

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS DECEMBER 31, 2017

WE GATHER IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

Gathering Music Jan Mauck

Prelude *Adagio*, First Sonata Feliz Mendelssohn

Welcome, Announcements, and Greeting Time Brice Smith

*Opening Song “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” 198

*Lighting of the Advent Candles – O Divine Master, you have promised consolation for your chosen people, and a wonderful inheritance for your adopted sons and daughters! Help us to trust in your marvelous grace, to know your peace which passes understanding, and to respond with lives of devotion and reverence, *for our eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel.*

Song of Faith “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” 191

*Invocational Prayer

*Advent Song of Praise “There’s A Song in the Air”

The Prayers of God’s People – OUR FATHER, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day, our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and glory, forever.

WE HEAR THE WORD OF THE LORD

A Reading from the Old Testament Isaiah 61:10-62:3

A Reading from the Psalter

Psalm 148

A Reading from the New Testament

Galatians 4:4-7

*Responsorial

“The First Noel”

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Invitation & Dedication of Offering

Giving Tithes & Gifts

Offertory Special

“*Pastorale, BWV 590*”

J.S. Bach

Children’s Message (2nd Grade and younger to Junior Church)

*Gospel Reading & Prayer of Illumination

Luke 2:22-40

Message:

“The Canticle of Simeon and Anna”

The Reverend Doctor Ivan E. Greuter, Senior Minister

RESPONDING TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

*Altar Call of Invitation to Faith and Fellowship – If the Spirit of God is moving you to receive God’s forgiving love in Jesus, calling you to follow Christ in the waters of baptism, or encouraging you to join this Christian Church, please come forward during this song.

*Song

“Little Drummer Boy”

Video

*Spoken Benediction

*Postlude

“*Bagatelle on We Three Kings*”

arr. John Barr

Marjorie O’Konski, Organist

*Please stand if able

CHRISTMASTIDE – THE CELEBRATION HAS JUST BEGUN.

Christmastide is another name for the Christmas season, which is part of the liturgical calendar, the schedule of events or holidays that hold religious significance to Christians. Christmastide begins on Christmas Eve at sunset (which is the ending of Advent) and lasts twelve days. Christmastide ends on Epiphany (January 6) when Christians commemorate the arrival of the Magi. Decorations remain up – and Christmas carols are sung - until January 6.

THE AGAPE FUND COLLECTION – West Side Baptist Church receives a benevolence offering for the poor and needy the first Sunday of each month after the Lord’s Supper. These funds are generously shared with persons in the church and neighborhood who have financial need. Please see the Pastor, Church Office, or the Moderator to complete an Application for Assistance.

CHILDRENS ACTIVITY BAGS AND BULLETINS – We are glad to have children in worship! Activity bags filled with coloring pages, crayons, and other items are available for preschool and elementary-aged children near the sanctuary door. Enjoy the bags and children’s bulletins; take your artwork home. Place the bags on the front pew after the worship service so we can restock them.

THE LORD’S SUPPER – West Side Baptist Church celebrates the Lord’s Supper (Holy Communion) on the first Sunday of each month. We practice “open communion.” This means we recognize the Table of the Lord does not belong to any church but solely to Jesus Christ. Therefore, any baptized Christian is welcome to receive the bread and the cup in this Christian church.



MISSION: The vision of West Side Baptist Church shall be that we commit ourselves to continual personal growth, reaching out to win and nurture others in the love of Jesus Christ



An autonomous Baptist church in mission partnership with the American Baptist Church of the Central Region
<https://abccr.org>
and
American Baptist Church USA
www.abc-usa.org

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



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