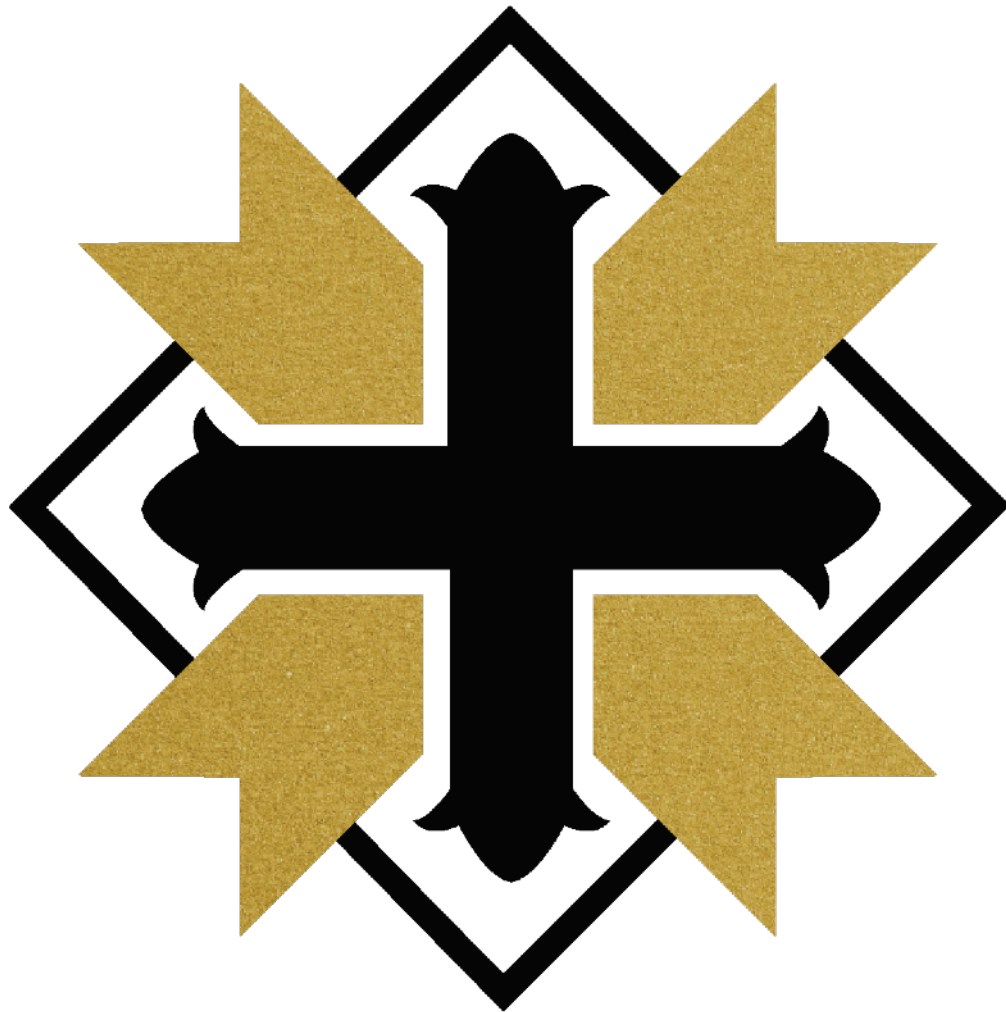


FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

Historic | Liturgical | Vibrant



EPIPHANY SUNDAY

January 2, 2022 at 11:00 am

Liturgical Season

First Baptist Church follows the liturgical seasons of the Christian Year as a means of marking time together. Today we celebrate the Epiphany of the Lord. Epiphany comes from a Greek word meaning "manifestation" or "appearance." Thus, the season celebrates the ways through which the Messiah is revealed to the world. The season begins on the 12th day of Christmas (January 6) with the arrival of the Magi, and concludes with the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus. The liturgical color for the feast day is white, with green, being used on the subsequent Sundays to represent the growth of Christ's ministry.

COVID Reminders

1. Maintain social distancing while inside the Sanctuary.
2. Wear a mask at all times, especially during congregational singing.
3. Guests are asked to fill out a Visitor's Card found in the pews and place it in the offering plate as you exit.

Thank you for your understanding.

* Asterisks throughout the order of worship indicate the people standing, in body or in spirit.

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

January 2, 2022 at 11:00 am
Epiphany Sunday

WE GATHER TO PRAISE GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. James C. Richardson, Worship Leader

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

PRELUDE - "Presto" from *Dueto No. VI*
Erika Andres & Sha Hayes, Flutes

by Franz Joseph Haydn

CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: The Magi waited and watched,
Knowing that something wondrous would be happening.

**People: We waited for the birth of Jesus;
Now something wondrous is about to take root.**

Pastor: The darkness that invaded all lives was
Banished by the light of that star.

People: The darkness that surrounds us is gone!

Pastor: Let us celebrate the bright shining of God's love in our lives.

**People: Let us become those who will bring the light of
God's love to others. Amen.**

* HYMN - "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Tune: REGENT SQUARE

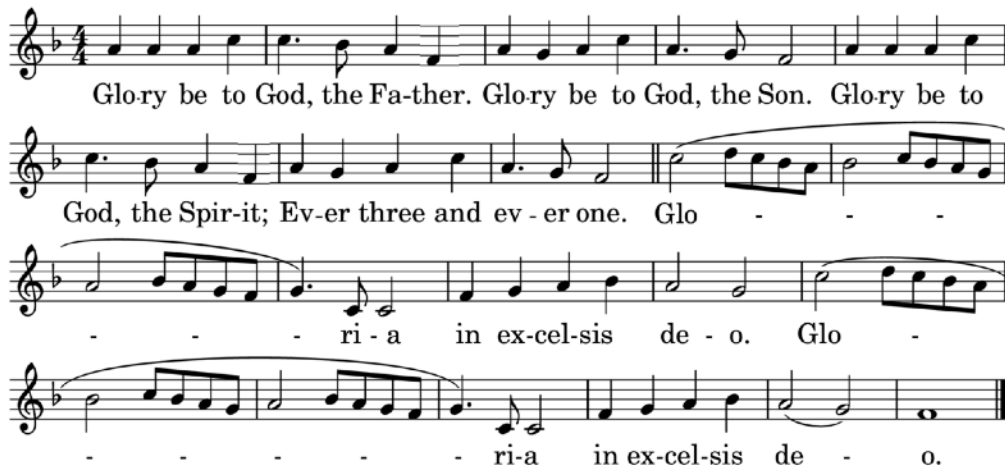
1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds, in the fields a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sag - es, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 All cre - a - tion, join in prais - ing God the Fa - ther,
all the earth; ye who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with us is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far; seek the great de - sire of na - tions;
Spir - it, Son, ev - er - more your voic - es rais - ing
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant light: come and wor - ship,
you have seen his na - tal star:
to the e - ter - nal Three in One:
come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King!

- Text by James Montgomery, alt.

**We believe in God,
Who came to this earth as a child,
Was born to unmarried parents,
And was quickly made a refugee.
We believe that this child grew up to heal the sick,
See the poor,
Dine with outcasts,
Welcome foreigners,
Wash the feet of sinners,
Offer second chances,
And bless the children.
And so we believe that Christmas is only the beginning.
The dream does not end with a manger.
The dream ends with God's promised day.
So until all God's children are home,
We will follow the Magi's lead—
Walking, seeking, and looking up.
May it be so, for this we believe. Amen.**

* CHRISTMAS GLORIA PATRI

Tune: GLORIA



- Text adapted from Horatius Bonar

WE LISTEN TO GOD

FIRST LESSON - Isaiah 60:1-6

Evan Goetz, Lay Reader

Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

Children in Worship

A nursery is available below the Sanctuary for children. Those wishing to remain with their families may do so. All children are invited to come to the front pew during the closing hymn to aid the ministers with the benediction.

Children's Page

The back cover features a worship-themed coloring page for children of all ages. Crayons are available in the Narthex.

Permissions

Permission to reprint and stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #736838-A. All rights reserved.

Guest Proclaimer

Today we welcome Rev. Charlie Benton to the pulpit of First Baptist Church. Charlie served as a campus minister in Lynchburg, Virginia for 20 years. He has also served in several churches as pastor. He retired from full-time ministry after serving for 12 years as the senior pastor of the Drummondtown Baptist Church on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Charlie and his wife Carol have lived in Savannah for the past 13 years. Charlie is an active member of FBC, singing in the choir and serving as a newly elected member of the Personnel Committee. His wife Carol is a retired music professor, who currently serves as organist & choir master for St. George's Episcopal Church in Savannah, GA.

Scripture Texts

All Scripture texts printed in the worship guide are taken from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

ANTHEM - "As with Gladness Men of Old"

Members of the First Baptist Church Choir

Jessica Fishenfeld, Carol Melton, & James Wooten, Trio

*As with gladness, men of old
Did the guiding star behold
As with joy they hailed its light
Leading onward, beaming bright
So, most glorious Lord, may we
Evermore be led to thee.*

*As with joyful steps they sped
Savior, to thy lowly bed;
There to bend the knee before
Him whom heaven and earth adore;
So may we with willing feet
Ever seek thy mercy seat.*

*As they offered gifts most rare
At thy cradle rude and bare;
So may we with holy joy,
Pure and free from sin's alloy,
All our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.*

arr. Jacob Weber

*Holy Jesus, every day
Keep us in the narrow way;
And, when earthly things are past,
Bring our ransomed souls at last,
Where they need no star to guide,
Where no clouds thy glory hide.*

*In the heavenly country bright,
Need they no created light;
Thou its Light, its Joy, its Crown,
Thou its Sun which goes not down;
There forever may we sing
Alleluias to our King!*

- Text by William Dix

* GOSPEL LESSON - Matthew 25:31-46

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

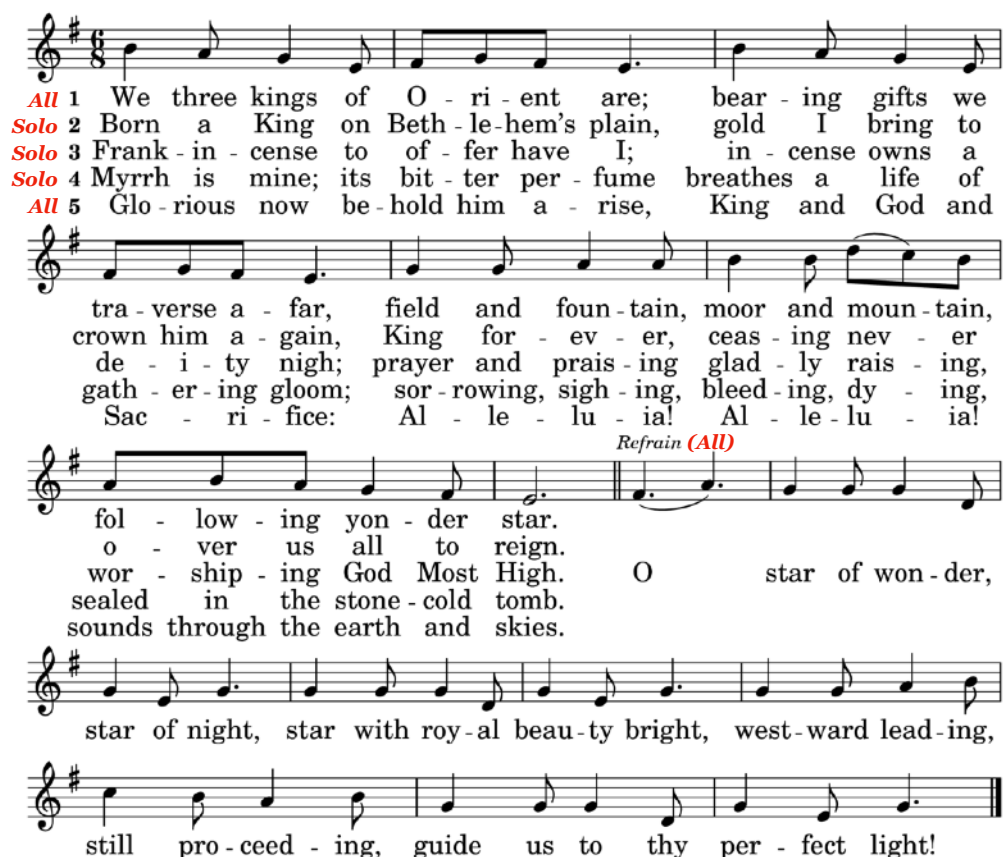
Pastor: This is the written Word of God.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOMILY - "Why Did God Create You?" Rev. Charlie Benton

* HYMN - "We Three Kings"

Tune: KINGS OF THE ORIENT

James Wooten, Evan Goetz, & Will Barnes, Soloists



All 1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are; bear - ing gifts we
Solo 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I bring to
Solo 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I; in - cense owns a
Solo 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a life of
All 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and God and
tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain, moor and moun - tain,
crown him a - gain, King for - ev - er, ceas - ing nev - er
de - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing glad - ly rais - ing,
gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing, bleed - ing, dy - ing,
Sac - ri - fice: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Refrain (All)
fol - low - ing yon - der star.
o - ver us all to reign.
wor - ship - ing God Most High. O star of won - der,
sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
sounds through the earth and skies.
star of night, star with roy - al beau - ty bright, west - ward lead - ing,
still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

- Text by John H. Hopkins, alt.

WE RESPOND TO GOD

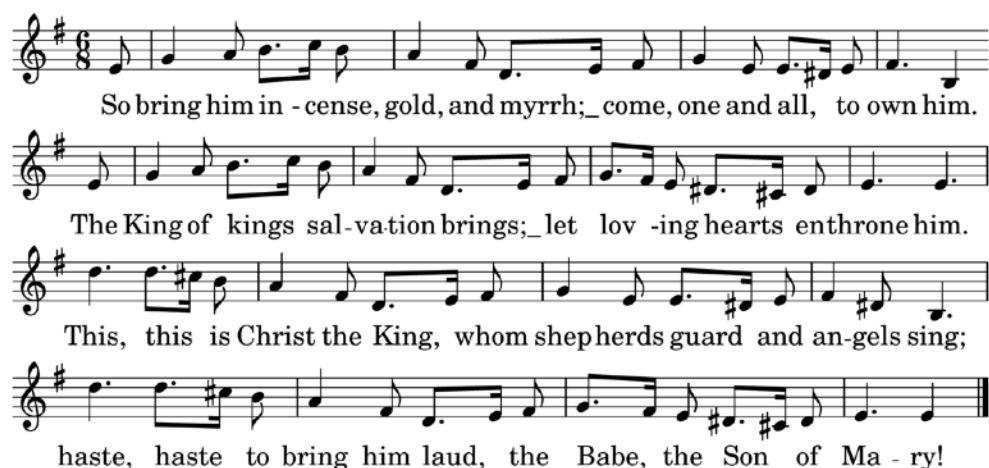
OFFERTORY SENTENCES

OFFERTORY - "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star"
Dr. Justin L. Addington, Organ

by Paul Taylor

* EPIPHANY DOXOLOGY

Tune: GREENSLEEVES



So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh;_ come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings sal - vation brings;_ let lov - ing hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and an - gels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Ma - ry!

- Text by William Dix

Music Notes

John Henry Hopkins wrote "We Three Kings" in 1857 and first published it in his own Carols, Hymns, and Songs in 1863. The first line of the song contains two historical inaccuracies. First, the visitors from the East were magi, not kings. Second, though Matthew 2:11 says there were three gifts, the Bible does not say that there were also three magi, one for each gift; that is a matter of tradition. It is a longstanding tradition, however, and the rest of the song focuses on the three gifts without mentioning their bearers. There are five stanzas and a refrain. The first stanza describes the journey of the magi, following the star. The next three stanzas elaborate on the significance of each gift, and the final stanza summarizes the song.

Giving

If you would like to participate in worship by giving monetarily, you may place a donation in the offering plate near the doors of the sanctuary, scan the QR code, or click "online giving" on our website: www.fbc-sav.org. You may also mail a contribution directly to PO Box 9551 Savannah, GA 31412.



Question for Reflection

How do you see God's love manifested in the world?

You are invited to respond to this question in the comments section of the Facebook livestream.

Prayer Requests

If you have any prayer requests that you would like lifted during the Prayers of the People, please leave them in the comments section of the Facebook livestream.

Holy Communion

Today we celebrate the ordinance of Holy Communion. Everyone is welcome to receive these gifts from God. There have been various times throughout history when taking the cup at communion has not been possible. During times such as these, partaking the bread alone is considered a complete experience of the sacred ordinance. The bread will be offered by ushers as you enter the Sanctuary today. Gluten-free elements are available upon request.

TIME OF RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,
People: Hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*In Unison*)

**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 and ever. Amen.**

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

Tune: LET IT SHINE



1. This lit-tle light of mine I'm gonna let it shine, This lit-tle light of mine
2. Ev - 'ry - where I go, I'm gonna let it shine, Ev - 'ry - where I go,
I'm gon-na let it shine; This lit-tle light of mine
I'm gon-na let it shine; Ev - 'ry - where I go,
I'm gon-na let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.
I'm gon-na let it shine, Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

- Text from an African-American Spiritual

WE COMMUNE WITH GOD

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

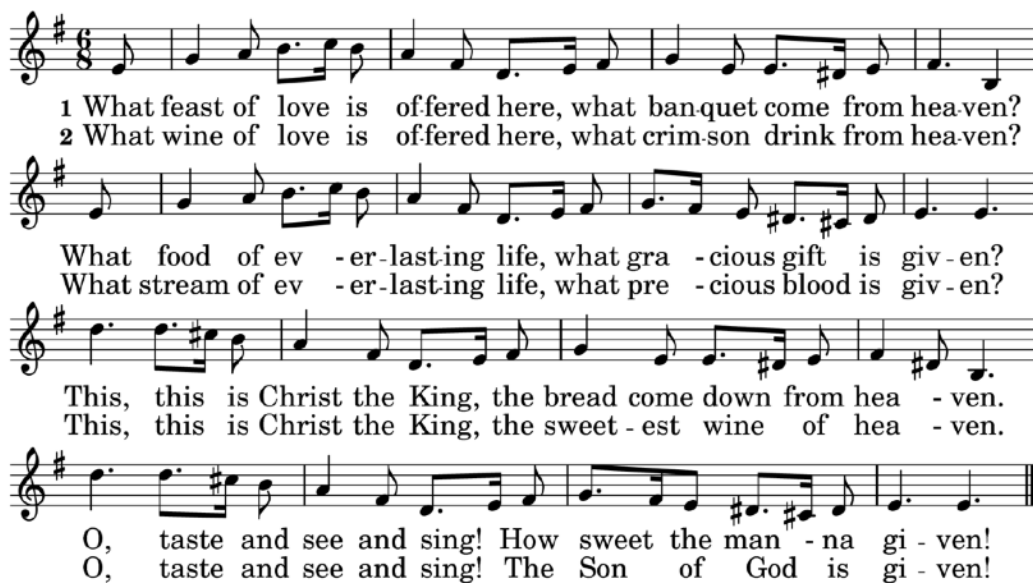
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them up unto the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

(The pastor continues with words appropriate for the day.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Pastor: Let us eat, drink, and remember.
People: Amen.



1 What feast of love is offered here, what banquet come from heaven?
 2 What wine of love is offered here, what crimson drink from heaven?

What food of ever-lasting life, what gracious gift is given?
 What stream of ever-lasting life, what precious blood is given?

This, this is Christ the King, the bread come down from heaven.
 This, this is Christ the King, the sweetest wine of heaven.

O, taste and see and sing! How sweet the manna given!
 O, taste and see and sing! The Son of God is given!

- Text by Delores Dufner

WE GO TO SERVE GOD

INVITATION TO CHRISTIAN DISCIPLESHIP

* HYMN - "Arise, Your Light Is Come"

Tune: FESTAL SONG



1 A-rise, your light is come! The Spir - it's call o - bey; show
 2 A-rise, your light is come! Fling wide the pris-on door; pro-
 3 A-rise, your light is come! All you in sor-row born, bind
 4 A-rise, your light is come! The moun-tains burst in song! Rise

forth the glo - ry of your God, which shines on you to - day.
 claim the cap-tives' lib - er - ty, good ti - dings to the poor.
 up the bro-ken-heart-ed ones and com - fort those who mourn.
 up like ea - gles on the wing; God's power will make us strong.

- Text by Ruth Duck

EVENTS IN THE LIFE OF THE CHURCH

PASTORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - "March of the Three Kings"
Dr. Justin L. Addington, Organ

by George Bizet

The congregation is invited to remain seated for the postlude.

About Our Church

First Baptist Church is a welcoming congregation located in historic downtown Savannah, Georgia. We believe Jesus treated everyone with a spirit of love and equality. Therefore, we accept every individual without regard to age, gender, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or socio-economic status. We affirm all persons as created in the image of God. At First Baptist Church, individuals can find family, families can find community, the injured can find healing, and all can seek truth and justice. We labor together in love for each other, our community, our world, and our God. No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, **you are welcomed, you are accepted, you are loved.**

Contact Us

Rev. Katie Callaway
 Co-Pastor
katie@fbc-sav.org

Rev. John Callaway
 Co-Pastor
john@fbc-sav.org

Dr. Justin Addington
 Minister of Music
justin@fbc-sav.org

Abigail Belote
 Office Coordinator
abby@fbc-sav.org



www.fbc-sav.org

