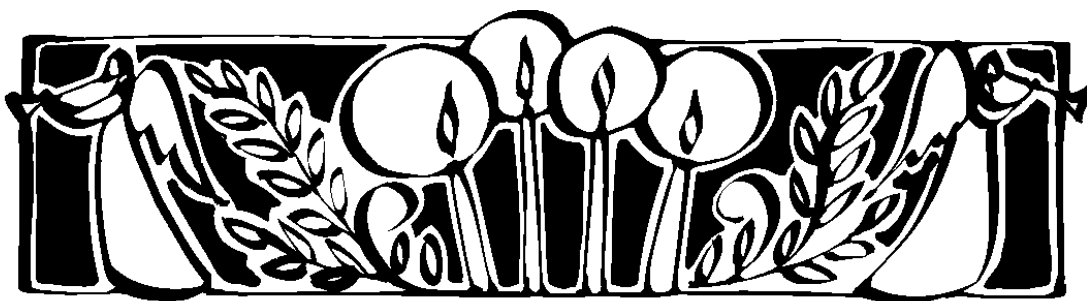




Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

January 4, 2026, 11:00 a.m.

Second
Sunday after
Christmas



PRELUDE

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing
Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

SUSSEX CAROL
W ZLOBIE LEZY

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

INSTRUMENTAL INTROIT

Angels from the Realms of Glory

REGENT SQUARE

CALL TO WORSHIP

***PROCESSIONAL CAROL**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

MENDELSSOHN

1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King:
2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored, Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord,
3 Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right-eous-ness!

peace on earth, and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!"
 late in time be - hold him come, off-spring of the Vir - gin's womb:
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings.

Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th'in - car - nate De - i - ty,
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,

with th'an - gel - ic host pro - claim, "Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!"
 pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing, "Glo - ry to the new-born King."

WORDS: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt.

MUSIC: Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

***INVOCATION AND 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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Everlasting God,
we are gathered at the beginning of a new year,
imagining the opportunities and possibilities before us.
Every January we make resolutions
to make the changes we think will better our lives.
We engage in these rituals in hopes of getting our lives together
because we think limitations are only problems to be solved!**

**Lord God, forgive us for our pride, faithlessness and selfish ambitions.
Give us the humility needed to trust and rely on you.
Remind us that we are able to live everyday
because of Christ's sacrifice and your constant love.**

**Help us reflect your love by reaching out to support those
in our family, church and larger community.
Remind us that you will love us and walk with us
as we live our imperfect lives.
And help us accept the times when we are not in control and rely on you.**

(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***GLORIA PATRI**

R. Goodson

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and
Ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

FIRST READING

Genesis 1:1-5

Read from the the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

*CAROL OF PRAISE

Oh, How Joyfully

SICILIAN MARINERS

1 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how hope - ful - ly,
2 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how peace - ful - ly,
3 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how thank - ful - ly,

waits the world on Christ - mas Eve! Love comes heal - ing,
sleeps the world on Christ - mas Night! Sins are cov - ered,
wakes the world on Christ - mas Morn! God has spo - ken,

God re - veal - ing. Friends, be joy - ful and be - lieve!
grace dis - cov - ered. In our dark - ness shines the light!
death is bro - ken. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is born!

WORDS: Brian Wren (1936-)
MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th c.

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SECOND READING

John 1:1-14

Read from the the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: **"Thanks be to God"**

SERMON

Rev. Jeremy Keay

(Silence for personal reflection)

*CAROL OF APPROACH

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

PICARDY

1 Let all mor - tal flesh keep si - lence, and with fear and
2 King of kings, yet born of Ma - ry, as of old on
3 Rank on rank the host of heav - en spreads its van-guard
4 At his feet the six - winged ser - aph, cher - u - bim, with

trem - bling stand; pon - der noth - ing earth - ly mind - ed,
earth he stood, Lord of lords, in hu - man ves - ture,
on the way, as the Light of light de - scend - eth
sleep - less eye, veil their fac - es to the Pres - ence,

for with bless - ing in his hand Christ our God to earth de -
in the bod - y and the blood, he will give to all the
from the realms of end - less day, that the powers of hell may
as with cease-less voice they cry, "Al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

scend - eth, our full hom - age to de - mand.
 faith - ful his own self for heaven - ly food.
 van - ish as the dark - ness clears a - way.
 lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, Lord most high!"

WORDS: *Liturgy of St. James*, 4th c.; adapt. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)
 MUSIC: French melody, 17th c.; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

GATHERING AT THE TABLE

***The Passing of the Peace**

***Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father almighty,

Maker of heaven and earth:

And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,

who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate,

was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead;

he ascended into heaven,

and sits on the right hand of God the Father Almighty

from there he shall come to judge

the quick 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.

**catholic means the church universal or the church for all time*

The Bread

The Cup

All who seek God and the presence of Christ are welcome to participate

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

The communion offering for the month of January is designated to the FBC Benevolent Fund

Offertory

Go Tell It on the Mountain

GO TELL IT

*Offertory Response

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
come peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

*Prayer of Gratitude

*CAROL FOR THE JOURNEY

On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

SUSSEX CAROL

1 On Christ-mas night all Chris - tians sing to hear the news the
2 Then why should we on earth be sad, since our Re - deem - er
3 All out of dark - ness we have light, which made the an - gels

an - gels bring; on Christ - mas night all Chris - tians sing to
made us glad? Then why should we on earth be sad, since
sing this night; all out of dark - ness we have light, which

hear the news the an - gels bring: news of great joy, news of great
our Re - deem - er made us glad, when from our sin he set us
made the an - gels sing this night: "Glo - ry to God and peace to

mirth, news of our mer - ci - ful King's birth.
free, all for to gain our lib - er - ty?
men, now and for - ev - er - more. A - men."

WORDS and MUSIC: English carol; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

***THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY**

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

***The Sending of the Community**

***Congregational Amen**

The service of the church into the world – begins again this week

POSTLUDE

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

***Please stand, as you are able**

We are grateful for those who serve with us today:
Leading Worship & Confession Prayer - Debbie Benson;
Scripture Readers - Natalie Cook, Mark Domning;
Communion Preparation - Lynn & Darren Martin;
Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

FBC Ministry Team:

Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach
Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families
Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music
Jerrold Eilander, Organist / Choir Accompanist

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*As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have
some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from
wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us
care for one another.*

— FBC Council