



# FIRSTBAPTIST KNOXVILLE

In the Center of the City with the Savior

11 AM Service | December 27, 2020



## **Prelude | Rhonda Carpenter**

*Go Tell It On the Mountain* | Todd Billingsley

## **Choral Call to Worship Prologue | Belltone Believers**

*Joy to the World* | arr. Dan Forrest

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.

## **Congregational Hymn 102 (stanzas 2-4)**

*Joy to the World* | ANTIOCH

Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns; let men their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make His blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,  
And wonders, wonders of His love.

## **Choral Hymn Finale | Belltone Believers**

*Joy to the World* | arr. Dan Forrest

Joy to the world! the Lord is come!

## **Welcome | Pam Neal**

## **Responsive Reading | Jill Hobby**

**Leader:** O God, your grace has now appeared in Mary's tiny boy.

**People:** Teach us to tune our hearts to hear Good News of wondrous joy!

**Leader:** Your gift of peace was heard that night and shepherds were amazed.

**People:** Use us, your church, to give Glory on High through joyous songs of praise.

**Leader:** Fix our eyes on the Prince of Peace for our salvation is seen in You.

**People:** Awake our souls to rejoice in hope that God's Word is fulfilled and true.

(Excerpt taken from Carolyn Winfrey Gillette's O God, Your Grace Has Now Appeared)

## **Congregational Hymn & Organ Fanfare | Rhonda Carpenter**

*Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* | MENDELSSOHN, Schwoebel

Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;  
Peace on earth, and mercy mild; God and sinners reconciled."  
Joyful, all ye nations, rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With angelic hosts proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Christ, by highest heav'n adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord:  
Late in time, behold Him come, offspring of a virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see, hail th' incarnate Deity!  
Pleased as man with men to dwell, Jesus our Immanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth, born to give them second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King."

## **Children's Sermon | Susan Tatum**

### **Reader's Theater Accompanied by: Belltone Believers**

*Silent Night* | arr. By Lloyd Larson

Simeon - Steve Bowman      Joseph - Brent McDougal

Anna - Sharon Bowman      Mary - Emily McDougal

## **Pastoral Prayer | Brent McDougal**

### **Scripture Reading (Luke 2:25-38) | Pam Neal**

Leader: The Word of God for the people of God

**Congregation: Thanks be to God!**

### **Choral Anthem | Belltone Believers**

*Let There Be Peace On Earth* | arr. Mark Hayes

*With Musical Reference to hymn tune FINLANDIA: Be Still, My Soul*

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.  
With God as our Father, brothers all are we;  
Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.  
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

## **Sermon | Brent McDougal**

### **"The Power of Hope" | Luke 2:25-38**

## **Invitation Hymn 308 Baptist Hymnal (stanza 1)**

*Pass Me Not O Gentle Savior* | PASS ME NOT

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou are calling, do not pass me by.

Pass me not, O gentle Savior, hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou are calling, do not pass me by.

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou are calling, do not pass me by.

Savior, Savior, hear my humble cry;  
While on others Thou are calling, do not pass me by.

## **Spoken Benediction | Brent McDougal**

## **Benediction Song | Belltone Believers**

*Calypso Lullaby* | Hairston/Raney

On a clear and starry night, on a hillside far away,  
Shepherds saw a golden light, and they heard the angels say:  
"Alleluia, shout for joy," sweet music fills the sky.  
The heavens ring while angels sing a Christmas lullaby.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, little one, rest your head.  
Dream of peace on earth in your manger bed.

Angels filled the ev'ning sky and with joy began to sing:  
"Glory be to God on high! Let the bells of heaven ring!"  
"Alleluia, shout for joy," sweet music fills the sky.  
The heavens ring while angels sing a Christmas lullaby.

It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
From angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold.  
"Alleluia shout for joy," sweet music fills the sky.  
The heavens ring while angels sing a Christmas lullaby.

Sleep, sleep, sleep, little one, rest your head.  
Dream of peace on earth in your manger bed.

"Alleluia, shout for joy," sweet music fills the sky.  
The heavens ring while angels sing a Christmas lullaby.  
A Christmas lullaby.

**Organ Postlude | Rhonda Carpenter**  
*The First Noel* | Mary McDonald

# SERMONNOTES

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## "THE POWER OF HOPE"

LUKE 2:25-38

So much of this year has been spent hoping for something. Hoping we would see businesses and restaurants being able to open again. Hoping for the return of sports. Hoping for help with food or rent. Hoping to be able to see loved ones soon. Hoping for a vaccine. We know we must keep hoping - *we can't live without hope* - but we still have a long road ahead.

Simeon and Anna were waiting for the consolation of Israel, God's redemption for all of humanity. They show us how to keep waiting and hoping without dissolving into despair.

How do we keep hoping without losing heart?

1. Stay \_\_\_\_\_. ("Simeon, who was righteous and devout...")

**"Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will lift you up."**  
(James 4:10, NIV)

2. Stay \_\_\_\_\_. ("...waiting for the consolation of Israel...")

**"Set your minds on *things that are above*, not on *things that are on earth*."** (Colossians 3:2, ESV)

**"I focus on *this one thing*: forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us."**  
(Philippians 3:13-14, NLT)

**"You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you."** (Isaiah 26:3, ESV)

# SERMONNOTES

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3. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ . (“Moved by the Spirit, he went into the temple courts...”)

“The righteous *keep moving forward*, and those with clean hands become stronger and stronger.” (Job 17:9)

“We know that in *all things* God works for the good of those who love Him, who have been called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28, NIV)

4. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ . (“She never left the temple but worshipped night and day, fasting and praying...”)

“...*always* pray and *never* give up.” (Luke 18:1, NLT)

When we wait according to God’s way, we’ll be ready to see what God has in front of us. Everyone else missed what was happening with Mary, Joseph, and Jesus, but Simeon and Anna were blessed to see.

What is God saying to you today? What do you need to do in response?

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# SEASON OF PRAYER

## FOR INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS



### *WEEKLY FOCUS: CROATIA*

After living in Croatia for more than 22 years, missionary Eric Maroney has witnessed the reluctance of people to believe the truth of the Gospel and has endured the skepticism toward evangelical churches. In a country with only 7,000 evangelicals, there are now more than 40,000 people listening to radio broadcasts of sermons, spiritual songs, interviews with believers, and questions from callers. Eric and his ministry team trust that the “broad seed sowing” of the broadcasts touches people’s hearts and offers an alternative for those living without the hope of Christ.

### *PRAYER FOCUS:*

Pray for the local church in Croatia as they host evangelistic events, concerts, English as a second language classes, and summer camps to spread the gospel and connect seekers with local congregations. Many desert tribes are gaining access to the internet via smartphones. Through the internet, efforts are being made to sow the Word broadly among the Mediterranean coastal tribes, including the Bedouin of Northern Africa. Pray this would give unreached peoples first-time access to God’s Word. Many contacts are being made online during lockdowns. Those who would normally never visit a church in person are taking part in online gospel dialogues, worship services, and Bible studies. Pray for creative ways to share more about the gospel. Pray the uncertainty and chaos of the pandemic would bring people closer to the Lord. Ask God to send more Christian communicators into this online harvest field.

More info: [www.imb.org/pray](http://www.imb.org/pray)

# SUNDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Holiday Office Closings

Please be aware that the church offices will be closed for Christmas on December 28 and for New Years Day on January 1. Let's enjoy this holiday season, reflect on our Savior's birth, and start the New Year off right!



## Another Successful Christmas Shop

Many of you have seen the pictures on our church Facebook page and know what a wonderful couple of days we had hosting our annual Christmas Shop! Things could not have gone more smoothly, and we were blessed with many "God moments"! Even though we could not see the smiles or give the hugs this year, the love was felt by all. Thank you to each volunteer who went above and beyond to make this happen! Thank you, FBC, for your generosity!



## Wednesday Night Bible Study

*Wednesday, January 6 | 6 pm | Sanctuary*

Wednesday Night Bible Study resumes on January 6th! We are looking forward to seeing everyone again in the New Year!



## End-of-Year Giving

Through December 31

The church offices are open to receive year-end gifts through December 31, at 5 pm. You may, however, continue to make contributions until midnight through our online giving portal: [give.fbcknox.org](https://give.fbcknox.org). Any gift given before this date will count toward your 2020 charitable giving tax deduction.

We are grateful for your generosity and what it means in the life and ministry of our church family. Your giving makes a difference!



## Ongoing Missions Opportunities

To learn more about ongoing volunteer opportunities, please visit "Service Opportunities" under the "Ministries" tab at [fbcknox.org](https://fbcknox.org). For more information, contact Tim Boone at [tboone@fbcknox.org](mailto:tboone@fbcknox.org).



## Sign-up to be a Benevolence Team Member!

The Benevolence Team demonstrates the love of Jesus by interviewing clients and offering material and financial resources to those in need. To serve in this ministry, you will need to attend several training sessions that we will offer in 2021. Please contact Tim Boone at [tboone@fbcknox.org](mailto:tboone@fbcknox.org) to sign up.



MISSION

## Sunday Bulletin & Sermon Notes: Online

If you watch our 11 am worship service at home and would like to participate in Dr. McDougal's Sermon Notes found in the bulletin each week, please be aware that the Sunday Bulletin is available online! To access the Sunday Bulletin, visit our website ([fbcknox.org](http://fbcknox.org)), and under the "Media" tab, click "Publications." You may also copy and paste the following link: <https://fbcknox.org/media/view/publications/> Bulletins are uploaded to the website the Friday preceding the Sunday service.



## Inclement Weather Policy

If Knox County Schools close on a weekday due to the weather, we cancel all activities that day, including meetings. For weekend activities, we will make decisions based on conditions and share them with you, posting closings or delays on local television stations, [fbcknox.org](http://fbcknox.org), and our Facebook. The 11 am service will be held each Sunday. If you have any questions, contact the church office.



**Next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month. We will receive our Community Care/ Benevolence Offering, which allows us to meet critical needs in our community.**

**Please drop your offering in the Offering Boxes next to the Sanctuary doors.**

	Nov '20	Fiscal YTD	Last Week's Attendance
Revenue (all sources)	\$134,663	\$689,348	
Expenses	<u>\$122,107</u>	<u>\$620,948</u>	Worship Total 148
Excess/Deficit	\$12,555	\$68,400	(does not reflect at-home viewers)



## Contacts

**Main Number** | 865-546-9661

**Tim Boone**

*Interim Young Adult and Missions Minister*

865-246-4678

tboone@fbcknox.org

**Richard Buerkle**

*Minister of Music and Worship*

865-246-4668

rbuerkle@fbcknox.org

**Brent McDougal**

*Senior Pastor*

865-246-4664

bmcDougal@fbcknox.org

**Pam Neal**

*Minister for Administration*

865-246-4660

pneal@fbcknox.org

**Susan Tatum**

*Minister with Children and Families*

865-246-4666

statum@fbcknox.org

**Dave Ward**

*Minister Emeritus*

865-246-4667

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## CONNECT

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## First Baptist Knoxville

**Main Number** | 865-546-9661

To reach the Minister On Call, please call the main church number and when prompted for an extension, choose option 9.