

## WORSHIP NOTES

We welcome guests who are worshipping with us. Learning experiences for preschool children and infants are offered during the worship hour in the children's building. Large print bulletins/hymnals and enhanced hearing aids are available for use in this service. An usher can assist you with these and any other needs you might have. We are very glad you are here.

The season of Advent is the first season of the Christian year and is a time of anticipation and preparation of Christ's coming. The Advent wreath symbolizes the never-ending life of Christ and contains four candles representing the gifts Christ offers: hope, peace, joy, and love. Today's gift, hope, is portrayed in the banner showing the promise of a plant's growth and life. The color royal blue reminds us of the King of Kings for whom we wait.

Advent cover art is *When I look in Your Heavens*, by Hubing He. Hubing is a Chinese artist and pastor. She encountered Christianity when the church was "reopened" in China in 1980. Her work has been exhibited internationally and the U.S.

Leaders in worship include Clark Austin and Eleanor Austin- acolytes, Brennan Callahan- Bible bearer, Catherine McMahaon- cross bearer, the Adult Choir, and Bill Arledge - deacon of the week.

You may view today's and past sanctuary worship services at [www.fbca.net](http://www.fbca.net) on the Video page accessed through the Worship tab. Audio files of sermons are available on our website and sermons on CD can be ordered through the church office.

### MINISTRY LEADERS

Mr. Tate Addis	Organist
Mrs. Laura Addis	Ministry Associate, Students
Rev. Brett Baddorf	Ministry Associate, Children
Dr. Tommy Bratton	Coordinating Pastor
Rev. Leah Brown	Associate Pastor, Pastoral Care
Dr. Casey Callahan	Associate Pastor, Mission and Students
Dr. Mack Dennis	Pastor
Rev. Clark Sorrells	Associate Pastor, Music and Worship
Rev. Karen Sorrells	Associate Minister of Music
Rev. Amy Stertz	Associate Pastor, Christian Formation and Children



*First Sunday of Advent*  
*First Baptist Church of Asheville*



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**FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ASHEVILLE**

November 28, 2021 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Advent

TRINITY CHIMES

**GATHERING IN HOPE**

\*PROCESSION HYMN 79 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL

\*LIGHTING OF THE HOPE CANDLE Clark and Beverly Pennell

\*INVOCATION Clark Sorrells

God of hope, today we lift our hearts to you in one voice as we pray,  
**Ready us for your coming, Lord, by fixing our eyes on the signs  
which arise in the fearsome moments accompanying new birth.  
May we know the expectation and hope which keeps our faith alive.  
Give us wisdom to discern the trees of nature as fruitless,  
especially compared to the life we find in Jesus Christ,  
our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you  
and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

**LONGING FOR HOPE**

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Jeremiah 33:12-16 Casey Callahan

RESPONSE *Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming* ES IST EIN ROS'

Lo, how a rose e'er blooming from tender stem hath sprung.  
Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung.  
It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter when halfspent was the night.

EPISTLE LESSON 1 Timothy 2:1-7 Leah Brown

I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone,  
so that all may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.  
**This is right and is acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires  
everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.**  
For there is one mediator between God and humankind,  
**Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all.**  
This was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle.  
**This is true and not a lie. For you are a teacher of faith and truth.**

\*HYMN OF ADVENT 98 *Hail to the Lord's Anointed* SHEFFIELD

**PROCLAIMING HOPE**

\*GOSPEL LESSON

Mark 13:24-37

Bill Arledge

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

\*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE *Gloria In Excelsis Deo* GLORIA

ANTHEM *Christ, the Appletree* Stanford Scriven

The tree of life my soul hath seen, laden with fruit, and always green:  
The trees of nature fruitless be compared with Christ the apple tree.  
His beauty doth all things excel: by faith I know, but ne'er can tell  
The glory which I now can see in Jesus Christ the apple tree.  
For happiness I long have sought and pleasure dearly I have bought:  
I missed of all; but now I see'tis found in Christ the apple tree.  
This fruit doth make my soul to thrive, it keeps my dying faith alive;  
Which makes my soul in haste to be with Jesus Christ the apple tree.  
I'm weary with my former toil, here I will sit and rest awhile:  
Under the shadow I will be of Jesus Christ the apple tree.

SERMON *The Lesson of the Fig Tree* Mack Dennis

**SHARING HOPE**

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

\*HYMN 85 *Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming* PLEADING SAVIOR

As this hymn is sung, we invite all who want to follow Jesus  
and unite with his church to come and speak with the minister at the communion table.

\*SHARING PEACE

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONTINUED RESPONSE

POSTLUDE *Toccata on VENI EMMANUEL* Adolphus Hailstork

BENEDICTION

\*Those who are able will stand.