

A SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS



DECEMBER 31, 2023
11AM WORSHIP

SEATTLE FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH
1111 HARVARD AVENUE
SEATTLE, WA
seattlefirstbaptist.org

Welcome to Worship at Seattle First Baptist. All are Welcome.

Children are a treasured part of our community.

Please find a Worship Adventure Packet or a Busy Box at the tables in the foyer.

Children are free to use these resources in the pews or the Wiggle Room.

We gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the Coast Salish people, past and present.

With gratitude, we honor the land itself and the legacy of the First People of Seattle, the Duwamish Tribe.

May we remember that the oppression of Native peoples is not a relic of the past but continues today.

*And may we, through God's Spirit, repent and walk forward together,
changing systems that discriminate as we live into authentic diversity and healing.*

**If it is comfortable, you are invited to stand.*

*All are invited to participate in this service by reading scripture aloud. If you'd like to read scripture,
please pick a reading from the easel and come forward to the pulpit when it is your turn.*

Prelude

"I Wonder as I Wander"

Kristen Orien

arr. RIC FLAUDING

Welcome and Passing of the Peace

Pastor Leigh Curl-Dove

Call to Worship (based on Isaiah 2:2-5)

One:

In days to come, the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

ALL:

**He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares,
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.**

One:

O house of Jacob, come,
let us walk in the light of the Lord!

***Hymn**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold him, born the King of angels,
Refrain: O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.
Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:
“Glory to God, all glory in the highest,” *[refrain]*
Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born in us this morning,
Jesus to thee be all glory giv’n.
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. *[refrain]*

The First Lesson

ISAIAH 11:1-10

Carol

“It Came Upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring.”
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats o’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains, they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.

And you, beneath life's crushing load, whose forms are bending low,
who toil along the climbing way with painful steps and slow,
Look now! for glad and golden hours come swiftly on the wing.
O rest beside the weary road, and hear the angels sing!

For lo! the days are hastening on, by prophet seen of old,
when with the ever-circling years comes round the age of gold.
When peace shall over all the earth its ancient splendors fling,
and the whole world send back the song which now the angels sing.

The Second Lesson

ISAIAH 35:1-10

Carol

“Joy to the World”

ANTIOCH

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare him room,

And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,

And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let all their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains

Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove

The glories of his righteousness,

And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,

And wonders and wonders of his love.

The Third Lesson

MATTHEW 1:1-17

Carol #127

“Lo, How a Rose E’er Blooming”

ES IST EIN’ ROS

THE FOURTH LESSON: Luke 1:26-38

Carol #126

“Angels from the Realms of Glory”

The Fifth Lesson

MATTHEW 1:18-25

Carol

“O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

VENI EMMANUEL

O Come, O come Emmanuel

make true the stories prophets tell –

so all those chained by fear find release,

and, war forgotten, bring a world of peace.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel

is come to birth where all God’s children dwell.

O Come, Love’s-season, to our lonely days,

and guide us in our words and ways

to be the ones whose Advent begins

with healing earth and all that live within.

Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel

is come to birth where all God’s children dwell.

O come, Desire of Nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
Make envy, strife, and quarrels cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel
is come to birth where all God's children dwell.

The Sixth Lesson

LUKE 1:39-58

Carol (*see insert*)

“Canticle of the Turning”

STAR OF DOWN COUNTY

The Seventh Lesson

LUKE 2:1-7

Carol (*see insert*)

“Jesus, Our Brother, Strong and Good”

ORIENTIS PARTIBUS

The Eighth Lesson

LUKE 2:8-20

Carol

“Angels We Have Heard on High”

GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply, echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Come to Bethlehem and see Him whose birth the angels sing;
Come, adore on bended knee Christ the Lord, the newborn king.
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

The Ninth Lesson

MATTHEW 2:1-12

Reader: “For the word of God in scripture, for the word of God among us,
and for the word of God within us.”

All: “Thanks be to God.”

Carol

“Children Go Where I Send Thee”

Children, go where I send thee!

All: How shall I send thee?

I'm gonna send thee one by one,

One for the little bitty baby who was

All: Born, born, born in Bethlehem.

Two for Paul and Silas...

Three for the Hebrew Children...

Four for the four that stood at the door...

Five for the gospel preachers...

Six for the six that never got fixed...

Seven for the seven that never got to heaven...

Eight for the eight that stood at the gate...

Nine for the nine that dressed so fine...

Ten for the Ten Commandments...

Litany (based on John 1:1-14)

One:

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

He was in the beginning with God.
All things came into being through him,
and without him not one thing came into being.

What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people.
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John.
He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him.
He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.
The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

ALL:

**He was in the world, and the world came into being through him,
yet the world did not know him.**

He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him.

But to all who received him, who believed in his name,

he gave power to become children of God, who were born,

not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.
And the Word became flesh and lived among us,
and we have seen his glory,
the glory as of a father's only son,
full of grace and truth.

***Hymn #154**

“Go Tell It On the Mountain”

Benediction

Pastor Anita Peebles

As you leave this place, may you go knowing that
from generation to generation,
we have been claimed and loved.
From generation to generation,
God has been by our side.
From generation to generation,
we are not alone.
The God of yesterday and the God of tomorrow
knows you by name, loves you, and calls you forth,
saying, “Go be the person you are called to be,
love wildly, do justice, and come back soon.”
May it be so. Amen.

Postlude

“O Holy Night”
arr. John Carter

Kristen Orien

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall for Coffee Hour.

Donate securely online here:



Cover artwork: “Revelation” by Lisle Gwynn Garrity.
Inspired by Luke 2:21-38. Acrylic painting on canvas with digital drawing. Courtesy of sanctifiedart.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR DECEMBER 31

Please see This Week in your email and on our Facebook page for further information and other announcements.

Installation for Rev. Leigh Curl-Dove and SFBC Co-Pastors: Sunday, January 7 at 2pm in the Sanctuary. Presided by Rev. Douglas Avilesbernal, Executive Minister of Evergreen, with guest preachers Rev. Heather Mustain and Rev. Joy Martinez-Marshall.

SFBC CALENDAR THIS WEEK

For Zoom links, see our online calendar at seattlefirstbaptist.org

Tuesday 1/2 **Prayer Group** 12pm on Zoom
Tuesday 1/2 **Legacies Group** 1:30pm on Zoom
Wednesday 1/3 **Choir Rehearsal** 7pm in the Sanctuary
Thursday 1/4 **Bible Study** 12pm on Zoom
Saturday 1/6 **Men's Group** 10am on Zoom
Saturday 1/6 **Play Reading Circle** 3pm on Zoom
Sunday 1/7 **Exploring Israel and Palestine** 9:30am in the Parlor
Sunday 1/7 **Worship** 11am in the Sanctuary
Sunday 1/7 **Pastoral Installation Service** 2pm in the Sanctuary
Sunday 1/7 **Seattle Jazz Vespers: Alex Dugdale Fade Jazz Quintet** 6pm in the Sanctuary

Email contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org to reach any of the following people.

STAFF

Rev. Anita Peebles, *Pastor*
Rev. Leigh Curl-Dove, *Pastor*
Darren Hochstedler, *Church Administrator*
Ben Luedcke, *Minister of Music*
Christian Broughton, *Organist & Communications Manager*
Judy Scott, *Office Manager*
Dick Steele, *Facilities Manager*
Vanessa Perkinson, *Small Groups Ministry Coordinator*
Kellie Whitlock, *Sound & Video Engineer*
Chase McAdams, *Caretaker*
Stephenie Simmons, *Chef*

COUNCIL OF MINISTRIES

Mike Zaugg, *Congregation President*
Megan Walker, *Vice President*
Eric Watness, *Secretary*
Inola de la Cruz, *Treasurer*
Corey Clemons
Roem de la Cruz
David Delgado
Heather Dodge
Sue Ross
Bob Sittig
David Young