

A WORD ABOUT FBC

First Baptist Memphis is a Midtown congregation that seeks to follow Christ by practicing hospitality, community, dialogue, and service.

- We value diversity in our membership and believe it enriches our journey and ministry.
- We strive to be a family of faith where all can belong.
- We value the voice of every child of God and strive to hear the voice of God in one another.
- What we do inside our walls prepares us to share God's love across the street and around the world.

The Radio Bible Class (10:30 am) and this service (11:00 am) are broadcast live on radio stations ESPN 680 AM, and ESPN 92.9 FM. Sermons are available online at www.fbcmemphis.org.

Announcements

Reception for David Breckenridge, following worship

Please join us for a reception honoring Pastor David following morning worship in the Parlor and Welcome Center.

Missions Offering

Our Missions Offering to date is \$28,975. We have exceeded our \$25,000 goal but we have many great missions partners who could use our help. Let's see if we can reach at least \$30,000!

Year-End Giving

In order to have your gifts to our church credited on your 2018 statement for income tax purposes, we must receive your gifts at the church office by **Monday, Dec. 31**. You can drop your gift in the mail (FBC, 200 E Pkwy, N., Memphis TN, 38112) postmarked by Monday, Dec. 31; drop in the offering during worship on Sunday, Dec. 30; or deliver in person to the office Monday, Dec. 31. Thank you for your support all year long, and for remembering your church once again during this season of giving. Merry Christmas!

New Giving Options in the New Year

Start 2019 with automatic recurring offering withdrawals set up from either your bank account or credit card. First Baptist is excited to offer this setup to its members.

Recurring payments can be set up weekly, monthly, quarterly, semi-annually, or annually. This system gives you several options for setting up your gifts to FBC, and the best part is that with automatic withdrawal, there is no more worry with remembering to write the check or submit the payment through your bank or credit card.

We want to thank all of our members who have already set up automatic recurring gifts. For more information, contact Lisa in the finance office (454-1131 or lbutts@fbcmemphis.org). She'll explain the process.

Stay Connected to First Baptist through Social Media
www.facebook.com/fbcmemphis • Twitter: [@fbcmemphis](https://twitter.com/fbcmemphis)

This Week at First Baptist

Sunday, December 30

- 9:30 a.m. Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 12:15 p.m. Reception for David Breckenridge, Parlor & Welcome Center

Tuesday, January 1

Holiday—church office closed

Thursday, January 3

10:30 a.m. Adult Game Day, Parlor

Friday, January 4

7:00 p.m. Youth Lock-In

Volunteers

Extended Care

Next Sunday, January 6

Threes/Fours: Tara Burton,
Holly Hatton

Floater: Susan Weaver

Welcome Desk at Worship

December 30: David Hankins

Receptionists

Mon, Dec. 31: Valerie Brenner, all day

Tues, Jan. 1: Holiday—office closed

Wed, Jan. 2: Betty Wilson/
Sammy Rich

Thurs, Jan. 3: Bill Wilson/
Volunteer Needed

FBC in Prayer

New Concerns

Lora Jobe Burke
Brant Butler
Trudy Hatton
Linda Haywood
Anson Purdy
Jean Rose Raney
Milton & Frances Ray
Harold Weaver

Sympathy

To the family of Frances Walker



Simeon and Anna by Julie Lonneman

First Sunday of Christmastide

December 30, 2018

The word blessing evokes a sense of warmth and protection; it suggests that no life is alone or unreachable. Each life is clothed in raiment of spirit that secretly links it to everything else. Though suffering and chaos befall us, they can never quench that inner light of providence.

—John O'Donohue, *To Bless the Space Between Us*



Rev. David Breckenridge, D.Min.
Pastor

Rev. Brittany Stillwell
Associate Pastor of Worship & Youth

Kristin Zapien
Director, First Baptist Day School

Aaron Foster
Organist

Julia Aguayo
Pianist

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THE WORSHIP OF GOD

First Sunday of Christmastide

GATHERING TO CELEBRATE

The prelude provides an opportunity to prepare our hearts and minds to worship God by being still and quiet.

Prelude arr. Lani Smith & Steven Scott
Carol Medley
Aaron Foster, *organist*

Call to Worship Rev. Brittany Stillwell

One: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;
he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

**Many: He is named Emmanuel: God with us.
In this tiny baby, this vulnerable child,
we find our light, our joy, our comfort.**

All: Joy to the World! The Lord is come!

* Hymn of Praise 87 *Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come* ANTIOCH

* Invocation Rev. Brittany Stillwell

Greeting
One: The Lord be with you!
Many: And also with you!

Hymn of Testimony 95 *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* GO TELL IT
(As we sing, the children are invited to the front
for the Children's Sermon.)

Children's Sermon Rev. Brittany Stillwell

LISTENING FOR A BLESSING

Psalter Reading *Psalms 148* Breckenridge Family

Offertory Prayer Marc Pendley

Offertory *In the Bleak Midwinter* arr. Sharon Wilson
Linda Marks, *pianist*

* Congregational Response VENI EMMANUEL

Doxology
Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Rejoice, Rejoice, Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel.

Gospel Reading *Luke 2:21-40* Brian Kellett
One: This is God's Word for us today.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Preparation Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge
and Congregation

Almighty God, to You all hearts are open, all desires known, and from You no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love You, and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Message Rev. Dr. David Breckenridge
Parting Blessings
Luke 2:21-40
(page 888 in the pew Bible)

Music for Reflection *Thankful Boys and Girls* Crockett
Jimbo Lattimore, *guitar* & Chris Cardona, *piano*

Parting Blessings FBC Family

GO IN PEACE

* Hymn of Response 387 *Blest Be the Tie* DENNIS

* Benediction Rev. Brittany Stillwell

* Postlude *O Come, All Ye Faithful* arr. Edward Broughton
Aaron Foster, *organist*

Today's worship participants are Mark Pendley, a member of the Religion 101 Sunday School Class and a deacon, and Brian Kellett, a member of the Connect 4 Sunday School Class and an Endowment Trustee.

Our pianist today is Linda Marks, a member of the Missions Committee.

THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

The altar table is adorned with Advent candles, light that strongest with the lighting of the Christ candle. The stars hanging on the rustic, natural sticks call us to wonder at God's presence in the ordinary and unexpected. The light on the table originates in the cradle where the light shines the brightest and scatters out into the world. May this altar table provide visual inspiration as we wonder together.

WELCOME TO FIRST BAPTIST

We are so glad you decided to worship with us today. Please take a moment to fill out the Visitor's Card in the pew rack in front of you. You can place these in the offering plate during the offertory. Consider lingering after worship so that our members might have a chance to greet you. Our ministers will be in the Welcome Center after worship and would love to meet you.

CHILDREN AND WORSHIP

The presence of children in worship is a gift to the Church. They are valuable members of our faith family and we welcome them into this house of worship. Our nursery is open during worship for infants and toddlers. The nursery is located out the doors to the left of the pulpit and down the hall. Our nursery workers will be happy to assist you. Extended Care is for children ages 3-4 and for 5-year-olds who have not entered kindergarten. These children will sit as a group with our Extended Care leaders on the first pew in the right section. All children through 5th grade are invited to the front of the Sanctuary to participate in our Children's Sermon. Our preschoolers will leave for Extended Care after this.