

Hanging of the Green

An Advent Celebration



First Baptist Church
Lumberton, North Carolina
November 27, 2022
6:00 p.m.

Hangings of the Green

The season of Advent recalls the long years of waiting experienced by God's people in exile, praying for the coming of the promised Messiah. It is a season of hopeful, anxious anticipation as we prepare our hearts and lives for the celebration of the birth of the Christ Child.

Prelude/Gathering Music Youth Bells

Christmas Celebration

Welcome & Invocation Rev. Josh Owens

The Greenery

Around the world, many kinds of greenery are used to adorn churches at Christmastime. "Evergreen" plants such as pine, fir, holly, ivy, and mistletoe reflect God's never-failing love for us, and remind us of the everlasting life offered us through our Lord.

Call to Worship Danny Cook

(Please read the bold print aloud.)

"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob; that God may teach us God's ways and that we may walk in God's paths." (Isaiah 2:3)

How shall we prepare this place for the birth of Jesus?

How shall we prepare for the eternal Christ?

With branches of cedar, the tree of excellence and strength.

With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever green.

How shall we prepare our hearts for this revelation of God?

By hearing again the words of the prophets and the promises of God.

For in the story of Jesus, we see the transforming power of God.

We are reminded anew of God's vision

Of wholeness, justice, and abundance for all creation.

Let us make our hearts and this space

A place of inward and outward preparation for the One who comes.

*Hymn, No. 154 VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Anthem Music Munchkins

Light of the World

Little Grey Donkey

The Candles

Jesus said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will have the light of life and will never walk in darkness." We adorn our sanctuary with candles as a reminder of God's pure and perfect light, Jesus Christ.

A Message of Hope: Jeremiah 33:14-16 Meghan Walsh

*Hymn, No. 155 GENEVAN 42
Comfort, Comfort Now My People

Anthem Music Makers & Young Musicians Bells
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Anthem Worship Ensemble
Breath of Heaven

The Poinsettias

The star-shaped, red leaves of the poinsettia plant have come to represent many parts of the Advent narrative. These leaves remind us of the Star of Bethlehem, the shed blood of the infants slain by Herod, the crown of thorns, and the beautiful sacrifice of the King of Glory for us.

A Message of Peace: Isaiah 11:1-10 Dr. Sam Britt

*Hymn No. 180 ST. LOUIS
O Little Town of Bethlehem

Anthem Friends of Jesus
Go Tell it on the Mountain

The Chrismons

The tree is decorated with Chrismons, an abbreviation for Christ Monogram. Some use Greek letters to spell his name, while others are symbols of his character, purity and kingship. The Chrismons are hung on an evergreen tree in remembrance of Christ, his life, his sacrifice, and the eternal life we are offered through his death and resurrection. Our Chrismons were decorated by the 2018 FBC Art Campers.

A Message of Joy: Zephaniah 3:14-20.....Emily Cribb and Sam Ivey

*Hymn, No. 153..... HYFRYDOL
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

The Lighting of the Candles

A Message of Love: Isaiah 42:1-4 Shirley Hickman

Anthem Sanctuary Choir
It Came Upon a Midnight Clear with The Birthday of a King

A Message of Light: Isaiah 60:1-6..... Rev. Doug Reedy

*Hymn, No. 185..... MENDELSSOHN
Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Benediction Rev. Owens
(Please read the bold print aloud.)
What is this season of Advent?

Advent is the good news that the Lord accepts all people, just as we are.

Advent is the time for receiving into our lives the gift of new relationships.

**Advent is the light that takes away the darkness of our
pride, greed, power, and selfishness.**

Advent is the time of new hope.

Advent is the time of new birth.

May Christ be born in you

And in the lives of people everywhere. Amen.

Postlude Betty Hubbard

*Congregation is invited to stand

*Please join us in Cherry Fellowship Hall following
the service for a time of food and fellowship.*

***Greenery and Poinsettias
are Given to the Glory of God***

<i>In Memory of</i>	<i>Given by</i>
E.J. Britt Family	Bobbie Britt
Gene and Carolyn Bennett	The Girls, Jan and Candy
Charlie and Lessie Bennett.....	Candy Bennett Fairfield
Mary Louise Blake	Malcolm and Meg McLean
Liz Booth.....	Christy and Johnny Strickland
Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Britt, Jr.	Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Britt, III
Elsie Gentry Britt.....	Samuel E. Britt
Elsie Gentry Britt.....	Mark and Nancy Wagner
George Byrd Family.....	Bobbie Britt
Mr. & Mrs. John A. Currin.....	Lisa Johnson and Wayne Rabon
Jerry Hinson	Sandra, Ashlynn, and Dawn
Mr. & Mrs. Robert E. Freeman	Lisa Johnson and Wayne Rabon
Willie P. Kinlaw	Ella Dean Kinlaw & Family
Billie Olive Kinlaw	Mark and Julie Kinlaw, Tatum & Ellen
Regan and Juanita McIntyre.....	Pierce M. Overman, Melynda M. Ciccotti, and Reg McIntyre
A.E. (Earl) and Annie Ruth McLaurin	Kenneth A. Richardson and Family
Lillian McIntyre Parsons	Pierce M. Overman, Melynda M. Ciccotti, and Reg McIntyre
Joan F. Rabon.....	Lisa Johnson and Wayne Rabon
Renee McLaurin Richardson.....	Kenneth A. Richardson and Family
Mr. & Mrs. R.C. Russ	Mr. & Mrs. J.N. Britt, III
Page Sawyer	Christy and Johnny Strickland
Mimi (Page Sawyer).....	Grayson, Anna, Kendall, Jillian
Page Sawyer	Larry W. Sawyer, Sr.
Wayne T. Stevens, Sr.	Jeanne Stevens
Mary Elizabeth Stevens.....	Jeanne Stevens
Nora Pierce Wayne.....	Pierce M. Overman, Melynda M. Ciccotti, and Reg McIntyre

In Honor of

Given by

Allison, Dustin, Grayson, and Anna Branch Christy and Johnny Strickland
Samuel E. Britt Mark and Nancy Wagner
Teachers of the Rupert Collins Class H.J. and Sylvia Edwards
 James Dail, Tony Thompson, Larry Sawyer
Gracie Davis H.J. and Sylvia Edwards
H.J. and Sylvia Edwards Mark and Julia Kinlaw, Tatum & Ellen
Amanda, Donavan, Kendall, and Jillian Hunt Christy and Johnny Strickland
Charles and Katherine Kinlaw Mark and Julia Kinlaw, Tatum & Ellen
Lynn and Johnny Smith H.J. & Sylvia Edwards
George and Bernard Stamper H.J. & Sylvia Edwards
Glenda and Phil Taylor Fred and Eliza Williams

A generous donation was also made by Bill and Mayme Tubbs.

In Appreciation

Sincere thanks to everyone who made this service possible.

Participating Choirs

Music Munchkins
Young Musicians Bells
Youth Bells
Sanctuary Choir
Adult Bells

Directors

Betty Hubbard
Lisa Ivey
Lauren Little
Tim Little
Liz Lytch
Nancy Wagner

Accompanists

Betty Hubbard

Church Staff

Rev. Josh Owens, Senior Pastor
Rev. Tim Little, Minister of Music and Facilities
Rev. Doug Reedy, Associate Pastor of Youth, Young Adults and Missions

Sundays at First Baptist

9:30 a.m.—Sunday School

10:30 a.m.—Worship

First Baptist Sanctuary or via Facebook Live or Youtube

Wednesdays at First Baptist

6:00 p.m.—Wednesday Night Prayer Service in Room D-113

Children's Activities

Youth Doing Missions

Advent at First Baptist

Christmas Memorial Service

Sunday, December 4

5:00 pm in First Baptist Sanctuary

A reflective service to mark the grief that many feel during the holiday season.

Friends of Jesus Singing and Church-wide Christmas Party

Sunday, December 11

9:30 a.m. in Cherry Fellowship Hall

Bring your favorite Christmas treat to share as we listen to the Friends of Jesus sing.

Sanctuary Choir Cantata

Sunday, December 18

During 10:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Saturday, December 24

5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary

During the service, the Christ Candle will be lit, we'll sing carols, read the account of the birth of Jesus, and then share the light of Christ.

Christmas Day

Sunday, December 25

10:30 am Worship in the Sanctuary

No School Classes will meet



Give to First Baptist Church!

You may donate to your ministry during Sunday worship, scan the QR code with your cell phone camera, give online, or mail your contribution (606 N. Walnut Street, Lumberton, NC 28358).

