVING UPDATE

November Giving Goal:	\$52,520	YTD Giving Goal:	\$288,860
November Actual Giving:	\$50,185	YTD Giving Total:	\$243,737

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