

The Worship of God

Sunday, December 23, 2018

The Fourth Sunday of Advent – The Shepherd of Peace

Christmas is on our calendar. We have our plans, but Christmas comes in the unexpected. Who would have ever thought it would happen in Bethlehem, the runt of Judah? Who would ever hear or know? What about the peasant pair of Mary and Joseph? Not exactly the royal couple. The birth of all things in a barn. Perhaps Christmas should shock us with the unexpected. Then we hear this baby or shepherd would be our peace. As you prepare for worship, how do you need peace this Christmas or need to be surprised by the unexpected ways God works, even out of the darkness?

Prelude		Beverly Warren
Faces & Places of First Baptist Church		
Welcome		Becky Tucker
Time of Greeting	<i>Shout to the Lord (Christmas Words)</i>	
Lighting of the Advent Candle		Don & Shawn Kennedy
Celebration of Baptism	<i>Garrett Monroe</i>	Phil Christopher
Call to Worship	<i>Angels from the Realms of Glory</i>	CH 259
Morning Prayer		Becky Tucker
Songs of Our Worship	<i>Hark! the Herald Angels Sing</i> <i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	CH 277 CH 278
God's Eternal Word for Us Today	<i>Micah 5:2-5a</i> <i>Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.</i> <i>Congregation: Thanks be to God.</i>	Jennifer Miller
Offertory Prayer		Brian Miller
Offertory	<i>The King is Here</i> <i>Verity Pryor-Harden, soloist</i>	Sanctuary Choir
Message from God's Word	<i>Who is this from Bethlehem?</i>	Phil Christopher
Invitation	<i>Lord, I Need You</i>	
Continuing Acts of Worship		Mike Greenfield
Recognition of Decisions		C. V. Blake
Benediction	<i>Shout to the Lord (Christmas Words)</i>	
Postlude		Beverly Warren

Instrumentalist: Beverly Warren, piano

The flowers today are given by Roy & Gina Kiser and David & Jennifer Stuckey, along with their families, in honor of Jerry & Ruth Ann Kiser's 55th wedding anniversary.