

## THE CHRISTIAN YEAR

Today we celebrate The Baptism of Jesus. This day marks the beginning of Jesus' ministry and the beginning of the season of the Christian Year known as Ordinary Time. This season is named, not because it is somehow less special, but because of how it is counted using ordinal numbers (first, second, third, etc.). This season of the Christian Year is marked with the color green because it is set aside as a season of growth and transformation. The plant and runner on the altar table represent life and growth while the Christ Candle and Bible remind us of the central role the light of Christ and the Word of God in Scripture play in our transformation during these "Great Green Growing Days." A special thanks to Trudy Hatton who created the runner and stoles.

## 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.

## 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](http://www.fbcmemphis.org).

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

## This Week at First Baptist

### Sunday, January 13

8:30 a.m. Deacons Meeting, FH  
9:30 a.m. Sunday School  
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship  
4:00 p.m. Children's Missions  
5:00 p.m. Youth Bible Study

### Monday, January 14

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

### Tuesday January 15

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

### Wednesday, January 16

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program  
5:00 p.m. Fellowship Supper,  
Caritas  
6:00 p.m. Finance Committee, CR

### Thursday, January 17

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program  
10:30 a.m. Adult Game Day, Parlor

### Friday, January 18

7:30 a.m. FBDS Program

## Volunteers

### Extended Care

Next Sunday, January 20

Threes/Fours: April Blankenship  
Rebecca Courtney

Floater: Glenna Ward

### Welcome Desk at Worship

January 13: Jack Taylor

### Receptionists

Mon, Jan. 14: Trudy Hatton/Valerie  
Brenner

Tues, Jan. 15: Gayla Foscue/  
Jim Donnell

Wed, Jan. 16: Betty Wilson/  
Valerie Brenner

Thurs, Jan. 17: Bill Wilson/  
Patsy Donnell

## FBC in Prayer

### New Concerns

Rob Bruno  
Brant Butler  
Trudy Hatton  
Linda Haywood  
Anson Purdy  
Jean Rose Raney  
Milton & Frances Ray

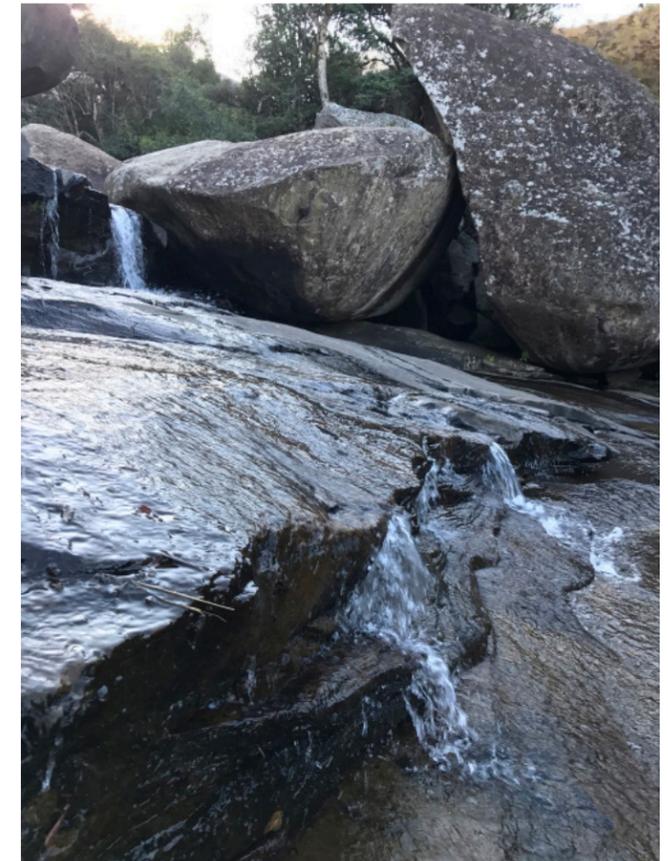


Photo taken in the Drakensburg Mountains, South Africa, 2017

## The Baptism of Jesus

January 13, 2019

*The one true turning point in a person's life is when he or she joins the body of Christ, however that comes about—by sprinkling or by immersion, by proxy or by confession. That is the moment we join ranks with God. That is when we become the flesh and blood of God in the world."*

—Barbara Brown Taylor, *A Preaching Life*



Rev. Brittany Stillwell  
Associate Pastor of Worship & Youth

Holly Hatton  
Interim Children & Youth  
Ministry Coordinator

Kristin Zapien  
Director, First Baptist Day School

Aaron Foster  
Organist

Julia Aguayo  
Pianist

200 East Parkway North  
Memphis, TN 38112

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# THE WORSHIP OF GOD

## The Baptism of Jesus

### GATHERING

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

Prelude *I Surrender All* arr. Paul Gilchrist  
Julia Aguayo, *pianist*

Call to Worship Julie Richardson

One: The heavens open. The Spirit descends.

**Many: Jesus emerges from the water.**

One: And a voice echoes through the blue expanse.

**Many: “This is my child, the Beloved,  
with whom I am well-pleased.”**

One: Jesus is named. Claimed.

**Many: We come to the water.**

**We remember we are named. Claimed.**

One: Can it be so? What a thing to be named. Claimed.

**All: Let us worship the one who names and claims us still.<sup>1</sup>**

\* Hymn of Praise *Come to the Water* KELERIN  
(The hymn can be found in your insert.)

\* Invocation Emmaline Rogers

Greeting  
One: The Lord be with you!

**Many: And also with you!**

### THE SERVICE OF BAPTISM

(please see insert)

### LISTENING

Hymn of Prayer 362 *Baptized in Water* BUNESSAN  
(As we sing the last verse, the children are invited to the front for the Children’s Sermon.)

<sup>1</sup> written by Caela Wood, Pastor at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, Manhattan, Kansas.

Children’s Sermon Holly Hatton

Gospel Reading *Luke 3:15-17, 21-22* Scott Malone

One: This is God’s Word for us today.

**Many: Thanks be to God.**

### GIVING

Offertory Prayer Tom Marchand

Offertory *Be Still* Jennifer Lunday Lewis  
Sanctuary Choir

\* Congregational Response 253 OLD 100TH

*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.*

### PROCLAIMING

\* Prayer of Preparation Rev. Dr. Rick Bennett  
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. Rick Bennett  
*Wonderful Words of Life*  
Luke 3:13-17, 21-22  
(pages 888-889 in the pew Bible)

### SENDING

\* Hymn of Response 277 HENDON  
*Take My Life, and Let it Be Consecrated*

Litany of Commissioning Cherish Mathis &  
Rev. Brittany Stillwell

Brittany: First Baptist Church, let your light shine in Memphis so that others might see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>2</sup> Written by Rev. Brittany Stillwell.

**Church:** **We will with God as our helper.**  
Brittany: Be the church to each other, care for each other with grace and compassion throughout the days ahead.

**Church:** **We will with God as our helper.**  
Brittany: Remember, in the ups and downs and in-betweens, in the joys, sorrows, and everyday details—you are still well.

**Church:** **We will with God as our helper.**  
Cherish: Brittany, let your light shine in Johannesburg so that others might see the good things you do and praise your Father in heaven.

Brittany: I will, with God as my helper.

Cherish: Be the church to the people of South Africa. Care for the abandoned babies, love the children growing up in the Village of Hope, support those who dedicate their lives to nurturing and creating family for these youngest of God’s children.

Brittany: I will, with God as my helper.

Cherish: Remember, in the ups and downs and in-betweens, in the joys, sorrows, and everyday details – you are still well.

Brittany: I will, with God as my helper.

**Church: And know that as you go, we go with you, present with our prayers.<sup>3</sup>**

Special Presentation

\* Benediction Rev. Rick Bennett

\* Postlude *Let All Things Now Living* arr. Gilbert M. Martin  
Aaron Foster, *organist*

Today’s worship participants are Julie Richardson, a member of the Connect 4 Sunday School Class and the Personnel Committee, Emmaline Rogers, a member of the Youth Group and the Youth Committee, Janie Hatton, a member of the Children’s Department, Scott Malone, a member of the Connect 4 Sunday School Class and the Finance Committee, Tom Marchand, a member of the Religion 101 Sunday School Class and a deacon, and Cherish Mathis, a member of the Faith Element Sunday School Class and the Missions Committee.

Our guest preacher today is Rev. Dr. Rick Bennett. Rick is the Tennessee Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Field Coordinator. Before beginning his ministry with TCBF in October 2016, Rick served as Pastor at First Baptist Church of Elkin, NC. Prior to serving as a pastor, Rick served on the staff of the Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Global in Decatur, GA for nearly nine years. Originally from NC, Rick is a graduate of Campbell University (B.A., Religion and Christian Ministries, 1994) and Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond (M.Div., 1998). He earned his Doctor of Ministry degree from Baptist Theological Seminary at Richmond in 2008.

<sup>3</sup> Written by Rev. Mary Kaylor.

\* The congregation will please stand, as you are able.

Amplifying devices are available at the Welcome Center desk.

# THE SERVICE OF BAPTISM

## for Anna Embry Wilson

Anna is the daughter of Clay and Jennifer Wilson.

Her sister is Stella and her grandparents are Michael and Elaine Wilson of Gainesville, Georgia; and Rosita and the late Charles Tate of Memphis.

Anna is a third-grader at Sea Isle Elementary.

Her life scripture is:

*“But I tell you, love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you.”*  
—Matthew 5:44

The Presentation of the Candidate

Rev. Brittany Stillwell

Anna’s Statement of Faith

Janie Hatton

Candidate’s Commitment

Do you desire to be baptized?

**I do.**

Do you renounce all things in your life that might separate you from the love of God?

**I do.**

Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior and put your trust in God’s love for you?

**I do.**

Do you promise to follow and obey Jesus as your Lord?

**I do.**

Congregation’s Commitment

Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Anna in her life in Christ?

**We will.**

Do you promise to pray for her that she might be a true disciple who walks in the way that leads to life?

**We do.**

As you remember your own baptism, do you promise, with God’s help, to share God’s good news and live according to the example of Christ?

**We do.**

The Ordinance of Believer’s Baptism



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## Announcements

### **Missions Offering**

Our Missions Offering to date is \$29,925. 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!

### **Children's Missions**

Children's Missions resume today, meeting the second and fourth Sundays of each month, from 4-5 pm. If you are interested in teaching a session of our Children's Missions program, please email April Blankenship (roseam21@gmail.com). This semester we will combine the Sr. Kindergartner – 5th-grade groups.

### **Deacons Meeting**

The Deacons will meet Sunday, January 20 at 2 pm in Fellowship Hall.

### **Annual Church Conference**

The Annual Church Conference will be held January 27 following worship. Fried chicken will be provided, please bring a potluck side dish.

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