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Live Service Audio: 940-322-1100

## Third Sunday of Advent – December 12, 2021

### THE GATHERING

Prelude *Christmas Gloria* – arr. McDonald/Larson Debbie Watson, organ;  
Jeanette Showalter, piano

Welcome and Call to Worship Claire Baer

Opening Hymn *O Come, All Ye Faithful* – vs. 1, 2 & 3 No. 148

***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;  
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;  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

***Child, for us sinners poor and in the manger,  
we would embrace thee, with love and awe;  
who would not love thee, loving us so dearly?  
O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!***

The Lighting of the Advent Candle Brandi & Jody Brannon Family  
Unison Prayer:

**O Holy One, as Christmas draws near, there is a sense of excitement in the air. We can feel a joy in our lives and see it in those around us. But we know that for some, life's unhappy things have made joy hard to find. Give us the joy that does not depend on earthly happiness but on your grace. Fill us with that joy so that we may share it with a joyless world, we pray through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Response

*When God Is a Child – vs. 3*

No. 132

***Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,  
telling the world that the Savior is born.  
When God is a child there's joy in our song.  
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,  
and none shall be afraid.***

### THE PROCLAMATION

Scripture Reading

*Matthew 2:1-12*

Dr. Mark Bender

Special Music

*Sing We Now of Christmas – arr. Patterson* Young Disciples & Chancel Choirs

Children's Message

Claire Baer

Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

Dr. Mark Bender

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Anthem

*"Away in a Manger" – arr. Sjolund*

Chancel Choir and Laura Pease, oboe

Sermon

*O Come, All Ye Faithful*

Dr. Mark Bender

### THE RESPONSE

Communion Hymn

*There's a Song in the Air! – vs. 1 & 2*

No. 159

***There's a song in the air! There's a star in the sky!  
There's a mother's deep prayer and a baby's low cry!  
And the star rains its fire while the angel choirs sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a king!***

***There's a tumult of joy o'er the wonderful birth,  
for the Virgin's sweet boy is the Lord of the earth.  
See, the star rains its fire while the angel choirs sing,  
for the manger of Bethlehem cradles a king!***

### THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution

Dwight Ross III

Prayers for the Bread & Cup

Sherry Tucker & Sandra Ross

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

*All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

**I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.**

### THE SENDING

Sent from the Table & Invitation to Discipleship

Dr. Mark Bender

Closing Hymn

*Angels We Have Heard on High* – vs. 1 & 4

No. 155

***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!***

***See within a manger laid, Christ, whom choirs of angels praise;***

***Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.***

***Gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!***

Benediction

Dr. Mark Bender

Postlude

Debbie Watson & Jeanette Showalter

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### **MEMORIALS AND HONORS**

In memory of Jean Puckett given by Mark & Debbie Turnbow.

The poinsettias may be picked up after the 11:00 pm Christmas Eve Service on Friday, December 24.

CCLI License #504653

## O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. 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!

2. True God of true God,  
Light from Light Eternal,  
Lo, He abhors not the Virgin's womb  
Son of the Father,  
Begotten, not created. [Refrain]

3. Sing, choirs of angels,  
sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!  
Glory to God, all glory in the highest: [Refrain]

4. See how the shepherds,  
Summoned to His cradle,  
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
We too will thither  
Bend our joyful footsteps; [Refrain]

5. Child, for us sinners  
Poor and in the manger,  
We would embrace Thee, with love and awe;  
Who would not love Thee,  
Loving us so dearly? [Refrain]

6. Lo! star led chieftains,  
Magi, Christ adoring,  
Offer Him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
We to the Christ Child  
Bring our hearts' oblations. [Refrain]

7. Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n!  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:  
[Refrain]

Verses 1, 2, 3, & 7 written in Latin by John F. Wade (1743); translated by Frederick Oakeley (1841)

Verses 4 & 5 written in Latin by Étienne-Jean-François Borderies (1794); Verse 6 authorship is unknown

Verses 4-6 translated from Latin by William T. Brooke (1884)

**Sermon Notes**

1. A practical meme

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2. The comings of Christ

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3. Multiple imperatives

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4. Lessons from the Magi

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5. Bringing our hearts oblations

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**Christian Women's Fellowship**

The **December CWF Luncheon** will be Monday, December 13<sup>th</sup>, at 11:45 am in the Fellowship Hall. The speaker will be Father Peter Kavanaugh from St. Benedict Orthodox Church. Reservations are not required and guests are welcome. Cost is \$5.00 per person. The CWF Board will meet at 10:30 am in Room 310 prior to the luncheon.

**Through the New Testament in a Year**

Join in an opportunity to grow your faith by joining Dr. Bender for a year-long Bible Study called *Through the New Testament in a Year*. Participants in this study will receive a book which divides the New Testament into 365 daily readings. Additionally, participants will have the opportunity to regularly gather with Dr. Bender to go deeper into what you are reading. If you are interested in participating in this study and ordering the book, call the church office or text **NT** to 940-310-5673 to register.

# POINSETTIAS 2021

Lois Willis in memory of Bill Willis.

Alan Freeman in memory of John Freeman.

Alan Freeman in memory of Jean Freeman.

Alan Freeman in memory of Richard Freeman.

Alan Freeman in memory of Bruce Freeman.

Stacey Strickland in memory of David Strickland.

Stacey Strickland in honor of my children.

Stacey Strickland in honor of my grandchildren.

Stacey Strickland in honor of my great-grandchildren.

Ronnie & Colleen James in honor of Amy Luna.

Ronnie & Colleen James in memory of Chris James.

Ronnie & Colleen James in honor of Cindy Blades.

Ronnie & Colleen James in honor of Sean James.

Ronnie & Colleen James in honor of Mike Drye.

Dave & Eva Whiting in memory of Mr. & Mrs. A.V. Whiting.

Dave & Eva Whiting in memory of Mr. & Mrs. Hugh Overman.

Chris & Jeanette Showalter in memory of Phillip, Mary and Anita Bail.

Chris & Jeanette Showalter in honor of Albert & Rosa Showalter.

Doug & Vicki Kunkle in honor of Dorothy Jansen.

Doug & Vicki Kunkle in memory of William Jansen.

Doug & Vicki Kunkle in memory of Forest & Beverly Kunkle.

David & Cathy Gately in memory of Neil & Elizabeth Gately and Bob & Helen Storer.

David & Cathy Gately in honor of Amy & Joe Inabinette, Ryan Beare, Jackson Beare; and Neil, Jennifer, Luke & Paige Gately.

Jim & Karen LaValley in memory of William & Sarah Watkins.

Jim & Karen LaValley in memory of Donald & Audrey LaValley.

Jim & Karen LaValley in honor of Meredith LaValley.

Robert & Sally Hastings in memory of Joe Turner.

Robert & Sally Hastings in memory of Norma Turner.

Robert & Sally Hastings in memory of Rose Hastings.

Robert & Sally Hastings in memory of Willie Hastings.

John & Diana Salkeld in memory of Phil & Sara Salkeld.

John & Diana Salkeld in memory of Jim Salkeld.

Curtis Sullivan in memory of Sherry Sullivan.

David Wyatt in memory of Corliss Wyatt.

David Wyatt in memory of Mary Beth Wyatt.

David Wyatt in memory of Jessie Rierson.

David Wyatt in honor of David Rierson.

David Wyatt in honor of Kristen Rierson.

Jo Ella Rice in memory of Gil Rice.

Jo Ella Rice in memory of Bob Lyon and Lorene Lyon Dunn.

Gary & Kim Ballard in honor of Clara Grace & Campbell Dabbs.

Judy Muir in memory of my husband, John.

Judy Muir in honor of my kids, grandkids and great-grandkids.

Sally Perkins in memory of Clarada & Howard Renfro.

Sally Perkins in memory of Susan Wadsack Spiller.

Linda C. Carr in honor of my husband, Larry Carr.

Linda C. Carr in memory of Ewell & Rita Cason – Linda's parents.

Linda C. Carr in memory of Lewis & Madeline Carr – Larry's parents.

Terry & Robbie Walker in memory of Robert & Margret Hayes.

Terry & Robbie Walker in memory of Troy & Juanita Walker.

Kyle & Ashley Burross in memory of Elmer Jones, and Bobby & Lois Burross.

Kyle & Ashley Burross in memory of Bobby Joe & Mary Lee Todd.

Kyle & Ashley Burross in honor of Konner & Kinsley Burross.

Sandra Ketchum in memory of my son, Lanny Quinn Ketchum.

Sandra Ketchum in memory of Mary Letitia Peery Love.

Sandra Ketchum in honor of my daughters, Twila & Melanie.

The Wards in honor of Susan Marrs.

The Wards in memory of Pete Popejoy and Patsy Stout.

The Wards in honor of Bernie & Cecil Ward.

Dwight, Sandra, Maggie and Dwight IV Ross in memory of Dwight Ross Jr. and Dan Martini – our fathers & grandfathers.

Dwight, Sandra, Maggie and Dwight IV Ross in honor of Grady Ross and Gladys Martini – our mothers & grandmothers.

Dwight, Sandra, Maggie and Dwight IV Ross in honor of Dr. Bender and family.

Dwight, Sandra, Maggie and Dwight IV Ross in honor of Church Staff.

Nancy & Ted Smith Jr. in honor of Searchers Class.

Nancy & Ted Smith Jr. in honor of Church Staff.

Nancy & Ted Smith Jr. in honor of Betsy Smith and William B. Lancaster.

Nancy & Ted Smith Jr. in memory of Ted Smith and Mary Lancaster.

Nancy & Ted Smith Jr. in honor of our children and grandchildren.

John Bridgman in memory of Gretchen Bridgman.

John Bridgman in memory of Chuck & Neva Bridgman.

John Bridgman in memory of Tom & Marie Green.

Karen J. Watson in honor of my Mother: Lita Huggins Watson.

Karen J. Watson in memory of my Daddy: Earl F. Watson, M.D..

Pam & Jerry Johnson in honor of our children: Kristin & Trey, Lauren, Kyle & Presley.

Pam & Jerry Johnson in honor of our grandchildren: Jack & Caroline, Paige & Lilly.

Doug & Leann Elder in memory of Jane Majewski.

Doug & Leann Elder in honor of Alice & Harry Gordon.

Doug & Leann Elder in honor of Lauren, Abby, Alex & Sarah.

Debbie & Mark Turnbow in honor of Jackie, Andrew & Peyton McNeel.

Sherry & Harvey Martin in honor of our son: Dr. Justin & Jenni Martin.

Sherry & Harvey Martin in honor of our grandchildren: Katherine & Will Martin.

Sherry & Harvey Martin in honor of our daughter: Holly Martin.

Sherry & Harvey Martin in honor of our grandson: Christopher McKenzie.

Sherry & Harvey Martin in honor of the wonderful Staff of First Christian Church.

Glenn & Linda Tole in honor of Keystone Sunday School Class.

Glenn & Linda Tole in honor of First Christian Staff.

Glenn & Linda Tole in memory of our parents.

Glenn & Linda Tole in honor of our children.

Lynette Gill in memory of my daughter, Amy Renae Poirot.

Lynette & Paul Gill in honor of our daughters: Andrea, Angela, Francy and their families.

Lynette & Paul Gill in memory of our Loved Ones.

Jodi & Mark Bender in memory of our grandparents.

Jodi & Mark Bender in honor of our kids – Chelsea, Nathan & Abby.

Jodi & Mark Bender in honor of the Staff at FCC Wichita Falls.

Susan Ross Black in memory of Jean Puckett.

Kenn Hill & Shirley Craft in memory of our parents: W.L. & Marie Hill and E.L. & Elizabeth Brown.

Kenn Hill & Shirley Craft in honor of our children: Allison, Michael, Jeff & Brigitte.

Kathleen Lauck in memory of Pat Lauck.

Kathleen Lauck in memory of Jason Lauck.

Kathleen Lauck in memory of Joe & Joyce Lauck.

Kathleen Lauck in memory of Curtis & Geraldine Pettit.

Kathleen Lauck in honor of Ted Lauck.

## CALENDAR

Sunday, December 12 THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT / CHRISTMAS SPECIAL OFFERING		
8:40 am	Worship Service	Chapel
9:30 am	All Church Sunday School & Christmas Mission Market	Fellowship Hall
10:45 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary/ Livestream
3:45 pm	Chancel Ringers (High School-Adults)	Stratten Hall
5:00-7:00 pm	"A Night in Bethlehem"	Fellowship Hall
Monday, December 13		
7:30 am–6:00 pm	Children Come First "CCF" (M-F)	
9:00–10:00 am	CCF Chapel	Chapel
9:00 am–12:00pm	Young Ages Preschool "YAS" (M-F)	
10:30 am	Christian Women's Fellowship "CWF" Board Meeting	Room 310
11:45 am	CWF Luncheon	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	FCC Staff Christmas Party	
7:30 pm	Boy Scouts Troop 15	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, December 14		
9:30 am	FCC Staff Meeting / Worship Planning	Room 310
6:00 pm	Property Ministry Meeting	Room 310
6:00 pm	World Outreach Ministry Meeting	Fellowship Hall
6:30 pm	Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups Anger Management, Parenting, Rebuilding Your Life, Domestic Violence Prevention	Rooms 304 to 308
7:00 pm	Worship Ministry Meeting	Scout Hall
Wednesday, December 15		
7:00 am	Elders' Breakfast	Room 405
9:00-am	CCF Spanish	Room 300
10:00 am	YAS Caroling in the Church Office	
1:00 pm	Stretch Class	Parlor
5:30 pm	Brown Bag Fellowship	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	Neighborhood Worship Service	Fellowship Hall
6:00 pm	First Kidz (PreK-5th)	Room 402
7:00 pm	Youth (Grades 6-12)	Room 403/Gym
7:00 pm	Chancel Choir (High School-Adults)	Stratten Hall
Thursday, December 16		
Friday, December 17		
9:00 am	CCF Music	Room 300
3:00 pm	CCF Christmas Parties	Classrooms
Saturday, December 18		

### Fain Sock Tree

The Fain Sock Tree with hats, scarves, gloves, socks and pjs will be delivered to the school this week before they begin their Christmas holidays.

### Church Board Meeting

Next Sunday, December 19  
In the Sanctuary  
Immediately following the  
10:45 am worship service.

### Christmas Eve Services

December 24, 2021  
6:00 pm—Traditional Christmas Eve Service  
11:00 pm—Carols, Candlelight, and Communion Service

### One Service Christmas Sunday

10:00 am  
December 26, 2021