



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 Candlelight Communion

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 - The Light of Christmas

Screen

WELCOMING GOD'S PRESENCE

Words of Welcome & Announcements

Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

*Call to Worship

Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

One: Let the Heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice. The grace of God has come to save us.

Many: For our sakes, God sent the child of Bethlehem. For our salvation, Jesus came to live among us.

One: Let all the people sing for joy and give thanks. Tell the world what God has done in our midst.

Many: God has called and chosen us to hear the good news. God's marvelous works are revealed to us this night.

One: Glory to God in the highest. Peace on earth to all who please God.

All: We seek to honor God in this time of worship. We want to see for ourselves what God has done.

* Hymn of Praise

O Come, All Ye Faithful

#148, vv. 1, 2, 3

GOD SPEAKS TO US

* Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor

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

The Telling of the Nativity

| | | |
|-----------|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Scripture | Matthew 1:18-23 | Judy Lester |
| Hymn | <i>What Child Is This</i> | #162, vv. 1, 3 |
| Scripture | Luke 2:1-7 | Mike Wilson |
| Hymn | O Little Town of Bethlehem | #144, vv. 1, 4 |
| Scripture | Luke 2:8-14 | Dr. Tracy Shaffer |
| Hymn | It Came Upon The Midnight Clear | #153, vv. 1, 4 |
| Scripture | Luke 2:15-20 | Dak McInnis |
| Hymn | The First Noel | #151, vv. 1, 5 |
| Scripture | John 1:1-5, 14 | Dr. Trey Earle |
| Hymn | Angels, From the Realms of Glory | #149, vv 1, 4 |

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|------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Advent Candle Lighting | | Fatta & Bourgeois Family |
| Advent Hymn | One Candle is Lit | #128, vv.5 |
| Musical Offering | O Holy Night | Earl Poole, soloist Accompanied by Aaron Turnipseed, pianist |

COMMUNION

| | | |
|-------------------------|--|------------------------|
| Invitation to the Table | | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |
| Communion Prayer | | Dr. Trey Earle |
| Words of Institution | | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |

HEARING GOD'S WORD

| | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|------------------------|
| Scripture Reading | Luke 1:46-55 | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |
| Christmas Meditation | Blessed | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |
| Passing the Light of Christ | | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |
| *Hymn | <i>Silent Night, Holy Night</i> | #145 |
| *Blessing and Benediction | | Rev. Dr. Dedrick Minor |
| *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](https://www.facebook.com/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

