

**The Worship of God  
Sunday, December 16, 2018**

**The Third Sunday of Advent – Surprised By Joy**

*Have you lost your joy? Can you discover hidden treasures in each moment? What about joy in the monotony of dull routine? How can you find joy when your plans are mysteriously interrupted like Mary who was planning a wedding, the event of her life? Unlike happiness, which is determined by conditions and circumstances, joy is a choice. It is the choice to surrender as we say with Mary, "Let it be Lord, according to your Word." As we prepare for worship, consider how interruptions this Christmas can become gifts of joy you never expected.*

**Prelude** *Fanfare and Overture* Celebration Orchestra

**Faces & Places of First Baptist Church**

**Welcome** John Moore

**Time of Greeting** *How Great Is Our God*

**Lighting of the Advent Candle** Joy Sunday School Class  
*We are honored to have members of the Joy Class, taught by Carlene Spicer, lighting Mary's Candle, the Rose Candle of Joy*

**Call to Worship** *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* CH 270  
*Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* CH 271

**Morning Prayer** John Moore

**Family Dedication** *Jaxon Carter McGraw* Phil Christopher  
*Matthew & Elizabeth McGraw, parents*

**Songs of Our Worship** *O Little Town of Bethlehem* CH 250  
*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* CH 251

**God's Eternal Word for Us Today** *Luke 1:26-38* Darrell Roy  
*Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.*  
*Congregation: Thanks be to God.*

**Offertory Prayer** Wayne Roy

**Offertory** *Born This Happy Morning* Sanctuary Choir  
*Sarah Shafer, soloist*

**Message from God's Word** *The Joy of Interruptions???* Phil Christopher

**Invitation** *Come Just As You Are* CH 481

**Continuing Acts of Worship** Mike Greenfield

**Recognition of Decisions** C. V. Blake

**Benediction** *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* CH 258

**Postlude** *Fanfare and Overture* Celebration Orchestra

*Instrumentalist: Beverly Warren, piano*

*The flowers today are given in loving memory of Marvin Louis Peacock and Henry Marvin Peacock by Connie; Madison, Dominique, and Westyn Ryals; and Henry Jr., Olga, and Emilia Peacock.*