

The Worship of God

Epiphany Sunday

Please silence all cell phones during worship. Thank you.

Preparation for Worship

Barbara Jacobs

Welcome

Greg Pope

Welcome to all who are gathered for worship today at FBC Fitzgerald. We seek to be an inclusive fellowship offering a place to grow, to serve, and to experience the unconditional love of God. If you are a guest, please fill out a visitor's card found on the back of the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate as you leave. Please introduce yourself to the pastor on your way out and let us know if you have any questions about our church.

The Life of the Church

Please read the announcements found in the worship bulletin and participate wherever you are able.

Responsive Call to Worship

Greg Pope

Isaiah 60.1-6 and Psalm 72.10

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you.

All: **For the darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.**

One: Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

All: **Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms.**

One: Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

All: **A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.**

One: May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles render him tribute, may the kings of Sheba and Seba bring gifts.

All: **Let us bring ourselves and our gifts and offer them to God in worship.**

Prelude

Hymn of His Epiphany 163

As with Gladness Men of Old

DIX

Prayers of the People

Greg Pope

A Moment with Our Children

The Welcome of Children

Congregation

Joy to the World

*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.*

The Children's Lesson

Carly Harper

(After a Moment with the Children, preschool through kindergarten age children will exit to the preschool building for Extended Session.)

Song of Blessing for our Children

Congregation

God Be with You Here

Kyle D. Matthews

*God be with you here! God be with you there! (repeat)
God's love will always hold you tight, even when you're out of sight!*

The Epistle Reading

Ephesians 3:1-12

Len Spivey

Reader: The Gift of Holy Scripture

All: **Thanks be to God**

Hymn for His Epiphany 166

KINGS OF ORIENT

We Three Kings

The Gospel Reading

Matthew 2.1-12

Greg Pope

Reader: The Gospel of our Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

Message in Music

In the Bleak Midwinter

Bill Bailey, Barbara Jacobs, Blane Jacobs, Amanda Roberts

Sermon

Home By Another Way

Greg Pope

Silent Reflection

Affirmation of Faith

Congregation

We believe in God:

*who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.*

We are called to be the church:

*to celebrate God's presence,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to follow Jesus, crucified and risen, our Savior and our hope.*

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Invitation to Discipleship and Community

If you are feeling led to publicly profess your faith in Christ as Savior and Lord or to join your life with this community of faith, you are invited to come forward during the hymn of response and share that decision with the pastor. If you have any questions about membership, you are welcome to speak with the pastor at any time. For all worshipers, may this be a time of rededication of our lives to the kingdom of God and the way of Jesus.

Hymn of Response 167

KINGSFOLD

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem

The Invitation to Give of Ourselves and Our Gifts

As you leave the sanctuary you are invited to place your offering in the offering plates located in the narthex. Offering envelopes are located in the pew racks. If you are in need of personal offering envelopes, please contact the church office.

Benediction

Greg Pope

Postlude

CCLI Account #1809261

Barbara Jacobs

**Our Service of Worship has Ended.
Our Worship Through Service is Beginning.**

Flowers

The flowers in the Sanctuary today are dedicated to the glory of God and placed in loving memory of Ed & Virginia Cox by Chris & Lydia Cook and family.

Epiphany Worship

Jan 8 Baptism of the Lord Sunday
Your New Name
Isaiah 42:1-9. Psalm 29. Acts 10:34-43. Matthew 3:13-17

Jan 15 The Third Sunday of Epiphany
Invitation to Jesus
Isaiah 42:1-7. Psalm 40.1-11. 1 Corinthians 1.1-9. John 1.29-42

(On the narthex table you can find a Bible reading guide that will help you connect your personal devotional life with our congregational worship.)

Wednesday Vespers
6:00 PM in Burch Hall
Beginning January 4
 A Bible Study Through the Book of Philippians

Children's Ministry
Children's Events
 Sunday School (10:00am)
 Children's Choir (5:30pm Wednesdays)
 (Children's Choir Room above the Breezeway)
 Mission Friends, GAs & RAs (6:00pm Wednesdays)
Scheduled activities will resume January 11.

Youth Ministry
Youth Events
 Sunday School (10:00am Youth Room)
 Wednesday Night Live (6:00pm Youth Room)
Scheduled activities will resume January 4.

Music Ministry
COME JOIN THE CHOIR!
 We want to grow the choir so all youth and adults are invited to join us! If you are interested or would like more information, please contact Blane.

Maximum Impact Love Boxes
 We will begin taking orders and money in January.
 All money and orders are to be received by January 18.
 Distribution Day is Saturday, January 28 at 8:30am (FBC gym).

RA RACING NIGHT
A Congregational Party!
Wednesday February 8, 2023
 FBC Gymnasium
This is one awesome night!

Church Calendar

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1
EPIPHANY
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Worship Service*

MONDAY, JANUARY 2
 Daily Scripture: *Isaiah 60.1-6. Psalm 72.1-14*

TUESDAY, JANUARY 3
 Daily Scripture: *Ephesians 3.1-12. Psalm 72.1-14*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 4
 Daily Scripture: *Matthew 2.1-12. Psalm 72.1-14*
NO Children's Choir, Mission Friends, and GAs-- we will start back normal time on Jan 11th
 6:00 PM.....RAs (RA Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)*

THURSDAY, JANUARY 5
 Daily Scripture: *Isaiah 42.1-9. Psalm 29*

FRIDAY, JANUARY 6
 Daily Scripture: *Acts 10.34-43. Psalm 29*

SATURDAY, JANUARY 7
 Daily Scripture: *Matthew 3.13-17. Psalm 29*

SUNDAY, JANUARY 8
EPIPHANY 2/BAPTISM OF THE LORD
 10:00 AM.....Sunday School*
 11:00 AM.....Worship Service*
 1:30 PM.....Deacon's Meeting (Mann Hall)

MONDAY, JANUARY 9
 Daily Scripture: *Isaiah 42.1-9. Psalm 29*
 4:15.....Staff Meeting

TUESDAY, JANUARY 10
 Daily Scripture: *Acts 10.34-43. Psalm 29*

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 11
 Daily Scripture: *Matthew 3.13-17. Psalm 29*
 5:30 PM.....Children's Choir*
 6:00 PM.....Mission Friends, GAs and RAs*
 6:00 PM.....Youth WNL (Youth Room)*
 6:00 PM.....Adult Vespers (Burch Hall)*

Ministers	All Members
Pastor	Rev. Greg Pope
Minister of Music & Youth	Rev. Blane Jacobs
Director of Children's Activities	Ms. Carly Harper
Organist	Ms. Barbara Jacobs
Pianist	Ms. Susan Spivey
Custodian	Mr. Jeffrey Morgan
Website: www.fbcfitz.com Email: fbc@fbcfitz.com Phone: 423-4367	

Epiphany Sunday
January 1, 2023
11 O'clock in the Morning



First Baptist Church

Is a loving and caring Christian community seeking to extend the open hand of God's grace to meet physical and spiritual needs through worship, education, ministry, fellowship, and spiritual nurturing.