



*Our Hunger, Love's Bread*

Original Image by Dan Barry, for Board of Music and Arts

# ORDER OF WORSHIP

3<sup>RD</sup> SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023

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*As we gather to worship, notice the image on the cover of your bulletin.  
Members of the Board of Music and Arts have curated images  
to enrich our exploration of "Our Deep Longing" throughout the season of Advent.*

## GREETING

Xan Morgan

## CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God!

All: **May our lives do the same!**

One: Christ comes to rule with truth and grace.

All: **Let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing.**

## PRELUDE

*Quia respexit humilitatem ancillae suae*  
(Because He Has Looked upon the Humility)  
from *Magnificat*, BWV 243

Johann Sebastian Bach  
(1685-1750, German)  
Kristin Reynolds, *oboe*

## \*INVOCATION

James Mast

## \*HYMN (see insert)

Lord of the Coming Glorious Day

*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*

## \*THE PSALM

Psalm 104:24-30

James Mast

One: How many are your works, O Lord! In wisdom you have made them all;  
the earth is full of your riches.

Many: **The animals look to you to give them their food in due season. You give it,  
they gather it up; you open your hand, they have their fill.**

One: You hide your face, they are dismayed; you take back your spirit, they perish.

All: **You send forth your spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the earth.**

## LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Emma Walshe, Ed Stotts, Lilly Davidson-Walshe, Gwen Stotts-Walshe  
Congregational Response (Hymn 211, verse 6):

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night and death's dark shadows put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

## SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:48-51

James Mast

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

## CONGREGATIONAL SONG (Hymnal 204)

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

*MCGEE*

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

## TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

(Following Time as Children, kids (through 5th grade) will leave for Church School.)

## ANTHEM

*Come, Thou Jesu*

arr. by John Purifoy  
Kathleen Ford, *cello*

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.  
Jesu, joy of our desiring, holy wisdom, love most bright.  
Drawn by Thee, our souls aspiring soar to uncreated light.  
Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set Thy people free.  
Come to earth to taste our sadness, He whose glories know no end.  
By His life He brings us gladness, our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art.  
Dear desire of ev'ry nation, joy of ev'ry longing heart.  
Born Thy people to deliver, born a Child and yet a King.

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Lord's Prayer ("debts") on hymnal page 896)

Paul Simpson Duke

## \*HYMN 626

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

*PICARDY*

## SERMON

*Our Deep Longing: Our Hunger, Love's Bread*

Paul Simpson Duke

## SILENT REFLECTION

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

*The People that Walked in Darkness*  
from *Messiah*

- G.F. Handel  
Isaac Thompson, *baritone*

The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light, and they that dwell in  
the land of the shadow of death, upon them hath the light shined.

## \*HYMN 320

O Little Town of Bethlehem

*ST. LOUIS*

## \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Greeting: May the peace of Christ be with you.

Response: And also with you.

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Magnificat Primi Toni, BuxWV 203 (Excerpt)*

Dieterich Buxtehude  
(1637-1707, German)

We pray for Beth Foster, Marlene Francis, Eva Kelly, Jill Damon, Betty Gerstler, Marilyn Marsh, Esther Floyd, Mervyn Juchartz, David Gregg, Mike Kelly, Chuck Suits, Lovely Varghese, Paul Larson, Grange Burnside, the Sanford family, Mrs. Essie Slaughter, Simona Butler, John Rowe, and Fay Key.

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The Reverend Dr. Paul Duke, *Pastor*

Xan Morgan, *Director of Community Life*

Valerie Francia, *Associate for Youth Ministry and Communications*

Bonnie Kidd, *Sanctuary Choir Director*

Dr. Shin-Ae Chun, *Organist*

Coley Roberts, *Children's Choir Director*

Kate Gregg, *Nursery Caregiver*

Lee Foley, *Facilities Manager*

Kat Becker, *Administrator*

**We're glad you're here!** Please take a moment to fill out the Connection Card in your bulletin and place it in an 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.

Join us for refreshments in the fellowship hall. We look forward to connecting with you!

**Children's Ministry.** 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 years). Children (through 5th grade) leave for Church School following Time as Children. Children's Choir (PreK-5th grade) meets from 11:30-noon. You may pick up your children at 11:30 from their Church School classrooms, at 12:00 from the choir room, or at the end of 2nd Hour programming (12:30) back in the classrooms. If you would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan (xan@fbca2.org).

**Youth (grades 6-12)** are invited to join adults for Fellowship Time following worship and then head to the Youth Room for our Youth Group Christmas party! If you would like more information about Youth Ministry, please connect with Valerie Francia (valerie@fbca2.org).

**Today in our Second Hour Adult Formation class,** we continue our final unit the series, "We Seek To...." This session will be a conversation on "We Seek to Share what We Have." Paul Duke will be presenting and facilitating the discussion. We hope you can join us.

**Adult Formation Class in January.** During the month of January, Pastor Paul will be leading a discussion of *Everything Happens for A Reason: And Other Lies I've Loved* by Kate Bowler. We hope you'll join us for this conversation and time of connection each Sunday in January (11:30-12:30p). Books are available to purchase (\$15/book) at church; swing by the ministry station and pick one up this Sunday or next.

**Christmas Eve at 4:00p: A Nativity Story.** Come as you are to this simple, informal, family-friendly service. We'll sing carols and listen to the Christmas story. The service will last an hour. Optional childcare for children under the age of 3 will be available. We'll sing carols and listen to the Christmas Story with special music from our Children's Choir and Youth Ensemble.

**Christmas Eve at 7:30p: A Festival of Lessons & Carols.** First Baptist Church of Ann Arbor presents a Festival of Lessons and Carols, modeled on the world-famous carol service from King's College in Cambridge, England. Come hear the Christmas story, join in singing beloved Christmas carols, and enjoy beautiful music from our choir and organist.

**Our next Shared Suppers evenings are January 13 and 14.** The Board of Care and Community sponsors this opportunity for our FBC Family to gather and get to know one another better. What better way to do that than around a table? We gather in smallish groups (6-8ish) in homes for Shared Suppers. The groups will be different every time so folks can interact with those they may not know so well. If you are interested in being on the list of participants, email Mary Davis or stop by the Ministry Station at church to leave your name and email. Being on the list only indicates interest, not a commitment to come. You will be contacted for availability about two weeks before each supper. Of course, everyone won't be able to come every time. Children/youth are welcome to participate. Shared transportation can also be arranged.

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



### Calendar

December 21	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
December 11-18	Host Overnight Rotating Shelter
December 18-29	Host Daytime Warming Shelter
December 23	Choir Rehearsal @ 2:00p
December 24	Worship @10:00a
	Christmas Eve @4:00p
	Lessons & Carols @7:30p
December 25	Christmas Day (church office closed)
December 26-29	Church office open 9:00a-1:00p
January 1	New Year's Day (church office & buildings closed)
January 13 & 14	Shared Suppers
February 4	Annual Congregational Meeting @11:15a