

Children and youth of FBG are lighting our way into worship today.

Some members of the Bell Tower Ringers, under the direction of Julie Treu, are accompanying the Sanctuary Choir today.

Lee Coates and Ben Mullinax are Communion Committee members scheduled to prepare communion today.



When available, an American Sign Language interpreter is at the base of the baptistry. Pews in front of the baptistry are reserved for our Deaf and hard-of-hearing community.



This Sanctuary is equipped with Hearing Loop. If you have a hearing aid equipped with a T-coil and switch to it, you will hear audio directly from our sound system.

Music selections today include: “We Three Kings of Orient Are” setting by June Nixon; “Of the Father’s Love Begotten,” a 13th Century Plainsong arranged by John Erickson; “O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright” setting by Paul Manz; and Chorale Prelude, “In Dir ist Freude” (“In Thee Is Joy”), BWV 615 by J.S. Bach. For more information on some of our service music, read the Organist’s Blog on the church website: <https://firstbaptistgreenville.com/category/organists-blog/>

Looking Ahead

Sunday, January 7
11:30am Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Vocare is our youth choral ensemble for 6th-12th grade students.
5:00-7:00pm Sunday Night Live (AYMC)
6th-12th grade students meet for games, supper and Bible Study.

Wednesday, January 10
Wednesdays at First Activities
Wednesdays at First offers a meal, fellowship and spiritual formation opportunities for all ages.
5:00pm Wednesday Night Supper (Fellowship Hall)
6:00pm Celebration Wednesday: Epiphany for All Children, Youth and Adults (Fellowship Hall)

Sunday, January 14
10:30am Second Sunday after Epiphany Worship Service (Sanctuary) with Proclaimer Carol McEntyre
11:30am Vocare Rehearsal (Choir Room)
Vocare is our youth choral ensemble for 6th-12th grade students.

Monday, January 15
AYMC and Church Offices Closed for Martin Luther King Jr. Day

Wednesday, January 17
6:30am Wednesday Morning Men’s Bible Study Group (AYMC Terrace Level)
All men of the congregation are invited to study the Revised Common Lectionary weekly passages.
Wednesdays@First Activities
Wednesdays@First offers a meal, fellowship and spiritual formation opportunities for all ages. See block for more information.
6:00pm MidWeek Classic with Carol McEntyre

Lula Whilden World Missions Offering
Goal: \$100,000
Receipts as of 12/30
\$89,618



Financial Goal 2023
\$2,875,000
Receipts as of 12/30
\$2,966,460

Wednesdays@First Schedule
3:30-6:00pm Youth Hang Time (AYMC Terrace Level)
5:00-6:00pm Supper Serving Lines Open (Fellowship Hall)
6:00-7:00pm Celebration Wednesday: Epiphany for All Ages (Fellowship Hall)
7:00-8:30pm Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal (Choir Room)

A Community of Believers. Each Member A Minister.



First Baptist Church
847 Cleveland Street
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January 7, 2024
Epiphany Sunday
Baptism of the Lord Sunday

Ten Thirty O’Clock



Mary Carol Anderson Youth and College	Bridget Kokolis Children	Carol McEntyre Senior Minister
Caleb Avery AYMC Director	Camille Loomis Rehnborg Spiritual Formation and Outreach	Matt Rollins Community Engagement
Julie Fayssoux First Baptist Day School	Jenna Manning Church Operations	Charles Tompkins Organist
Vivian Hamilton Music and Worship	Kyle Matthews Pastoral Care	Andrew Tonks Associate Youth and College
Amy Joye Music Associate		Baxter Wynn Interim Senior Adults

Sunday morning worship service broadcasts:
www.firstbaptistgreenville.com/worship-live/

Links to view or listen to previous services are also available.

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Words of Belonging

Call to Worship Kyle Matthews

Music for Meditation *Setting by June Nixon*
“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

We are invited to use this time to center ourselves and prepare our hearts for worship.

Prayer for Worship Kyle Matthews

O Lord, we celebrate the arrival of your Light and, with the Magi of old, seek it. As we bend to the Light, may it fill our lives and spill over into your world, illuminating all with the light of your love. We join with the angels in singing, “Gloria in Excelsis Deo!” Amen.

Welcome of Worshipers

*Processional Carol 86 “The First Nowell” THE FIRST NOWELL
Stanzas 1-3 Only

Words of Baptism

Invitation to Baptism Camille Loomis Rehnborg

Today we are invited to gather at the water’s edge as both witnesses and participants.

We remember that through the waters of the sea you led your people Israel out of bondage into freedom in the land of your promise.

We remember that Jesus your Son was baptized in the waters of the Jordan and was anointed as the Christ by your Holy Spirit.

We rejoice that you also claim us in our baptism and by your grace we are born again.

Let us listen once again for the voice from heaven naming us the beloved children of God, connecting us to all who have felt the waters of baptism soaking them in grace.

God, drench us in the living water of your love. Immerse us in the depths of life in your Spirit. Raise us to walk in new life with you. Amen.

Ordinance of Baptism

Candidate: Margaret McHugh

Words of Faith

Prophetic Lesson Isaiah 60:1-6 Andrew Tonks

page 602 of the Bible in the pew rack

Centering Prayer ST. LOUIS

*O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, the great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!*

Pastoral Prayer Andrew Tonks

*Children’s Carol 91 “As with Gladness Men of Old” DIX
(During the last two stanzas, children 4K and 5K depart.)

Gospel Lesson Matthew 2:1-12 Brigid Nettles Shelley Stout
page 783 of the Bible in the pew rack

Choral Worship “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” *arr. John Erickson*
13th Century Plainsong

*Of the Father's love begotten, Ere the worlds began to be,
He is Alpha and Omega, He the source, the ending he;
Of the things that are, that have been, And that future years shall see,
Evermore and evermore.*

*O ye heights of heaven, adore him; Angel hosts, his praises sing;
Powers, dominions, bow before him, And extol our God and King;
Let no tongue on earth be silent, Every voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.*

*Christ, to thee with God the Father, And, O Holy Ghost, to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving, And unwearied praises be:
Honor, glory and dominion, And eternal victory,
Evermore and evermore.*
– Aurelius Clemens Prudentius
trans. John M. Neale and Henry W. Baker

Sermon A New Way Home Bridget Kokolis

Words of Communion

The Lord’s Supper
All served communion bread is gluten-free.

Words of Commitment

*Invitation Hymn 380 ASH GROVE
“Let All Things Now Living”

*Invitation to Offering Deacon
*Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has
risen upon you. (Isaiah 60:1)*

Musical Offering *Setting by Paul Manz*
“O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright”
(based on Hymn 92)

Introduction of New Members Bridget Kokolis

Service and Fellowship of the Church Kyle Matthews

Words of Blessing

*Doxology (Hymn 86) THE FIRST NOWELL

*Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav’n and earth of naught,
And with his blood our life hath bought.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.*

*Benediction Bridget Kokolis

Postlude Chorale Prelude “In dir ist Freude,” BWV 615 J.S. Bach
 (“In Thee Is Joy”)
Please remain in place until after the recession.

Our Service of Worship has ended.
Our Worship through Service begins.

*Please stand as you are able.

Please contact an usher for a hearing aid receiver or magnifying glass.

Please silence all electronic devices.