

JOINT WORSHIP  
of  
First Baptist Church of Bridgeville and Bower Hill Community Church (Presbyterian USA)  
Order for Worship ~ Hope Sunday ~ 1st Sunday in Advent ~ 30 November 2025 ~ 10:00am

Preparation for Worship:  
"We must accept finite disappointment, but never lose infinite hope."  
~Martin Luther King, Jr.

**First Baptist Praise and Worship Team**

**Prelude**

*Veni Emanuel*

Martha Sobaje

**Call to Worship**

Leader: Awake from your sleep: salvation is near!

**People: The night is far gone; the day is at hand.**

**Litany for Advent:**

O Wisdom, coming forth from the mouth of the Most High, pervading and permeating all creation, you order all things with strength and gentleness: Come now and teach us the way to salvation.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Adonai, Ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared in the burning bush to Moses and gave him the law on Sinai: Come with outstretched arm to save us.

**People: Come, Lord Jesus.**

Faithful God, your promises stand unshaken through all generations. Renew us in hope, that we may keep alert as we watch for the glorious coming of Jesus Christ, our judge and Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

**\*Hymn 88**

*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

Please stand

*1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.*

*Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

*2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, who orderest all things mightily:  
to us the path of knowledge show; and teach us in her ways to go. [Refrain]*

*3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law in cloud and majesty and awe. [Refrain]*

*4 O come, thou Root of Jesse, free thine own from Satan's tyranny;  
from depths of hell thy people save and give them victory o'er the grave. [Refrain]*

*5 O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. [Refrain]*

*6 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. [Refrain]*

*7 O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace. [Refrain]*

**Lighting of the Advent Candles: Hope**

Leader: On this first Sunday in Advent, we light the candle of hope.

"The nations shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks...

**People: Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore."**

**The Peace**

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**People: And also with you.**

Leader: Let us greet one another with the peace of Christ.

*Greet your neighbors, saying, "Peace of Christ."*

**Welcome and Announcements**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

**Minute for Mission**

Giving Trees

**Prayer for Illumination**

Speak to us this day, O Lord. Visit us with your wisdom, overshadow us with your Spirit, and let it be with us according to your Word: Jesus Christ our Savior.

**First Scripture Reading:**

Matthew 24:36-44

**\*Hymn 93**

*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*

Please stand

**Second Scripture Reading:**

Romans 13:11-14

Leader: Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**Anthem**

First Baptist Male Ensemble

**Sermon**

**"The Day Is Near"**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

**Offering**

*Please use the envelopes and pencils in the pews to designate your offering for 1st Baptist or Bower Hill.*

**Offertory****\*The Doxology: Hymn 606, 607**

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow\**

Old Hundredth

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow! Praise God, all creatures here below!*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host! Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost! Amen.*

\*For a gender-neutral version, use hymn 607.

**Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer:**

Rev. Dr. Brian Snyder

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

\*Or "Mother" or "Parent"

**\*Hymn 117**

*While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks*

Please stand

**\*Charge and Benediction****Postlude**

First Baptist Male Ensemble