



The Dawn Chorus: Peace

2nd Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

DECEMBER 4, 2022

GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Paul Simpson Duke

Leader: The world is torn by conflict and hate, while we ourselves are ill at ease and full of contradiction.

People: We bring today our longing for peace in the world, and for wholeness in ourselves.

Leader: Jesus said, 'Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you'

All: Come, Lord Jesus!

PRELUDE

Dear Maker of the Starry Skies

Robert Hebble

Based on Gregorian Chant "Conditor alme siderum" (b.1934, American)

Samuel Spotts, *solo*

Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting light,
O Jesus, Savior of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call. Amen.

*INVOCATION

Carolyn Grapentine

(*If you are able, please stand)

*HYMN 202

People, Look East

BESANÇON

*THE PSALM

from Psalm 72

Carolyn Grapentine

Leader: Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king's son.

People: May he judge your people with righteousness, and your poor with justice.

Leader: May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

People: May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor.

Leader: May he live while the sun endures, and as long as the moon, throughout all generations.

People: May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth.

Leader: In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more.

People: Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things.

**All: Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.
Amen and Amen!**

*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung twice)

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, Gloria! Alleluia! Alleluia!

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Theodora Danciu, Alex DaSilva,
Alexandra and Caterina Dasilva

Congregational Response (Hymn 211, verse 4):

O come, thou root of Jesse's tree, an ensign of thy people be;
before thee rulers silent fall; all peoples on thy mercy call.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 15:4-13

Carolyn Grapentine

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!**TIME AS CHILDREN**

Xan Morgan

(Children are invited to come forward. Following Time as Children, kids will leave for Church School.)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Paul Simpson Duke

ANTHEM*A Madrigal for Advent*

- Lee Dengler

God has promised to all people that a Savior will appear to provide the world's salvation.
Glory hallelujah, for that day is drawing near. Glory hallelujah, for that day is near.
Rejoice and sing with joy and gladness. The dawn of hope is close at hand.
Rejoice, behold the end of sadness, for God reveals salvation's plan.
Unto us a Child is given. Unto us is born a Son who will bear the world's transgressions.
Glory hallelujah, for new life has now begun! Glory hallelujah, new life has begun!
God has heard our cries of anguish and sends Jesus in reply as a voice of our salvation.
Glory hallelujah, for the Lord has heard our cry! Glory hallelujah, God has heard our Cry!
So watch and wait with gladness. Prepare your hearts to greet the birth.
Look up and see no sadness when love and peace come to the earth.
God has promised the Messiah, sent to earth from heav'n above, living with us, dying for us.
Glory hallelujah, what amazing love! Glory hallelujah, what amazing love!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

Stacey Simpson Duke

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!**SERMON***The Dawn Chorus: Peace*

Stacey Simpson Duke

SILENT REFLECTION**OFFERING OF GIFTS***The Shepherds*

- Alfred V. Fedak

The shepherds were not waiting for the news that Christ was born.
They only waited for the night to turn into the morn.
The yearnings of the shepherds were for warmth and rest and bread.
They did not long for holy news from angels overhead.
The shepherds had not sought the news, but let themselves be stirred.
They hurried off to Bethlehem to see the angel's word.
How much like us the shepherds were, how much like them we are.
We want a table, want a bed, want light to follow dark.
Let us like shepherds listen to the word, the sign, the song,
And let ourselves be stirred to seek the un-awaited One.
Yes, let our souls be stirred to see the un-awaited One!

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession

All: Most merciful God,

we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.

For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Passing of the Peace

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

The Lord's Prayer ("debts" - hymnal page 896)

The Bread and the Cup

Blessed be the God of Israel by Hal H. Hopson

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming by Peter Pindar Stearns

Prayer after Communion

*HYMN 557 (verse 1)

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come

- Robert Powell
(b.1932, American)

We pray for **Bob Shannon, Esther Floyd, Marilyn Marsh, Stacey Simpson Duke, Maria Pierantozzi, Allison Lovell, Mrs. Essie Slaughter, Ulysses Slaughter, Jr., Mia Jermano, Tom and Terri Rubenstein, John Rowe, Fay Key, Leah Grange, and Kris Ledyard Arges.**

Our **Fellowship Offering** this morning goes to the **Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering (RMMO)**. RMMO is a congregational offering and a joint project of ABC-USA and MMBB. Collected annually in December from participating congregations, RMMO funds are distributed as "Thank You" checks to ABC-USA retired ordained ministers and commissioned missionaries who have devoted 15 years or more to our denomination, as well as surviving spouses. If you donate by check, please write it to FBC and indicate RMMO in the memo line. If a cash donation, please use the envelopes located in the pews. Thank you for your generosity.

We're glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in offering plate when it comes by later in the service. You can indicate any prayer requests you have and let us know if you'd like a name tag and/or our bi-weekly communication about the life of the church.



You may place your offering in one of the plates when they are passed. Or make your offering online using this QR code or via PayPal (@fbca2), and place a Connection Card indicating so in the offering plate.

Church service hearing aids are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Children and Youth are an important part of our life together at First Baptist Church. All children are welcome in worship. Worshipful Play Bags are available as you enter the sanctuary. Nursery care is available for children (infant through 3 yrs) on the top floor. Children (through 1st grade) leave for time together in our Children's Ministry play space and 2nd-5th graders are hosting Fellowship Time today and will connect with parents in the fellowship hall.

Following worship, children (Young 5s-K) have Children's Choir with Coley Roberts and younger children (birth-4s) are invited to have supervised time in our play space. Care is provided for children until 12:30p when 2nd Hour classes for adults and teens wrap up. Please pick up your kids in the play space on the top floor. Youth (grades 6-12) are invited to join adults for Fellowship Time following worship and then head down to the Youth Room (directly underneath the Sanctuary) for Youth Group, 11:30a-12:30p. If you are visiting and would like more information, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org) about Children's Ministry or Pastor Stacey Simpson Duke (staceyduke@gmail.com) about Youth Ministry.

Our AD LIBITUM Concert Series will present its second December concert at 12:15p on Thursday, December 8. "Telling" Part 2 will present "Christmas Organ Music and Paintings." Along with the organ music performed by Shin-Ae Chun, inspiring paintings will be introduced by our own church member Grace Vandervliet (Curator for Museum Teaching and Learning at the UMMA). The concert is free and open to the public. Mark your calendar. Invite your friends and neighbors.

Calling all bakers! The American Baptist Women are holding our bake sale this year to fund our charities. Our group is small. We need your help providing baked goods for the sale. Drop off your favorites before church on Sunday, December 11th. The bake sale will be held right after the worship service. Hope to see you there!

Membership Matters! Membership is about responding to God's call to take the next step in your spiritual journey, and to belong to a community of people who are striving together to do the work of God's limitless love with purpose and passion. By becoming a member of First Baptist Church, you are making a commitment to partner with us as we seek together to claim, cultivate, and proclaim the good news of God's love for our world. Your commitment will make a positive difference in your life, in the life of this church, and in the world around us. How do I become a member? That's a great question, and we're glad you asked! You can contact one of our pastors (Pastor Stacey or Pastor Paul) or Xan to indicate your interest in learning more about church membership. We are welcoming new members on December 18.

A Future With Hope. Throughout November, our stewardship team invited us to consider how we, as First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor, were created by God to be a community of return, a place of homecoming, as well as a community of sending, a place that commissions us as agents of God's love and grace to go back out into the world to share the reality of God's new world of compassion, dignity, and joy.

Many of you have already made your pledge for 2023. In fact, 62% of last year's pledging households have already made their commitment for this coming year. If you are one of them, THANK YOU! We are blessed and grateful to partner with you in moving into the future with hope and with a commitment to share that hope with a world in need. If you have not yet made a pledge for 2023, we invite you to prayerfully consider our invitation to do so this Sunday, or at your earliest convenience. Current pledges represent 61% of our total financial goal. We invite you to complete your pledge card online at fbca2.org/connect. You can also pick up a hard copy pledge card this Sunday if you would prefer to indicate your pledge in that way. We are leaning towards the future with you, eager to experience and to share the blessings of love, justice, peace, and grace that God yearns to share with us and with all.

Food and Supplies Collection for the Hikone Community. Hikone is one of the housing communities served by Community Action Network (CAN) and FBCA2 has had a long relationship with the Hikone community, starting in 1987 when CAN was launched. For more than 10 years we have collected food and other supplies for our friends in the Hikone community during December and the need in 2022 is even greater since we began this ministry. From Community Action Network's November newsletter: *The need for food assistance **DOUBLED** in our community [since the beginning of the pandemic] and we **continue to operate our food programs at 200% pre-pandemic levels** because the need remains.*

Please help by providing kid-friendly foods: high protein/low sugar items such as microwave cups and cans with pop-tops, cereal, oatmeal, canned pasta, mac-and-cheese, chili, peanut butter, soup, tuna, granola and protein bars, fruit cups, juice/milk boxes, sports drinks, vitamin water, etc.

Or if you choose to donate financially, this money will be used for personal hygiene products, fresh produce, detergent, TP and paper towels, and gift cards which are distributed by the Community Director for emergency needs.

We also appreciate any gently used books for children/youth and sturdy cardboard boxes which will be used to transport items to Hikone.

In 2021, our congregation collected over \$1700 in financial donations as well as two truckloads (and a few carloads) of food and supplies. So far this year, we are far behind that level of giving, so please make your donation soon. **We need all donations by next Sunday, December 11.**

Please bring your donations next Sunday or contact Sue Ellen gloverse@hotmail.com (or call the church office) for pick up at your home. Financial donation may be mailed to the church or

placed in the offering plate. Please address the check and the envelope to Sue Ellen Glover, 517 E Washington, Ann Arbor 48104.

You are also invited to join us in sorting, boxing, and delivering the donations on Tuesday, December 13. We will be at church starting at 10:00, then delivering and unloading at Hikone about 11:45 – 12:15.

FBC Ladies' Book Club. Planning to add "Read More" to your 2023 New Year's Resolutions? Let the FBC Ladies' Book Club help you check off that box! All ladies are invited to join us for a discussion of *Last Bus to Wisdom* by Ivan Doig. We'll be meeting at 6:30 pm on Monday, January 9th at the home of Kay Wilson. Please contact Janice Stumpf or Mary Gregg if you have questions.

Sermon Discussion and Group Sharing. Sundays, 11:30a-12:30p. Each week, Pastor Paul facilitates conversation on the themes, questions, implications, and possible applications of the sermon just preached in the Sunday service. It's a free-flowing discussion in which all ideas, perspectives, questions, and concerns are welcome. Opportunity is also given each week for participants to offer personal sharing if they wish, so that we can know and support each other better. Join us in the Memorial Lounge for this time of thoughtful discussion and connection.

Join us for Night Prayer on Tuesdays, 8:30pm, on our church Facebook page (facebook.com/fbca2).

Campus Ministry on Wednesdays at 5:30p in the Memorial Lounge. Subscribe to the weekly e-newsletter at <https://bit.ly/2N0FYGa>

Seek, serve, and grow with us! More information about these opportunities at fbca2.org/connect or use the QR code to the right.



Calendar

December 1	Ad Libitum Concert @12:15p
December 8	Ad Libitum Concert @12:15p
December 10	Memorial Service for Vern Jensen @1:00p
December 11	ABWM Bake Sale @11:15a
December 15	ABWM Meeting @1:00p in Memorial Lounge
December 18	New Member Blessing
December 24	Christmas Eve Service @4:00p – The Nativity Story
December 24	Christmas Eve Service @7:30p – A Festival of Lessons & Carols
December 25	Christmas Day Service @10:00a – A Christmas Tableau

Poinsettia Order Form

Please order _____ poinsettia(s) for the Christmas services at \$20 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 Monday, December 12.

Thank you!

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

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The Reverend Drs. Paul and Stacey Simpson Duke, *Pastors*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

Coley Roberts, *Children's Choir Director*

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*