

THE WORSHIP OF GOD

DECEMBER 3, 2023

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT - LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF HOPE

COMMUNION SUNDAY

11:00 A.M.

*Please stand if you are able.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come. By your merciful protection awaken us to the threatening dangers of our sins, and keep us blameless until the coming of your new day, for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

GREETING Charles Qualls

PRELUDE *Savior of the Nations, Come* ARR. DOUGLAS WAGNER
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP Shara Pearce

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

Restore us, O God of hosts; show us your light, and we shall be saved.

Let your hand be upon us, O Lord, and make us strong for your service.

**Give us strength, that we may never turn from you;
give us life, that we may call upon your name. Amen.**

INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER Shara Pearce

**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.**

*HYMN 79 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* VENI EMMANUEL
(v. 1, 2, 4)

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE Burt and Donna Evans

We light this candle as a symbol of the hope
we have in the promise of the Lord's coming.

**For the Lord will fulfill his promise to the house of
Israel and the house of Judah.**

A righteousness branch will spring up from David;
and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.
Come, Lord Jesus, come!

SUNG RESPONSE (SEATED) *Emmanuel* MCGEE

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called, Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.**

RESPONSIVE READING 78 God the Son: The Incarnate One Shara Pearce

PASTORAL PRAYER Charles Qualls

*HYMN 83 *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus* HYFRYDOL

OFFERTORY *Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word* J.S. BACH
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

*DOXOLOGY OLD HUNDREDTH

**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. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION Charles Qualls

ANTHEM *Blest Be the God of Israel* HAL H. HOPSON
Chancel Choir
Will Viverette, organist/pianist

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Charles Qualls
Pew Bible New Testament, Page 166
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

SERMON *Hope: God is Faithful* Charles Qualls

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION
INVITATION, BLESSING OF THE ELEMENTS, DISTRIBUTION

*HYMN 48 *Great is Thy Faithfulness* FAITHFULNESS

*BENEDICTION Charles Qualls

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE

**Trust and obey for there's no other way
to be happy in Jesus, but to trust and obey.**

*POSTLUDE *People, Look East* ARR. STEPHEN ABER
Will Viverette, organist/pianist



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EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER

Dr. Charles. L. Qualls, *Senior Pastor*
William R. Viverette, *Organist/Pianist*
Sharon James, *Associate Pastor/Education Emeritus*
Steven R. Gibson, *Associate Pastor/Music Emeritus*

This worship service is broadcast on radio WLQM – 1250 AM and PRAISE 99.1 FM
Facebook Live @ 11:00 AM

Franklin Baptist Church – December 3, 2023

Welcome Guests

We are always grateful to welcome guests who worship with us! Please complete the brief information card found in the pew rack, directly in front of you and place it in the offering plate.

Church Offerings

Help our church remain vital by continuing to give. Gifts can be made online on our website at franklinbaptist.org/onlinegiving or mail your offering to the church. Thank you for your faithful and generous support!

150th Anniversary Ornaments

We still have some 150th Anniversary ornaments available! If you would like to purchase one, please contact the church office. The cost of each ornament is \$20.00.

Franklin Cooperative Ministry

Franklin Cooperative Ministry is in need of the following items: Toothpaste, shampoo and men's shaving cream.



Faith on Draft Takes a Christmas Break

We've had such a good Fall season. We'll be back in January for our usual monthly session. Mark your calendar now for **January 25th**! Meanwhile, have a blessed Advent and a safe, meaningful Christmas!



Year-End Contributions

In compliance with IRS regulations, all contributions for 2023 must be **received by December 31, 2023**. Any contributions received after that day will be posted to 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

Anyone interested in donating stock to the church prior to the end of the year may use our accounts at Wells Fargo or Edward Jones in Franklin. If you have any questions, please call Bill Howell at 757-650-8893.



The Missions Team is doing something different this holiday season by combining two missions projects - Coats for Franklin High School students and the Salvation Army Angel Tree.

If you would like to donate to assist with either of these missions projects, please have checks (made payable to Franklin Baptist Church with "**MISSIONS**" in the memo line, no need to specify which project) in by **Monday, December 4, 2023**.



Community Living Nativity - Drive through the journey to Bethlehem, where Jesus Christ was born.

Franklin Baptist Church will once again sponsor the Community Living Nativity. We would love for you to participate in a scene, provide on-site assistance, or promote the event. We are working with the City of Franklin to again hold the event at the boat ramp at Barrett's Landing. **The dates are Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, December 13, 14 and 15. The times are 5:30 PM to 7:00 PM.**

There will be eight scenes: Angel speaking to Mary; Joseph's dream; Decree from Caesar Augustus; No room at the inn for Mary and Joseph; Shepherds watching over their sheep; Host of heavenly angels; Journey of three wise men; Nativity scene with baby Jesus.

If you would like to help area churches and organizations tell the Christmas story, please contact Kay Drumheller: kayidrumheller@gmail.com, 757-377-6557; Eliza Rainey: epr321@charter.net, 757-377-7523 or Billie Turner: billie@villageatwoodsedge.com, 757-651-9137.



Again this year, you have the option of donating a gift to missions or purchasing a poinsettia. The cost of either is \$25.00 and can be given in honor of or in memory of a loved one. Please complete a form and place it along with payment in the offering plate, bring it to the church office, or send it by mail. **The deadline to submit a form is Monday, December 4th!**



December 3	Advent I - Lighting the Candle of Hope <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christmas Communion • Church Christmas Party
December 10	Advent II - Lighting the Candle of Peace <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JuBELLation Ringers
December 17	Advent III - Lighting the Candle of Joy Christmas Music Sunday with Orchestra and Chancel Choir
December 24	Advent IV - Lighting the Candle of Love
December 24	Christmas Eve Service: 4:00 PM: Pre-Service Music 4:30 PM: Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
December 31	First Sunday of Christmas/New Year's Eve



Our in-house Christmas message exchange (post office) is back! The "post office" is located in the narthex and will **be available until January 2nd!** No postage is required!

This is the perfect time to take a minute to let someone know you are thinking of them, or that you appreciate their hard work. Just place your cards/messages in the box by last names. Please remember to check for YOUR mail each week!

PRAYER CONCERNS

Jim Briggs, Joan Edwards, Linda Johnson, Georgianna Brabban Johnson, Gerald Roberts, Ron Rusnak, Danny Simonsen (Sue and Mike Johnson's son-in-law), Virginia Stone

Please remember to keep our community leaders in your prayers.

Calendar of Events

Sunday, December 3

JuBELLation Ringers	9:00 am	JuBELLation Ringers Room
Sunday School	9:45 am	SS Classrooms
Worship (also Facebook Live/Radio)	11:00 am	Sanctuary
Church Christmas Party	12:00 pm	Fellowship Hall

Monday, December 4

Deacons Party	6:30 pm	Qualls' House
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Tuesday, December 5

AA Group	7:00 pm	Community Room
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Wednesday, December 6

Morning Bible Study	11:00 am	The Village
Wednesday Night Dinner	5:30 pm	Fellowship Hall
Adult Bible Study	6:15 pm	Fellowship Hall
Chancel Choir	7:00 pm	Choir Room
NA Group	7:30 pm	Community Room

Thursday, December 7

High Street Seniors	10:00 am	Fellowship Hall
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Save the Date!

The Vision Oversight Committee will be presenting a candidate for Associate Pastor-Music the first weekend of January. We hope that you will mark your calendar and plan to attend a meet and greet reception on **Saturday, January 6th at 2:00 PM and the worship service on January 7th.**

There will be a called business meeting after the worship service to vote on the candidate. Additional details will follow as we get closer to the call weekend. We feel confident that you will be as happy as we are about our candidate. Thank you for your prayer support during this search process.