



First Christian Church

Disciples of Christ

8484 Old Hammond Hwy.
Baton Rouge, LA 70809

225-926-4175 | churchoffice@fccbrla.org



Rev. Dr. Dedrick J. Minor
Senior Minister

December 24, 2023
Christmas Eve - Fourth Sunday of Advent

Welcome to this house of worship for all people!

Please check in at fccbrla.org/sunday or on our Facebook page, then silence your cell phone.

Prelude

Aaron Turnipseed

Video- Love

Screen

WELCOMING GOD'S PRESENCE

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

*Call to Worship

Dr. Tracy Shaffer

One: All month, we've been actively waiting.

All: Now, rejoice! Our waiting will soon become celebrating.

One: This morning, we come together with expectation!

All: We breathe in the wonder, believing both "Christ is already in our midst" and "the child will soon be here!"

One: This morning we announce, with Gabriel: "Nothing is impossible with God!"

All: So, let us praise God!

* Hymn of Praise

Joy to the World

#143, vv. 1, 3

GOD SPEAKS TO US

* Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Dr. Tracy Shaffer

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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Glory Be to the Father

#36

Advent Candle Lighting

Morgan Family

Advent Hymn

One Candle is Lit

#128, v. 4

Children's Program
Scripture Reading

The Crippled Lamb
Psalm 89:1-4, 19-26

Lucy Cody
Leonardo Morgan

COMMUNITY PRAYER AND GATHERING AT THE TABLE

Prayer	<i>The First Noel</i>	#151, vv. 1, 2
Pastoral Prayers		Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor
Communion Hymn	<i>Away In a Manger</i>	#147, vv. 1, 3
Invitation to the Table		Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor
Communion Prayer		Dak McInnis
Words of Institution		Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Musical Offering	Christmas Carol Medley	Joshua Hebert, saxophonist
Scripture Reading	Romans 16:25-27	Dak McInnis
Scripture Reading	Matthew 1:18-25	Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor
Christmas Meditation	Emmanuel	Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor
Passing the Light of Christ		Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

COMMISSIONING TO GOD'S WORK

*Benediction		Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor
*Congregational Refrain	<i>Peace Be Upon You</i>	#441
*Postlude		Aaron Turnipseed

The Latest at First Christian Church:

- **Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor's Office Hours:** Rev. Minor will be in the church office on Wednesdays, 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm, and on Saturdays, 10:30 am to 1:00 pm. Rev. Dedrick is also available at other times. Please contact him to make an appointment. He can be reached via email at dedrick@fccbrla.org.
- **The Sunday Adult class** meets at 9:00 a.m. Please join them for fellowship and sharing in The Study located in the rear of the Fellowship Hall.
- **Lectionary Link:** Please click here to access the readings: <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/daily.php?year=A>

To our Visitors — Welcome to First Christian Church. To help your experience with us be as wonderful as possible, please allow us to share a few things with you.

Communion — The Disciples of Christ welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us. You do not need to be a member to receive communion. If you desire to take communion, *please collect a pre-packaged communion kit from one of the tables in the narthex* and hold it with you until we partake, together, during the service.

Offerings — Your offering for the mission and work of the church can be placed in the offering plates as they are passed by the deacons during the worship service. To donate online, please visit our website at fccbrla.org/giving, or via PayPal at paypal.me/fccbrla or text 73256 (e.g. "fccbrla \$15").

Joining the Church — If you have not been baptized or made an adult profession of faith, please speak with the pastor. If you are already a baptized member of another church, please contact the church office about initiating a letter of transfer.

Children — We have children's books, coloring sheets tied to the theme of the day, crayons, and colored pencils in the bookshelf on the east side of the foyer. **Our staffed nursery is open during this service to care for children from six-weeks through four years of age.** Or, if your youngster just needs a few minutes to re-group, the library is open and the livestream is available on the monitor.

Check-in — Whether a first-time visitor, or returning member, please check in by aiming your smart phone at the QR code in the corner, below; or, on our Facebook page: *fccbrla*.

Restrooms — The men's room is in the southwest corner of the sanctuary and the women's room is in the southeast corner.

We thank you for being here today, and are grateful for your presence.

Office phone: 225-926-4175 • Email: churchoffice@fccbrla.org

Church office hours: Monday-Thursday, 9 am until 3 pm

