



# FIRST BAPTIST

## CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

Epiphany of the Lord  
January 7, 2024

## ORDER OF WORSHIP

---

### GREETING AND CALL TO WORSHIP

Xan Morgan

### PRELUDE

*Wie schön leuchtet der Morgenstern*  
(How Lovely Shines the Morning Star)

- David Bednall  
(b.1979, English)

### \*INVOCATION

(\*If you are able, please stand)

Bonnie Kidd

### \*HYMN 173

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies

*RATISBON*

### \*THE PSALM

Psalm 67:1-4, 6b-7

Bonnie Kidd

One: May God be gracious to us and bless us. God, let your face shine on us,

**All: so that your way be known on earth, your saving power among nations.**

One: Let the people praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

**All: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy;**

One: for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations  
upon the earth.

**All: God, our God, has blessed us! May God continue to bless us!**  
**Let the ends of the earth revere the Lord!**

### \*GLORIA (Hymn 72, sung twice)

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

### OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Bonnie Kidd

One: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God!**

### TIME AS CHILDREN

Xan Morgan

(Children 5th grade and younger come forward. Following Time as Children, kids (through 1st grade) will head to Children's Ministry. On the first Sunday of the month, 2nd-5th graders remain in worship for Stay for the Service Sunday - S3!)

**(Hymn 170, refrain) O How I Love Jesus**

O how I love Jesus, O how I love Jesus,  
O how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Paul Simpson Duke

## ANTHEM

*Walk in the Light*

arr. by André Thomas

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,  
come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.  
Shine all around us by day and by night,  
Jesus, the Light of the world.*

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King," *Refrain*

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Christ, the everlasting Lord! *Refrain*

## \*GOSPEL READING

Matthew 2:1-12

Paul Simpson Duke

One: The Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God!

## SERMON

*A Star and a World*

Paul Simpson Duke

## SILENT REFLECTION

## OFFERING OF GIFTS

*Call to Remembrance*

- Richard Farrant

Call to remembrance, O Lord, Thy tender mercy and Thy loving kindness,  
which hath been ever of old. O remember not the sins and offences of my  
youth, but according to Thy mercy, think Thou on me, O Lord, for Thy  
goodness.

## 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        *Aubade for the Christ Child* by Stanley Vann  
The Cup                *Epiphany* by Alan Bullad  
Prayer after Communion

\*HYMN 557 (verse 1)

Blest Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

*Dance of the Shepherds*                - Gian Carlo Menotti  
from *Amahl and the Night Visitors*        Kathryn Goodson, *piano*

**Note on postlude:** In this instrumental interlude from the one-act opera "Amahl and the Night Visitors," shepherds are at first shy and awestruck at the approach to the manger of the three great men from the east, King Melchior, King Balthazar and King Kaspar. Gradually, excitement and joy emerge from timidity, and they burst into a dance of "joyous frenzy."

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

Today's Fellowship Offering will go towards the **Fellowship Fund** which provides for meeting emergency needs of those within our community. Please give generously.

## FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH OF ANN ARBOR

517 East Washington Street

Ann Arbor, Michigan 48104-2015

Telephone: 734/663-9376

Email: [office@fbca2.org](mailto:office@fbca2.org)

Website: [fbca2.org](http://fbca2.org)

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). If you would like more information about Children's Ministry, please connect with Xan Morgan ([xan@fbca2.org](mailto:xan@fbca2.org))

**On the first Sunday of each month it's "S3 - Stay for the Service Sunday"** when the 2nd-5th grade class will stay in worship for the whole service. This gives the kids an opportunity to experience and participate in the second half of worship. This is a valuable step in their faith formation as worshipers! They are invited to sit with Xan and their classmates during worship. Following worship, the 2nd-5th graders will attend Fellowship Time with their families until Children's Choir begins at 11:30.

**Youth (grades 6-12)** are invited to join adults for Fellowship Time following worship and then head to the Children's Ministry Wing for Youth Group, 11:30a- 12:30p. All youth grades 6-12 are invited to enjoy snacks and games and discuss their faith together. If you would like more information about Youth Ministry, please connect with Valerie Francia ([valerie@fbca2.org](mailto:valerie@fbca2.org)).

**Starting today:** 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).

**The Gathering is our campus ministry.** This semester we will meet on Wednesday nights from 5:30 to 7:30 PM. It's a safe, open space where undergraduate and graduate students can explore and express their questions and their doubts, learn from others, and be supported in their personal faith and growth. If you're interested in being a part of this ministry, contact Paul Duke.

**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.

**Un-decorating the sanctuary today.** After the adult formation class in the lounge, please join the Board of Worship in taking down the Christmas decorations in the sanctuary.

**Saturday January 20, 3-4 PM Concert4aCause #35** (Northside Community Church, 929 Barton Drive, A2). Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra musicians are featured up close and intimately, playing chamber music to raise interest and awareness about the panoply of A2SO Community Engagement opportunities for musical seekers of all ages.

**Winter/Spring 2024 Concert4aCause Events.** We are pleased to announce the joyful, post-COVID rebirth of Concert4aCause (C4aC) collaboration between FBC and Northside Community Church (NCC), 929 Barton Drive, Ann Arbor, 48105.

Concert4aCause was founded in 2008 by Chris Grapentine and Kathryn Goodson @ NCC, with FBC joining in 2015. There will be three events in early 2024: Jan 20 @ NCC, March 9 @ FBC, April 20 @ NCC.

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



### Calendar

Today	Classes and Activities resume @11:30a Un-decorating the Sanctuary @12:30p
January 10	Bible Study @1:00p The Gathering @5:30p
January 11	Choir Rehearsal @7:00p
January 13 & 14	Shared Suppers
January 20	Concert 4aCause @3:00p at NCC
February 4	Annual Congregational Meeting @11:15a
February 5-16	Host Daytime Warming Shelter