

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 14, 2008

3rd Sunday of Advent

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

- African-American Spiritual

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Ellen Glover

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY

Zoe McLaren

CALL TO WORSHIP

VOLUNTARY Chorale Prelude: "From Highest Heaven I Come" -Johann Pachelbel

***INVOCATION** David Kerschbaum

***HYMN 220** Angels from the realms of glory *REGENT SQUARE*
(The receiving of Prayer Concern cards)

***RESPONSIVE READING** Psalm 126:1-2, 4-6

Leader: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.
People: **Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**
Leader: The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.
People: **Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like streams in dry land.**
All: **May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.**

***GLORIA** (Hymnal, 72)

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, Gloria! Alleluia! Alleluia! (sung twice)

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Carey Mack and 7th – 12th Grade Youth: Marissa Alaniz, Annie Barron, Grace Crowe, Cameron Crowe, Jack Floyd, Sam Kidd, Jack Stearns, Owen Stearns

Response: O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine Advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 61:1-4 David Kerschbaum

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

ANTHEM O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion from *Messiah* -- *G.F. Handel*
Lucy Thompson, soloist

O thou that tellest good tidings to Zion, get thee up into the high mountain; O thou that tellest good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up thy voice with strength; lift it up, be not afraid; say unto the city of Judah, "Behold your God!" Arise, shine; for thy light is come, and the glory of the Lord is risen upon thee.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Paul Simpson Duke

Lord's Prayer ("debts") on hymnal page 896

***GOSPEL READING** John 1:6-8, 19-23 Paul Simpson Duke

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

CHILDREN'S ANTHEM In Christ there is no East or West - *Ned Rorem*
Jr. Choir Bonnie Kidd, Director
Brandon Straub, accompanist

In Christ there is no East or West,
In him no South or North,
But one great fellowship of love
Throughout the whole wide earth.

Join hands, then, brothers of the faith,
Whate'er your race may be!
Who serves my Father as a son
Is surely kin to me.

In him shall true hearts ev'rywhere
Their high communion find;
His service is the golden cord
Close-binding all mankind.

In Christ now meet both East and West,
In him meet South and North,
All Christly souls are one to him,
throughout the whole wide earth. Amen.

TIME AS CHILDREN

Sue Ellen Glover

***HYMN 221** In the bleak midwinter *CRANHAM*
(Preschool – 3rd grade may leave for Children's Worship or Tiny Grace Notes at this time.)

SERMON *In Place of Angels* Paul Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION

OFFERING OF GIFTS Let all mortal flesh keep silence - *arr.* Gustav Holst

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly minded for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our Lord to earth descendeth our full homage to demand.

King of Kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of Lords, in human vesture in the Body and the Blood
He will give to all the faithful His own Self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At His feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluya, Alleluya, Alleluya, Lord most High. Amen.

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***HYMN 246** Joy to the world *ANTIOCH*

BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY Noël Parisienne Op.26, No.4 -- *Charles Quef*

* If you are able, please stand

*The chancel flowers are given to the glory of God
in loving memory of Roy J. Purchase*

~ Ola Jeanne, Dan, Kevin & Darrin McCollough ~

The Prayer Concern Cards are for your use. If you have a prayer concern in addition to those listed here, please fill out a card and pass it to the end of the aisle during the first hymn. We pray for Lois Crabtree, Ruth & Bill Kerr, Helen Foley, Bonnie Bates, Carole Lamerson, Juhn Han, Dannie Jones, Elizabeth Lee, Linda Ames, Conrad Juchartz, John Moyer, Bonnie Jensen, Ruth Kitchen, Sally Slocum, Marian Carter, Mildred MacGregor, Marjorie Shannon, Blanche Williams and John Caddell.

We continue to receive donations to the Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering. Please give generously.

Advent And Christmas Stories

The Board of Christian Education's Family Resource Center has many Christmas-themed storybooks available for borrowing. They are located on a table in the classroom wing (middle level) and all you have to do is check out each book on the clipboard. Find time this season to curl up with your child or grandchild and enjoy the Christmas story.

Youth Collecting Warm Clothing

The Youth are collecting warm clothing for our Vespers guests and others in need. A basket will be out for the next several Sundays for your donations. Socks, hats, gloves, mittens, long-underwear and any other warm clothing will be greatly appreciated.

Children's Calendar Sale

The church school children are once again selling God's Creation calendars to raise money in order to provide two scholarships for children in Nandasma to attend our Sister Church's school. We know you get many free calendars in the mail but these are heavy-weight, beautifully photographed calendars which have a great surface for writing down all those appointments and activities. Plus there are scriptures for inspiration each time you glance at the calendar during your busy schedule! At \$8 they are a real deal compared to other heavy-weight calendars found in stores – and these calendars make great gifts! The children will sell them before and after worship, or you may contact Sue Ellen and she will mail you one (or two or three).

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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The Reverends Paul and Stacey Simpson Duke, *Pastors*
Sue Ellen Glover, *Director of Christian Education*
Reverend Carey Gardiner Mack, *Youth Minister*
Brandon Straub, *Director of Music*
Joel Hastings, *Organist*
The Reverend James Middleton, *Pastor Emeritus*

Announcements

We warmly welcome all those who have come to worship with us today! Everyone is invited to join the events listed in this insert. Immediately following the service, please join us downstairs in the Fellowship Hall for refreshments.

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| TODAY, Dec 14 | 10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary) |
| | 11:30 a.m. - ABWM Christmas Celebration (Fellowship Hall) |
| Tuesday, Dec 16 | 5:30 p.m. - Vespers (Fellowship Hall) |
| | 7:00 p.m. - Board of Trustees (Lounge) |
| Wednesday, Dec 17 | 1:30 p.m. - Bible Study (Lounge) |
| Thursday, Dec 18 | 1:00 p.m. - MacGregor-Stitt Circle (George home) |
| | 6:30 p.m. - Handbells rehearsal (Sanctuary) |
| | 7:30 p.m. - Choir rehearsal (102B) |
| Sunday, Dec 21 | 10:00 a.m. - Worship Service (Sanctuary) |
| | 11:30 a.m. - Carol Sing led by the Jr. Choir |

Fundraising Pledge Campaign 2009

Pledge cards and return envelopes are available for you to complete by December 31, 2008, marking the end of our pledge drive. They can be found at the Information Counter. If you have already pledged, thank you. If you have not, please consider a pledge commitment to First Baptist. Your support enables us, through our ministries, to increase the love of God and neighbor in our community. Thank you. -- David Cave, Chair

Christmas Celebration Today

The ABW Ministries Christmas Celebration is today after Sunday morning service. You are cordially invited to come downstairs, fix yourself a cup of coffee or tea, go into the Fellowship Hall by 11:30 to enjoy the music program. Deb Snyder and the Johnson Memorial Handbells have prepared a special program which you will not want to miss. This will be followed by the bazaar & bake sale and we hope you will "shop 'til you drop" (figuratively speaking, of course!). This sale is for one day only and our last fundraiser of the year for our many ministries.

Nursery Care is available on the 3rd floor from 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 p.m.

Children's Music & Arts Ministry (Sunday Mornings)

Jr. Handbells (Room 306).....9:15 – 9:45

Tiny Grace Notes (Rm. 306).....10:30 – 10:45

Grace Notes Choir (Room 306).....11:45 – 12:00

* No Jr. Choir rehearsal today

Children and Youth Christian Education

All children are welcome to worship with their families. After the Time as Children portion of the worship service, preschoolers may go to the nursery for childcare or to Tiny Grace Notes. Children in Kindergarten – 3rd grade are invited to Children's Worship. Church School begins after worship (about 11:00).

Preschool

10:00 – 10:30 Worship

10:30 – 10:45 Tiny Grace Notes

10:50 – 11:00 Children's Worship

K – 3rd grade

10:30 – 11:00 Children's Worship (Room 202A)

4th – 5th grade

10:00 – 11:00 Worship

Youth (6th – High School)

10:00 – 11:00 Worship

11:45 - 12:30 Youth Worship (Room 107)

Adult Christian Education 11:30-12:30 (Lounge)

Adult classes have been suspended for the special Christmas activities and will resume on January 11.

Other Adult Learning Opportunities

Wednesday Bible Study (1:30-2:30; Memorial Lounge) Ron Tipton, Leader

The Wednesday Bible Study for Dec. 17 will focus on the familiar story of the birth of Jesus found in the second chapter of Luke. We will discuss what this story means to us and share stories of Christmas.

Adult Small Groups (ChristCare)

Centered on Bible study, fellowship, mission, prayer and worship, we currently have two groups: one which meets monthly and the other which meets every other week. See Stacey, Paul or Sue Ellen for more information about joining a group.

A Festival of Lessons and Carols

Please plan to attend "A Festival of Lesson and Carols" at 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24. Based upon the annual presentation at King's College, Cambridge. Readings from the Christmas Story are alternated with choral and congregational singing of carols. Childcare will be offered for children 5 years old and younger. (In order to adequately prepare with enough caregivers, please let Sue Ellen know if your family or guests will need childcare.)

Carol Sing

Join us next week, December 21, at 11:30 for a carol sing led by the Jr. Choir. Your admission donation will help the children provide scholarships for the school in Nandasmö.



Please order _____ poinsettia(s) for the Christmas services at \$15 each, and list as such in the bulletin:

In honor of: _____

In memory of: _____

From: _____

I have enclosed \$_____ as payment for the poinsettia(s).

**Please have paid orders to the office by
Sunday, December 14. Thank you!**