The Worship of God
Sunday, December 03, 2017

The First Sunday of Advent – We Always Have Hope

From the movie, *Shawshank Redemption: "Fear can hold you captive. Hope can set you free. Remember hope is a good thing, and no good thing ever dies."* As we prepare for worship and the call to carry the light, how is God calling you to trust even when your plans don't pan out? Hope trusts God works in everything. Hope trusts God is always creating new life and possibilities in the darkness, even as the Holy Child grows in the womb of the Virgin Mary.

Prelude *Overture on "Adeste Fideles"* Celebration Orchestra

Faces & Places of First Baptist Church

Welcome John Moore

Time of Greeting *Good Christian Men, Rejoice* CH 273

Lighting of the Advent Candle Hunter and Mary

Parade of Nations *Carry the Light* Sanctuary Choir, Youth Choir, Children's Choirs

Morning Prayer John Moore

Song of Our Worship *The First Noel* CH 265
Youth and Children are invited to decorate the Chrismon trees.

Words of Witness Hunter and Mary

Song of Our Worship *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* CH 245

God's Eternal Word for Us Today *Mark 1:1-8* Rob Sellers
Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Congregation: Thanks be to God.

Offertory Prayer Janie Sellers

Offertory *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* Sanctuary Choir

Message from God's Word Phil Christopher
Advent - Christmas Begins in the Desert

Invitation *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* CH 244

Continuing Acts of Worship Mike Greenfield

Recognition of Decisions C. V. Blake

Benediction *The First Noel* CH 265

Postlude *Overture on "Adeste Fideles"* Celebration Orchestra

Instrumentalist: Beverly Warren, piano

The flowers today are given in loving memory of Guy and Dolores Shaw and Gerry Weatherby by Cindy Parker, Susan Montalvo, Jim Parker, and Elizabeth Parker.