



Linocut by Elizabeth Adams, Star Over Mont St-Hilaire, 2013

Sunday, January 8, 2023
Epiphany Sunday

Welcome to worship with the First Baptist Church of Christ.

Whatever road has brought you here and wherever you should go once we depart, know that you are welcome in this space fully and completely, and that the image of God we all bear together this hour is more complete because you are here as a part of it.

Things to Know

Masks are now optional on the church campus. We understand there are those within the congregation who will need or want to continue to wear masks, and we will continue to keep masks around the church for those who may want to use them.

Restrooms can be found through the double doors on the side near the elevator, one flight of stairs up or one flight down.

Participate in the service as much or as little as you like. Stand when others stand, or remain seated. Sing when others sing, or enjoy the way this old sanctuary fills with sound. Invitations to stand as you are able are marked with an asterisk (*). Invitations to respond in word or song are noted in bold.

For Those With Children

Thank you for bringing a child to worship! Take a deep breath and know they are welcome here. Parents with infants are more than welcome to remain in the sanctuary, or ushers can direct you down the back stairs to a comfortable room with sound from the sanctuary so all can still hear the service. A nursery is provided for children younger than 3. Preschoolers (age 3-Kindergarten) are invited to leave after “Let the Children Come” for our W.O.W. (Working on Worship) experience.

For Those with Special Needs

Thank you for joining us for worship! We love our historic buildings, but know they can be a challenge for those with mobility needs. Know that we are committed to doing all we can to make this space welcoming to everyone. Reserved seating for those in wheel chairs and those sitting with them is found near the elevator, and is marked with signs on the walls and on the back of the pews. Please don't hesitate to ask an usher for assistance. If you have special hearing needs, please ask one of the ushers to bring you a hearing assistance device from the sound booth in the back, or feel free to go back there and get one. An accessible restroom is located up one floor across from the office. If you, or someone with you, requires special assistance for any reason, please find a minister or an usher.

THE OFFERING OF PRAISE

The Sounding of the Hour

Anne Armstrong

Evie Wallace, acolyte

The Prelude

"O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"

arr. Wayne Wold

Anne Armstrong, organ

The Call to Worship

Rebecca Pursiful

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.

The brightness of God's light shines upon all the nations. All are welcomed to the brightness of God's dawn.

God gathers us from far away and carries us. With radiant eyes, with rejoicing hearts, we receive the abundance God gives.

We respond in praise. With our gifts, with our very selves, we worship God.

Isaiah 60

*The Hymn of Praise 126

Angels, from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;

Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,

God on earth is now residing, yonder shines the infant Light:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar;

Seek the great Desire of nations, ye have seen the Infant's star:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Saints, before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,

Suddenly the Lord, descending, in His temple shall appear:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

*The Invocation

Rebecca Pursiful

*The Gloria Patri 705

GLORIA PATRI

**Glorify be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen, amen.**

The Welcome

Kelsey Stillwell

“Let the Children Come”

Allie Ford

Children in 3K-K are invited to W.O.W., a preschool worship experience! We will meet with the W.O.W. Shepherds at the end of “Let the Children Come.” Pick up your children there after worship. The W.O.W. leader this week is Rebecca Pursiful and the shepherds this week are Audrey Dickison and Maddie Cooke.

THE OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The Hymn of Offertory 151

We Three Kings

KINGS OF ORIENT

**We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.**

Refrain:

**O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,
Westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.**

**Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown Him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. (Refrain)**

**Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;
Prayer and praising, voices raising, worship Him, God on high. (Refrain)**

**Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. (Refrain)**

**Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God and sacrifice:
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. (Refrain)**

*The Offertory Prayer

Harriet Eason

The Offertory

“How Great Our Joy”

Craig Courtney

While by the sheep we watched at night,
Glad tidings brought an angel bright.
How great our joy! How great our joy!

There shall be born, so He did say,
In Bethlehem a Child today.
How great our joy! How great our joy!

There shall the Child lie in a stall,
This Child who shall redeem us all.
This gift of God we'll cherish well,
That ever joy our hearts shall fill.

Praise we the Lord in heav'n on high!
How great our joy! How great our joy!

Text: Nahum Tate (1700)

*The Offertory Response 131

In the Bleak Midwinter
(stanza 4)

CRANHAM

**What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part;
Yet what I can I give Him: give Him my heart.**

Christina Rossetti

THE OFFERING OF THE WORD

The First Lesson

Isaiah 60:1-6

Lindsey Jones

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought

to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

For the Word of God in Holy Scripture,

Thanks be to God.

The Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Kelsey Stillwell

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

The Second Lesson

Matthew 2:1-12

Kelsey Stillwell

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage." When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: 'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'" Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

For the Good News of God,

Thanks be to God.

THE BREAD AND CUP OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

OFFERING OF COMMITMENT

*The Hymn of
Commitment 148

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christians, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spears, shall pierce Him through, the cross be borne for me, for you.
Hail, hail the Word made flesh, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

**So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him.
Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy for Christ is born, the Babe, the Son of Mary!**

*The Benediction

*The Congregational Response

“Alleluia”

traditional chant

Postlude

“We Three Kings”
Anne Armstrong, organ

arr. David Clark Isele



OUR LIFE TOGETHER

Sunday, January 8

9:00 am Making disciples breakfast
 9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship

Wednesday, January 11

9:30 am Language Ministry
 4:00 pm Open time in youth room
 and children's center
 5:30 pm Youth Choir
 5:30 pm Family Dinner
 6:00 pm Young Musicians and
 Music Makers
 6:15 pm Youth "Unplugged"
 6:30 pm Language Ministry
 Choir Practice
 Adult Bible study
 6:45 pm Kids on Mission

Sunday, January 15

9:30 am Sunday School
 11:00 am Worship

Monday, January 16

Office closed for MLK Day

Deacon of the Week

January 12 Tricia Whitby
 January 19 Eric Spears

Birthdays

January 12 Josie Stephens
 January 13 Carol Goff
 Harold Tessororf
 LeAnn Johns
 Christy Fuller
 January 14 Mary Brock
 January 15 Merle Mendheim
 Agnes Donaldson
 Gladys Keith
 Joe Saturna
 Ford Myrick

Condolences

We grieve with the family of David McMahan on his death on December 11.
 We grieve with Al and Sharon Bailey on the death of Al's mother, Lou Bailey, on December 24.

The Record Speaks

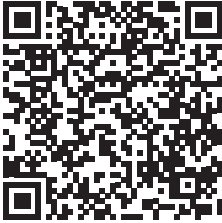
Date:	11/30/22
Budget:	\$601,815
Receipts: (Offering):	\$590,000
Receipts: (Endowment):	\$59,180
Expenses:	\$611,230
Missions:	\$34,542
Year to Date:	(\$20,700)

Save the Date:

January 22: Deacon installation
 January 29: Church Council
 February 5: Baptist Heritage Sunday

Wednesday Night Supper

This week's menu is taco bar. Please use this QR code to make reservations this afternoon for Wednesday night, January 11.



Join us for Wednesday Bible Study. This small group, discussion-based time is a wonderful midweek respite.

January 11: Evening Prayer

January 18: The Poetry of Epiphany

January 25: Evening Prayer

Book Club

January 22, 6:00 pm

116 Waterford Place

We will discuss *SAVING US: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World* by Katharine Hayhoe.

This is a multilayered look at science, faith, and human psychology, from an icon in her field. According to the New York Times, United Nations Champion of the Earth, climate scientist, and evangelical Christian Katharine Hayhoe changes the debate on how we can save our future in this nationally bestselling “optimistic view on why collective action is still possible—and how it can be realized”.

CHILDREN'S NEWS

Wednesday Night Activities Resume

January 11

5:30 Dinner

6:00 pm Children's Choir

6:45 pm Kids on Mission

Save the date:

VBS: June 12-16

PassportKids: July 16-19

YOUTH NEWS

Wednesday Night Activities Resume

5:30 Dinner and Youth Choir*

*Youth come down to the Fellowship Hall to eat after choir. After everyone is done, we walk up to the youth room together.

6:30-7:30 Youth Unplugged

Packed

Saturday, January 14

9:00am -9:00pm

All the best parts of a retreat packed into one day, but no need to pack.

Fellowship, food, and fun!

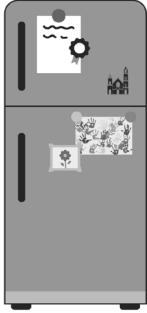
Chaperones needed for shifts 9:00am-3:00pm and 3:00pm-9:00pm.

Sign up using the link in the youth newsletter.

Save the Date:

Youth Super Bowl Party: February 12

THE FRIDGE DOOR



A place to display the small moments that make up the larger story of the church

On Friday, December 30, a team of 10 FBCX members volunteered to cook and serve lunch at Daybreak. This allows Daybreak to host meals on the days throughout the year when the places that usually provide meals are closed for the holidays. Thanks to Dan Riley for planning and preparing everything, and thanks to Karen Ebey-Tessendorf for securing funds through "Thrivent Action Teams" which covered the cost of food, paper products, water, and snacks donated to Daybreak. Thanks to the team that volunteered their time. About 50 people enjoyed the lunch of sausage/vegetable stew, pb&j sandwiches, fresh fruit, and chips. Sr. Teresa posted a Facebook live video that included the volunteers and Dan talking. Check it out on the Daybreak Facebook page!





NOTES AND DOODLES

Signs of the Season

The paraments on the pulpit and communion table and the minister's stoles are visual reminders of the current season of the church year. The season of Christmas lasts for twelve days between Christmas Day and Epiphany. The color white symbolizes purity and hope.

Flowers

The flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Frances Bowen, who would have turned 100 on December 27, 2022, by Jackie and Dan Riley.



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• www.fbcxmacon.org • Wifi: fbcx-Guest Password is: welcome511

Staff and Leadership

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JOHNSON MUSIC FELLOW

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COUNCIL

Rev. Scott Dickison
PASTOR

Allie Ford
MINISTRY INTERN

Tierra Johnson
CUSTODIAN

Connie Pursiful
ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Rebecca Pursiful
MINISTRY INTERN

Dr. Stanley L. Roberts
MINISTER OF MUSIC

Eric Spears
CHAIR OF DEACONS

Rev. Kelsey Stillwell
ASSOCIATE PASTOR FOR
YOUTH AND MISSIONS

Tricia Whitby
VICE CHAIR OF DEACONS