

First Baptist Church at Worship

December 25, 2011

Ten Forty-Five in the Morning

Worship for Christmas Day

Singing of Carols

*O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by.
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight,
For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above;
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.*

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
The little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
The cattle are lowing, the Baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.
I love thee Lord Jesus, look down from the sky
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.*

*Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.*

*Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
Good Christian friend, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now we hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this;
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!*

Greeting

Gene Derryberry

*The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.*

Organ Voluntary

"What Is This Lovely Fragrance"

setting by Paul Manz

Lighting the Christ Candle

Sara Spahr Stubbs

*What brings you here today?
Hope that fosters faith,
Peace that passes understanding,
Joy deeper than happiness,
Love that brings us to God.*

+ The Peace

Paul Sims

*The Peace of the Lord be with you.
And also with you.*

+ Carol

ANTIOCH

*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.*

Organ Postlude

"Improvisation on ANTIOCH"

† † †

+ *Those who are able may stand*

Personal Listening Devices are available for worship. Request one from an usher

~ **All worshipers are encouraged to complete the Attendance Register located at the end of each pew** ~

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Audio CDs of our worship services are available through the church office

Audio recordings of sermons are now available on our website, www.monroefirstbaptist.org

Assisting in today's ministry of worship are:
D. Gene Derryberry, Intention Interim Minister
Paul M. Sims, Associate Minister
Sara Spahr Stubbs, Associate Minister
Timothy Belflowers, Organist
Kiki Myers, Deacon

Luncheon

You are invited to a luncheon honoring Paul Sims for his twelve years of ministry with First Baptist Church to be held Sunday, January 8 immediately following worship. Reservations may be made by calling or emailing the church office by noon on Tuesday, January 3. There is no charge for the meal.

A love offering is being received for Paul and will be presented to him on January 8. Place your gift of **cash** (no checks, please) in an envelope, greeting card, etc., and bring by the church office.

Mission Statement of First Baptist Church

The First Baptist Church of Monroe exists to glorify God. We desire to be led by the Holy Spirit into the community and the world in order to share the glory and grace of God through Jesus Christ.

We are an open fellowship of free and faithful Christians, committed to a journey characterized by serious study, intentional worship, loving and compassionate fellowship and hands-on ministry.