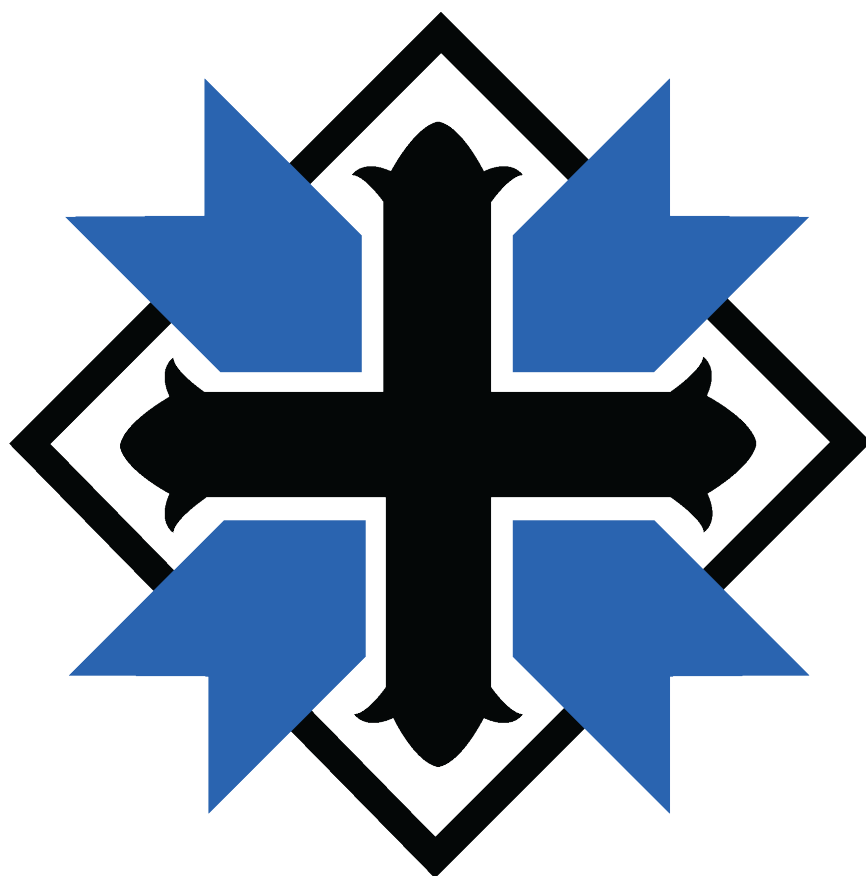


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Savannah, Georgia



A Re-Imagined Service of

Lessons and Carols

December 18, 2022 at 11:00 am

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Welcome to First Baptist Church, Savannah's oldest standing house of worship. Our congregation believes that Jesus treated everyone with a spirit of love and equality. Therefore, we accept every individual without regard to age, gender, race, ethnicity, physical or mental disability, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation, or socio-economic status. We affirm all persons as created in the image of God. At First Baptist Church, individuals can find family, families can find community, the injured can find healing, and all can seek truth and justice. We labor together in love for each other, our community, our world, and our God. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcomed, accepted, and loved.

ENTRANCE

** Asterisks indicate the people standing, as able.*

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME & INVOCATION

Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese, Interim Pastor

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The McCulley Family

PRELUDE - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"

First Baptist Church Handbell Choir

Rev. James C. Richardson, Organ & Rev. Dr. Justin L. Addington, Piano

arr. Joel Raney

BIDDING PRAYER

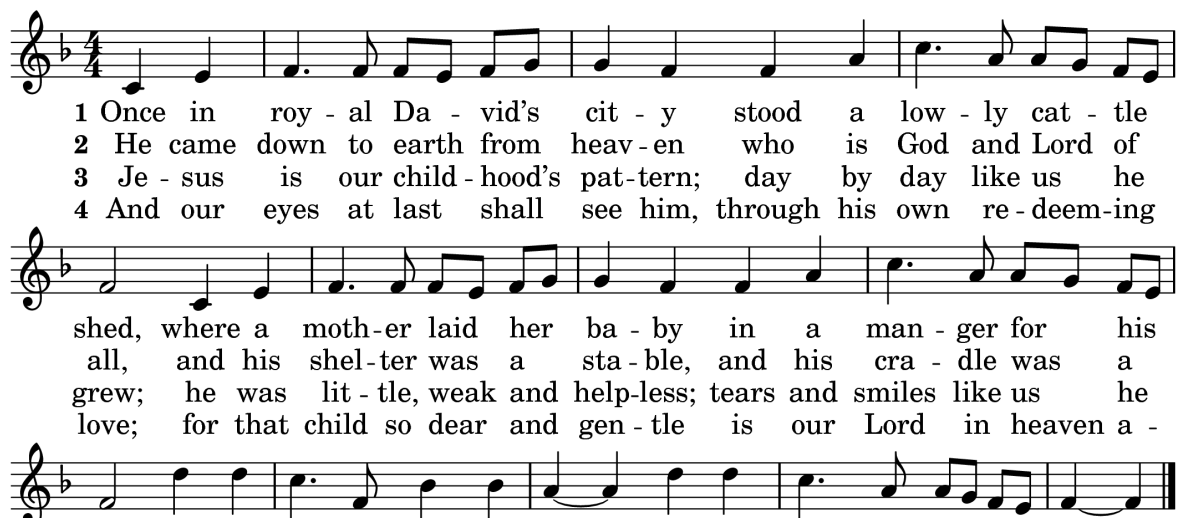
Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem, and see the Son of God lying in a manger. Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose and let us look forward to the remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise. But first, let us pray for the needs of this whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city. And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know the love of Jesus Christ. Finally, let us remember that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the **Word** made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore. And now, to sum up these petitions, let us pray the prayer which Christ taught us, saying:

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,
For ever and ever. Amen.

* CAROL - "Once In Royal David's City"

Tune: IRBY



1 Once in roy - al Da - vid's cit - y stood a low - ly cat - tle
2 He came down to earth from heav - en who is God and Lord of
3 Je - sus is our child - hood's pat - tern; day by day like us he
4 And our eyes at last shall see him, through his own re - deem - ing
shed, where a moth - er laid her ba - by in a man - ger for his
all, and his shel - ter was a sta - ble, and his cra - dle was a
grew; he was lit - tle, weak and help - less; tears and smiles like us he
love; for that child so dear and gen - tle is our Lord in heaven a -
bed: Ma - ry was that moth - er mild; Je - sus Christ, her lit - tle child.
stall; with the poor and meek and low - ly, lived on earth our Sav - ior ho - ly.
knew; and he feels for all our sad - ness, and he shares in all our glad - ness.
bove; and he leads his chil - dren on to the place where he is gone.

- Text by Cecil F. Alexander

PROCLAMATION

INTRODUCTION TO LESSONS & CAROLS

Rev. Dr. Justin L. Addington, Minister of Music

SCRIPTURE LESSON - John 1:1-5

REFLECTION - "In the Beginning"

Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese, Interim Pastor

ANTHEM - "In the Beginning Was the Word"
First Baptist Church Choir

by Carson Cooman

*In the beginning was the **Word**,
And the **Word** was with God,
And the **Word** was God.
He was with God in the beginning.
In him was life,
And that life was the light of all.
The light shines in the darkness,
But the darkness has not understood it.*

- Text from John 1

ANTHEM - "Savior of the Nations, Come"
First Baptist Church Choir

arr. Evelyn R. Larter

*Savior of the nations, come;
Show the glory of the Son!
Every people, stand in awe;
Praise the perfect Son of God.*

*Not of human seed, or worth,
But of God's own mystic breath,
Fruit in Mary's womb began
When God breathed the **Word**, his Son.*

*God the Father's precious song
Girds himself in flesh to run;
Riding out, returning home
As the Savior who has come.*

*Praise to God here everyone,
God the Father, God the Son,
God the Holy Ghost adore;
Praise them now and evermore.*

- Text attributed to St. Ambrose, 340-397



ANTHEM - "Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"
First Baptist Church Choir

by Johann Sebastian Bach

*Jesus, joy of our desiring,
Holy wisdom, love most bright;
Drawn by thee, our souls aspiring
Soar to uncreated light.*

*Word of God, our flesh that fashioned,
With the fire of life impassioned,
Striving still to truth unknown,
Soaring, dying round thy throne.*

- Text translated by Robert S. Bridges

SCRIPTURE LESSON - John 1:10-13

REFLECTION - "The World Did Not Know Him"
Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese, Interim Pastor

ANTHEM - "Word of God, Come Down on Earth"
First Baptist Church Choir

arr. John Ferguson

*Word of God, come down on earth,
Living rain from heaven descending;
Touch our hearts and bring to birth
Faith and hope and love unending.
Word almighty, we revere you;
Word made flesh, we long to hear you.*

*Word eternal, throned on high,
Word that brought to life creation,
Word that came from heaven to die,
Crucified for our salvation,
Saving Word, the world restoring,
Speak to us, your love outpouring.*

*Word that speaks God's tender love,
One with God beyond all telling,
Word that sends us from above,
God the Spirit, with us dwelling,
Word of truth, to all truth lead us,
Word of life, with one Bread feed us.*

- Text by James Quinn



1 O Word of God in-car-nate, O Wis-dom from on high, O
 2 The church from you, dear Sav-ior, re-ceived this gift di-vine; and
 3 O make your church, dear Sav-ior, a lamp of pur-est gold to
 Truth un-changed, un-chang-ing, O Light of our dark sky: we
 still that light is lift-ed on all the earth to shine. It
 bear be-fore the na-tions your true light, as of old; O
 praise you for the ra-diance that from the hal-lowed page, a
 is the chart and com-pass that, all life's voy-age through, a-
 teach your wan-dering pil-grims by this our path to trace, till,
 lan-tern to our foot-steps, shines on from age to age.
 mid the rocks and quick-sands still guides, O Christ, to you.
 clouds and storms thus end-ed, we see you face to face.

- Text by William W. How

ANTHEM - "How Lovely Are the Messengers" from St. Paul

by Felix Mendelssohn

*How lovely are the messengers
 That preach us the gospel of peace.
 To all the nations is gone forth the sound of their words,
 Throughout all the lands their glad tidings.*

- Text from Romans 10

SCRIPTURE LESSON - John 1:14-18

REFLECTION - "The Word Became Flesh"

Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese, Interim Pastor



ANTHEM - "What Child Is This"
First Baptist Church Choir

arr. Molly Ijames

*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 Christian, fear; for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.
Nails, spear, 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!*

- Text by William C. Dix

ANTHEM - "Ave Verum"
First Baptist Church Choir

by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

*Ave verum corpus, natum
De Maria Virgine,
Vere passum, immolatum
In cruce pro homine.*

*Cujus latus perforatum
Fluxit aqua et sanguine:
Esto nobis prægustatum
In mortis examine.*

*Jesus, **Word** of God Incarnate,
Of the Virgin Mary born;
On the cross your sacred body,
For us with nails was torn.*

*Cleanse us by the blood and water
Streaming from your pierced side.
Feed us with your body broken,
Now and in death's agony.*

- Text attributed to Pope Innocent

ANTHEM - "O Come, All Ye Faithful"
First Baptist Church Choir

arr. Mac Wilberg

*O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels.
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

*Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!*

- Text by John F. Wade

RESPONSE

OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY - "The Wexford Carol"
Emily Richardson-Dion, Solo

arr. Charles Floyd

*Good people all, this Christmas time,
Consider well and bear in mind
What our good God for us has done,
In sending his beloved Son.
With Mary holy we should pray
To God with love this Christmas Day;
In Bethlehem upon the morn
There was a blest Messiah born.*

*With thankful heart and joyful mind,
The shepherds went the babe to find,
And as God's angel has foretold,
They did our Savior Christ behold.
Within a manger he was laid,
And by his side the virgin maid
Attending to the Lord of Life,
Who came on earth to end all strife.*

*Near Bethlehem did shepherds keep
Their flocks of lambs and feeding sheep;
To whom God's angels did appear
Which put the shepherds in great fear.
Prepare and go, the angels said,
To Bethlehem, be not afraid;
For there you'll find, this happy morn,
A princely babe, sweet Jesus born.*

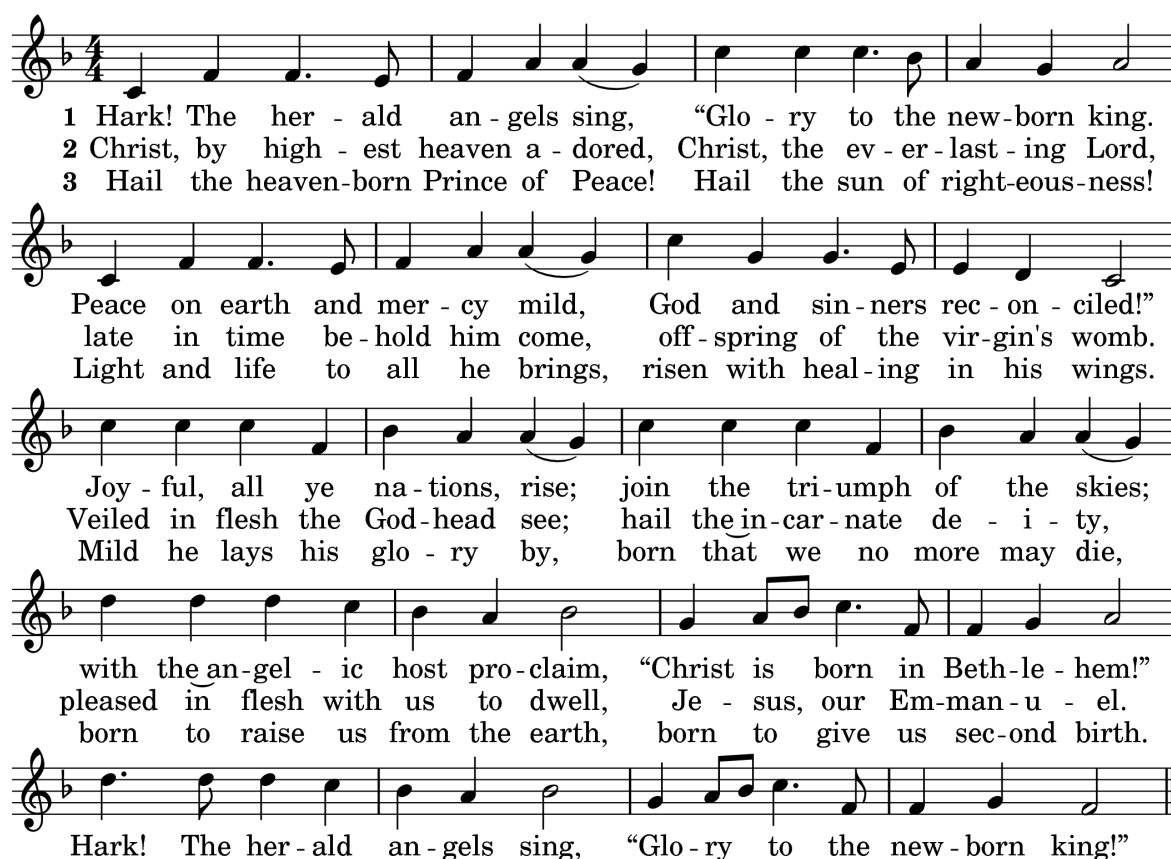
- Text from a 12th Century English Carol



Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; Praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;
 Praise God a-bove, ye heaven - ly host; Cre-a-tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.
 Re-joice! Re-joice! Em-man - u-el shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el.

- Text attributed to Thomas Ken & John Mason Neale

SENDING FORTH



1 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born king.
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
 3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of right-eous-ness!
 Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the vir - gin's womb.
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.
 Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise; join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate de - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,
 with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.
 Hark! The her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new - born king!"

- Text by Charles Wesley & George Whitefield,
 Descant & Reharmonization by David Willcocks

EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Kyle T. Reese, Interim Pastor

PASTORAL BLESSING

POSTLUDE - "Noel! Noel!"

Rev. Dr. Justin L. Addington, Organ

by Johann Sebastian Bach

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CHRISTMAS DONATIONS

Given by Lynn Alexander in memory of her parents, Carl & Barbara Harman.

Given by Rev. Will Barnes in memory of his father, L.M. (Bob) Barnes and mother Sophia Barnes.

Given by Nellie Jones in honor of Thelma Browne and in memory of Billy Jones.

Given by Tricia Craig in honor of loved ones.

Given by Nancy & Bill Sutton in honor of Betsy, Rebecca, and Will Sutton.

Given by Lem & Eve Brawner in honor of B.V. Brawner and Robbie Riddle.

Given by Jack & John Foxx Willhite in honor of their grandparents, Doyle Foxx & Marty Foxx.

Given by Reed Creaser in memory of Barbara Creaser.

Given by Anna Farmer in memory of her mother, Beatrice Yarborough.

Given by Eddie & Cathy Parrish and family in honor of Mrs. Cilie Sutton.

Given by Fran Arnsdorff in memory of her mother, Allene Wilkie George.

Given by Melissa Ralph in memory of Piper and her mother, Lorraine Luciani Ralph, with love and gratitude.

Given by John & Norma Finley in memory of our parents, Miller & June Finley and Jim & Lora Vaughan.

Given by Nancy Lazard in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Allen Brown and Mr. & Mrs. Bernard A. Lazard.

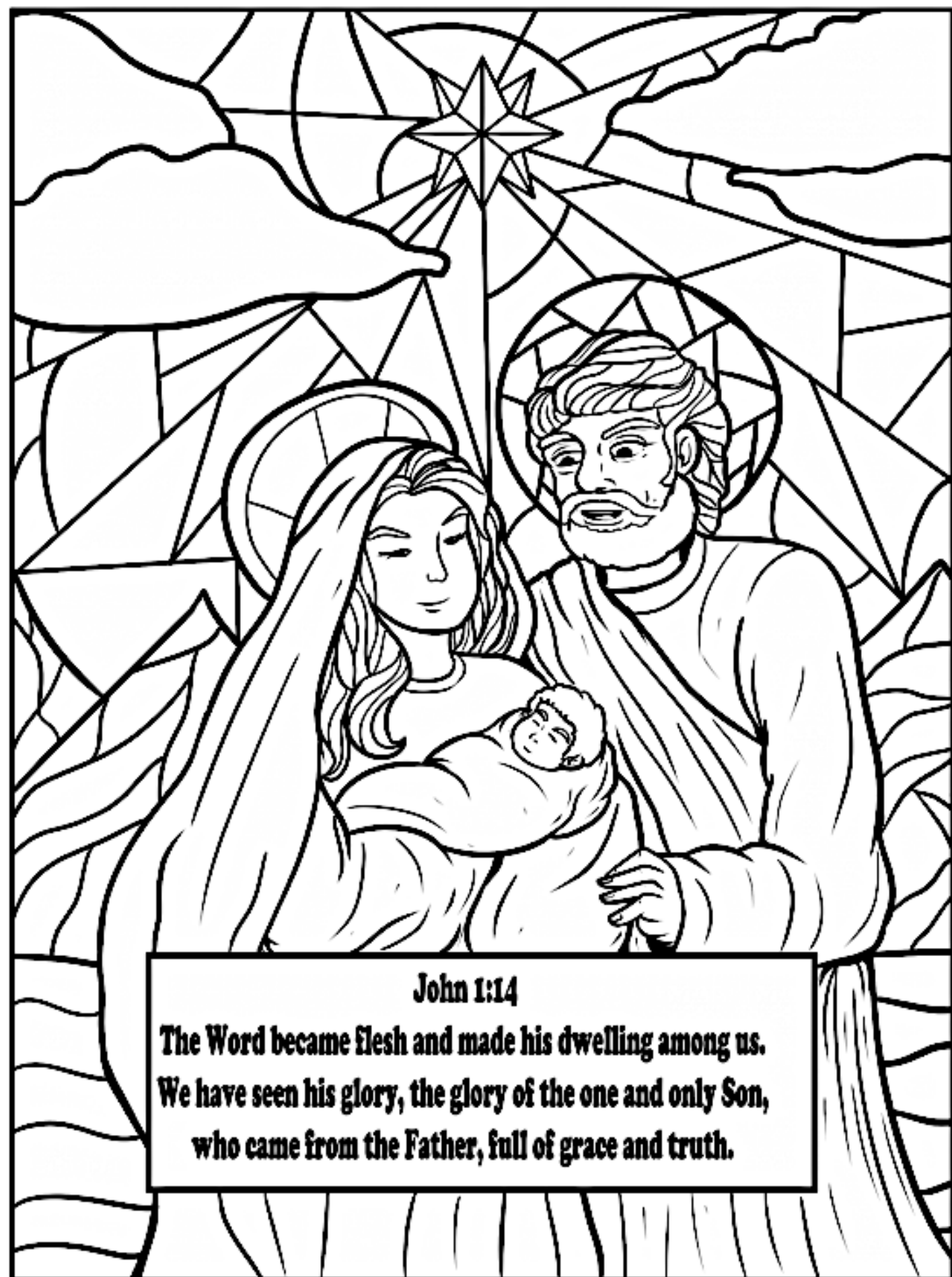
Given by Charles & Lynne Davis in honor of and in grateful appreciation for our family.

Given by George & Ginger Pruden in honor of Kyle Reese, James Richardson, Justin Addington, and staff.

Given by James Richardson and family in memory of Carol Anne Richardson.

Given by Fran Arnsdorff, in honor of the many dedicated volunteers at FBC.

Given by the Music Ministry of FBC in memory of Will Hodges.



John 1:14

**The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us.
We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son,
who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.**

CHURCH STAFF

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GUEST MUSICIANS

Julia Sellman
Violin I

Marina Volynets
Violin II

Amanda Zhang
Viola

Fayha Polite
Cello



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