



A CELEBRATION OF ADVENT

Sunday, December 7, 2025 - 5:30 pm

Presented by the Music Ministries of
First Baptist Church
Forest City, North Carolina

PRELUDE *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*
Phillip Greene
arranged by Tim Doran

WELCOME Rev. Dr. Garin Hill

Light of Hope, Light of Peace Young Musicians Choir
Led by Teresa McDaniel
by Mark Patterson

*Light of hope, light of peace, you are just the light we need.
Shine for all the world to see: Christ is coming soon.*

 **A shoot shall come up from the stump of Jesse.** 
Isaiah 11:1

Lo! How a Rose, E'er Blooming Loretta Luckadoo
German Carol, 18th C - Melody Old Catholic Spiritual Church Song, 1599

*Lo, how a rose e'er blooming,
From tender stem hath sprung.
Of Jesse's lineage coming,
As men of old have sung;
It came, a flow'ret bright,
Amid the cold of winter,
When half spent was the night.*

A Spotless Rose Sanctuary Choir
Melody Old Catholic Spiritual Church Song, 1599 -
Words; Anonymous - Arranged by Tom Shelton

*A spotless Rose is blowing, sprung from a tender root,
of ancient seers' foreshowing, of Jesse promised fruit;
In fairest bud unfolds to light amid the cold, cold winter,
cold winter, and in the dark midnight.*
*The Rose which I am singing, whereof Isaiah said,
is from the sweet root springing, in Mary, purest Maid;
for through God's great love and might,
The Blessed Babe she bare us, in a cold, cold winter's night.*

 **Joseph went up to Bethlehem, the town of David,** 
He went there to register with Mary,
who was expecting a child.
Luke 4:4-5

REFLECTION Rev. Justin Mofield

Breath of Heaven (Mary’s Song) Sanctuary Choir

Solo, Charlotte Horn

Words & Music by Amy Grant and Chris Eaton

Arranged by Roger Emerson

*I have traveled many moonless nights,
cold and weary with a babe inside,
And I wonder what I’ve done,
Holy Father You have come and chosen me now to carry Your Son.*

*I am waiting in a silent prayer,
I am frightened by the load I bear,
In a world as cold as stone,
must I walk this path alone?
Be with me now.*

*Do You wonder, as You watch my face,
if a wiser one should have had my place?
But I offer all I am for the mercy of Your plan.
Help me be strong.*

*Breath of Heaven, hold me together,
be forever near me, Breath of Heaven.
Breath of Heaven, lighten my darkness,
pour over me Your holiness for You are holy.
Breath of Heaven.*



**...There were shepherds living out in the fields
nearby, keeping watch over their flocks by night.**



An angel of the Lord appeared to them.

Luke 2:8-9

Star of Wonder Sanctuary Choir

By Terre Roche

*Star of wonder in the heavens, wonder what you want of me?
Should I follow you tonight? Star of wonder.*

*I am just a lonely shepherd, watching from a distant hill,
Why do you appear to me? Star of wonder.*

*In the morning they’ll come looking for the shepherd on the hill,
what would make her leave her flock, for surely she must love them, still?*

*Star of Wonder in the heavens, are you just a shining star
or should I follow you tonight? Star of Wonder, shining bright!*



...the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news that will cause great joy.”



Luke 2:10

The First Nowell Sanctuary Choir

Words & Tune: Traditional English Carol, THE FIRST NOWELL

Arranged by Matthew Culloton

The first Nowell the angel did say

*was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay,
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
on a cold winter’s night that was so deep.*

Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

*They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light that continued both day and night.
And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far;
to seek a king was their intent, and to chase the star where’er it went.*

Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

*This star drew nigh to the northwest; o’er Bethlehem it took it’s rest,
and there it did both stop and stay, right over the place where Jesus lay.
Then entered in those wise men three, full rev’rently on bended knee,
and offered there in his presence their gold and myrrh and frankincense.*

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heav’nly Lord!

Nowell, born is the King of Israel.

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing*

MENDELSSOHN

**Hark! the herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King:
peace on earth and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations rise,
join the triumph of the skies;
with angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King.”**

Stille Nacht Sanctuary Handbells

Arranged by Betty Garee

*Silent night, holy night! All is calm, all is bright
round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace, Sleep in heavenly peace.*

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem*

ST. LOUIS

**O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light:
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**

Peace Carol Young Musicians Choir

Led by Teresa McDaniel

Arranged by Emily Crocker

*Peace, peace, come down from above
warming each heart with goodness and love.
Peace we are wishing to all this night.
Shine down from the heaven's your wondrous light.
Dona nobis pacem. (Give us peace.)*

 **Magi from the east came and asked,** 

**“Where is the one who has been bork king of the Jews?
We saw his star and have come to worship him.**

Matthew 2

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

REFLECTION Rev. Justin Mofield

Coventry Carol Youth Handbells

Arranged by Cathy Moglebust

Lully, lullay, thou little tiny child, by by, lully lullay.

*O sisters too, how may we do for to preserve this day
this poor youngling, for whom we do sing by by, lully lullay?*

*Herod the king, in his raging, charged he hath this day
his men of might, in his own sight, all young children to slay.*

*That woe is me, poor child for thee! and ever morn and day,
for thy parting neither say nor sing by by, lully lullay*

RESPONSIVE READING Kelly Hall

The Christmas Spirit

by Ann Weems, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*

The Christmas Spirit is that hope
which tenaciously clings to the hearts of the faithful
and announces in the face of any Herod the world can produce
and all the inn doors slammed in our faces
and all the dark nights of our souls
that with God
all things are possible,
that even now
unto us a child is born!

*CONGREGATIONAL HYMN *The First Noel*

THE FIRST NOEL

**Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
Who hath made heaven and earth of naught,
and with his blood our life hath brought.
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.**

CLOSING WORDS Rev. Dr. Garin Hill

INSTRUMENTAL BENEDICTION *Go, Tell It On the Mountain*

Sanctuary Handbells

Arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain, that Jesus Christ is born!*

MUSIC PERSONNEL

Directed by: Rev. Dr. Diane Nelson

ACCOMPANISTS

Rachel Knobil, Piano	Matt Guffey, Clarinet
Phillip Greene, Organ	Deborah Kennedy, Trombone
Kim Hollifield, Flute	Norman Moore, Percussion

SANCTUARY CHOIR

Debbie Bedford	Desi Harris	Bob Nelson
Cindy Davis	Charlotte Horn	Cindy Newberry
Alan Guffey	Laura Link	April Shauf
Linda Guffey	Loretta Luckadoo	Scott Shauf
Jeff Hall	Robin Moss	Rosalind Walker
	Morgan McKinney	

YOUNG MUSICIANS CHOIR

Bramble Beal	Huntley Davis	Everett Houser
Callahan Bullman	Abe Etheridge	Alanna Marrero
Grayson Carson	Benjamin Etheridge	Jacob Marrero
William Carson	Adelaide Horn	Ben Scruggs
James Clement	Daphne Houser	

YOUTH HANDBELLS

Emelia Beal	Avery Hall	Tilden Houser
Charles Day	Eli Hill	Marley McKinney
Mackenna Davis	Isaac Hill	Abigail Thompson
Ezra Etheridge	William Holland	Lukas Thompson
	June Houser	

SANCTUARY HANDBELLS

Debbie Bedford	Cindy Dotson	Chan McGinnis
Amanda Davis	Mark Houser	Bob Nelson
Jeff Davis	Pam Jones	Londa Von Weter
Jason Davis	Loretta Luckadoo	



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