



Welcome to FBC!

We are so glad you chose to worship with us today!

If you are new here, please take a moment to connect with us. Find a Connect Card in the back of the pew in front of you. Fill it out and place it in the offering plate or scan the QR code to fill it out online. Thank you!

Find Us Online

fbcbr.com | [@fbcbr](https://www.instagram.com/fbcbr)



FBC exists to CONNECT people to God by faith in Jesus and to unite us to each other as we GROW together in faith and maturity in Christ, leading us to SERVE like Jesus in our church, our city, and the nations.

Our Staff

Oren Conner, Senior Pastor • oconner@fbcbr.com

Larkin Harris, Minister to College & Senior Adults • ljhlsu@yahoo.com

Marty Stone, Interim Music Minister

Yannah Gustafson, pianist

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The Gift of Life



December 18, 2022
First Baptist Church
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Order of Worship

Prelude Yannah Gustafson

Words of Welcome Larkin Harris

Lighting the 4th Advent Candle Doug and Erin Woolworth
Peace // Isaiah 9:6

94 // **Angels from the Realms of Glory**

93 // **It Came Upon the Midnight Clear** (1, 2, 4)

Pastoral Prayer Pastor Oren Conner

85 // **The First Nowell** (1, 2, 4)

95 // **Go, Tell It on the Mountain**

Scripture Reading Genesis 15:1-6 Keith Crider

Anthem *The Coming Joy* Sanctuary Choir

Deacon Offertory Prayer

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

101 // **Gentle Mary Laid Her Child**

Message **The Meaning of Belief** Pastor Oren Conner
John 3:16-18

Response 118 // **What Child Is This**

Announcements Larkin Harris

87 // **Joy to the World** (v. 1)

Announcements

Bring your family and join us for our annual **Christmas Eve Service** this Saturday, December 24 at 4:00 pm.

Christmas Day: Worship at 10:45 am—*No Sunday School*

Wednesday, December 28: No Wednesday Activities

New Year's Day: Regular Schedule—including *First Sunday Fellowship!*

The month of December is for giving! Take some time to pray for our international missionaries and the people groups they serve. You may give at any time to the **Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for International Missions**. Thank you for giving to further the gospel at home and abroad!

If you would like to purchase a **Christmas Poinsettia** in memory or honor of a loved one, please contact the church office or Ms. Fran Drago. They are \$15 each and may be taken home following the worship service on Christmas Day.

Be sure to pick up your copy of our **2022 Advent Devotional**, written by members of FBC to prepare our hearts for Christmas. Join with us in reading each day from now through Christmas Day. *The digital version is available online at fbcbr.com/advent.*

We need **new socks for the homeless** (men and women) to fill a very large sack across from our FBC library. Please help to make **"A Sack of Socks"** a successful Christmas collection for the needy. Be sure the elf (who watches the sack) sees you make that donation of Christian love!

Just a reminder that all **tithes and contributions** must be postmarked by *midnight on December 31* to receive contribution credit for the year 2022. Contributions may be made through the mail (P.O. Box 1309, Baton Rouge, LA 70821) or online at fbcbr.com/give.

The **church office will be closed** on December 22–26 and January 2 in observance of Christmas and New Year's Day.

Weekly Activities

Wednesday Night

Fellowship Meal - 5:00 pm

Prayer Meeting - 5:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal - 6:30 pm

Menu: fruit salad, baked ham, candied yams, buttered broccoli, yeast rolls, Christmas bread pudding

GriefShare

New session coming in the spring!

Contact the office for more information!

Monthly

First Sunday Fellowship Breakfast

Sunday, January 1 at 8:45 am. Everyone's Invited!

Women on Mission & Senior Adult Luncheon

Tuesday, January 10

94 // Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now re siding,
Yonder shines the infant Light:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Sages, leave your contemplations,
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen the Infant's star:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

Saints, before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In His temple shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship,
Worship Christ, the newborn King!

93 // It Came Upon the Midnight Clear

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 men,"
From heav'ns all-gracious King.
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long,
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring:
O hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing!

For lo! The days are hast'ning on,
By prophet bards foretold,
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 give back the song
Which now the angels sing!

85 // The First Nowell

The first Nowell the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as
they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

For all to see there was a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heavenly Lord
Who hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell,
Born is the King of Israel.

95 // Go, Tell it On the Mountain

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching,
O'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

101// Gentle Mary Laid Her Child

Gentle Mary laid her Child
Lowly in a manger;
There He lay, the undefiled,
To the world a stranger:
Such a Babe in such a place,
Can He be the Savior?
Ask the saved of all the race
Who have found His favor.

Angels sang about His birth;
Wise men sought and found Him;
Heaven's star shone brightly forth,
Glory all around Him:
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight,
Heard the angels singing;
All the plains were lit that night,
All the hills were ringing.

Gentle Mary laid her Child
Lowly in a manger;
He is still the undefiled,
But no more a stranger:
Son of God, of humble birth,
Beautiful the story;
Praise His name in all the earth,
Hail the King of glory!

118 // What Child is This?

What Child is this, who, laid to rest
On Mary's lap, is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
While shepherds watch are keeping?

Refrain:

This, this is Christ, the King,
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

Why lies He in such mean estate,
Where ox and ass are feeding?
Good Christian, fear: for sinners here
The silent Word is pleading.

Refrain

So bring Him incense, gold, and myrrh,
Come, peasant, king, to own Him;
The King of kings salvation brings;
Let loving hearts enthrone Him.

Refrain

87 // Joy to the World! The Lord is Come

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.