



RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Time of Reflection

*Hymn of Response

“On Christmas Night All Christians Sing”

SUSSEX CAROL

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.



BENEDICTION

*Response

Blessed be the LORD I AM, who is Father, Son and Holy Spirit, amen!

Postlude

Danse Russe from The Nutcracker Suite by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky



ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT EVENTS:

Tonight! Downtown Pilgrimage, FPC stop at 6.30 pm. The journey begins at 5.30 pm at Mount Zion Baptist Church. We’ll walk together to several downtown churches and hear wonderful Christmas music.

ERO CRAS Christmas Cantata Next Sunday. A morning of visual and musical worship celebrating the ancient “O” prayers. Join us at 9 or 11 am. Fellowship and refreshments between the two services in the Reception Room.

Christmas Eve at First, December 24: 3 Festive Services of Carols, Candlelight and Communion: 11, 4 and 6. The 11 am service will be child friendly, including a shorter message.

ADVENT GIVING OPPORTUNITIES:

Christmas Offering for City Ministry. Our annual Christmas offering (through December 26) goes directly to support The Christian Outreach Center and the daily operations of Gardere Community Christian School.

Christmas Poinsettia Orders Due Wednesday, December 15. All are invited to contact Sherry in the church office (387.0617 or sherry@fpabr.org) to purchase a poinsettia in memory or celebration of a loved one. Poinsettias are used to decorate the Chapel and Sanctuary. \$35 each.

Christmas Bags for Malachi Dads. Toiletry items are being collected for Christmas bags to be distributed to the Malachi Dads (prisoners) at Angola Penitentiary. Please consider making a donation and dropping it off at the Connection Center. Cash donations also accepted.

Welcome. We are glad you’re here. If you are visiting with us, please use the Visitor Card in the pew racks, our church app (FPCBR in the App Store) or online at fpabr.org/connect.

Prayer Requests. We’d love to pray for you. Prayer requests may be sent to prayer@fpabr.org, through the church app or by filling out a card in the pew rack.

Advent Art Gallery. Take a few moments in the gallery before or after worship to browse member artwork inspired by the “O” Prayers.

Painters Needed! Terrence Carter’s Habitat for Humanity home is in the homestretch. Volunteers are needed for interior painting Saturday, December 18. Work hours are 8 am to 2.30 pm. Address is 845 N. 31st St., 70802. Just show up.

Advent Reading Guides: Pick up your daily guide to praying “O Prayers” and the Scriptures on which they are based as we get ready for Christmas. The guides can also be found online under our Resources tab.

Need a Pastor After Hours? Would you like to reach a pastor after hours? Please call the church office (387.0617) and press 5 to be connected to the pastor on call.

Scripture for Next Week: Malachi 4: 2, Luke 1: 76-79

Sanctuary services are video recorded and livestreamed.

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DEEPER IN CHRIST, FURTHER INTO THE WORLD
763 North Boulevard | Baton Rouge, LA 70802 | 225.387.0617 | fpabr.org



Advent Sermon Series

ORDER of WORSHIP

December 12, AD 2021

11 am

Third Sunday of Advent



GATHERING TO PRAISE

Assisting with Worship: Jamy Comeaux

Prelude

“Carol of the Bells” arranged by Chip Davis
Rachel Reese-Kollmeyer, violin
Steve Gustafson, accompanist

*Welcome and Call to Worship

From Hebrews 1 and Colossians 1

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets,
But in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world.

He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent.

O King of the gentiles and Desire of Nations, you are the Cornerstone that makes us one.
Come deliver us, whom you formed from the dust.

*Hymn of Praise

No. 133 “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

*Blessing God

Lighting of the Advent Candle

The Candle of Joy will be lit by Roslyn, Paul, Elizabeth and Jacob Esch.

Infant Baptism

Arthur Ellery Boyd
Parents are Caitlin and Greg Boyd
Siblings are Anna Claire and Wells
Sponsoring Elder is Jamy Comeaux

*Affirmation of Faith

The Apostles’ Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
And born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
And is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy catholic Church,
The communion of saints,
The forgiveness of sins,
The resurrection of the body,
And the life everlasting. Amen.**

*Greeting and Announcements

Children Kindergarten and younger may go to Children’s Church.

Offertory

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten” arranged by Christopher Phillips
Sherry Kadair, piano

Of the Father’s love begotten, ere the worlds began to be
He is Alpha and Omega, he the source the ending he.
Of the things that are, that have been, and that future years shall see
Evermore and evermore.

O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin full of grace,
By the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race.
And the babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face,
Evermore and evermore.

This is he whom heav’n taught singers, sang of old with one accord,
Whom the Scriptures of the prophets promised in their faithful word.
Now he shines the long expected, let creation praise its Lord,
Evermore and evermore.

O ye heights of heav’n adore him, angel hosts his praises sing.
All dominion bow before him and extol our God and King.
Let no tongue on earth be silent, ev’ry voice in concert ring,
Evermore and evermore.

Christ to thee with God the Father, and O Holy Ghost to thee,
Hymn and chant and high thanksgiving and unwearied praises be.
Honor, glory and dominion, and eternal victory, evermore and evermore.

Please place your prayer requests and offerings in the plate as it is passed.

*Doxology

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise him all creatures here below, Alleluia, Alleluia!
Praise him above, ye heav’nly host,
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Prayer of Dedication



PROCLAIMING THE WORD

*Hymn of Preparation

No. 128 “It Came upon the Midnight Clear”

CAROL

Time with God’s Word

Prayer for Illumination

Haggai 2: 7 (KJV)

And I will shake all nations, and the desire of all nations shall come: and I will fill this house with glory, saith the LORD of hosts.

Isaiah 25: 6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wine,
of rich food full of marrow, of aged wine well refined.
And he will swallow up on this mountain
the covering that is cast over all peoples,
the veil that is spread over all nations.
He will swallow up death forever;
and the Lord GOD will wipe away tears from all faces,
and the reproach of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
“Behold, this is our God; we have waited for him, that he might save us.
This is the LORD; we have waited for him;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.”

No one has ever seen God,
But the one and only Son, who is himself God and is at the Father’s side, has made him known (John 1: 18).

Sermon

Gerrit Dawson
The “O Prayers,” Part 3: King and Desire