



# Burlington Baptist Church

## *Christmas Eve*

Friday, December 24, 2021  
7:00 p.m.

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### Welcome!

We extend a warm welcome to all who have gathered in worship this evening. As a church we wish you the joy of this holy season, and the blessings of God throughout the coming year!

At the conclusion of the service, we will light candles and sing. Please exercise great care with lit candles, extinguishing them before leaving your chair, and leaving them at the exit so that we can use them again. Glow sticks are also available for children. Thank you.

### *We Gather Expectantly*

O God:

As Jesus brought hope, make us messengers of hope.

As Jesus brought peace, turn us into peacemakers.

As Jesus brought joy, fill us with the joy of this season.

As Jesus brought love, rekindle love in us,  
so that the birth of the baby in Bethlehem  
may be a beginning and not an end.

Amen.

**Prelude** "Gesu Bambino" (Pietro Yon) Linda

**A Word of Welcome** Dave

**Announcements**

**Silent Prayer and Preparation**

## *O Come Let Us Adore Him*

### Call to Worship:

LEADER: We have waited and watched,  
yearned and hoped, partied and prepared,  
and now the time is at hand –  
God’s promise is fulfilled!

PEOPLE: We lit candles in the darkness,  
we listened to the prophets’ predictions,  
we decked the halls and swept the stable,  
and now Christ is born!

LEADER: Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth receive her king.

PEOPLE: Let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing!

LEADER: And heaven and nature sing!

\* The Carol                      “O Come, All Ye Faithful”                      133 - GG

1. *O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem:  
come and behold him, born the King of angels;*

*O come, let us adore him, O come, let us adore him,  
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord.*

3. *Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
glory to God, all glory in the highest:*
4. *Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;  
word of the Father, now in flesh appearing!*

\* Prayer of Approach

## *A Birth Foretold*

### Lighting of the Christ Candle

Scott, Crystal, and Melanie

ALL: Loving God, once more, as we gather in worship,  
we open ourselves to you.  
You have rewarded our listening and our waiting.  
You have filled us with gladness that must be shared.  
And you have freed us to proclaim in word and song  
the good news of your love  
shown so beautifully in the birth of Jesus, our Lord.  
Continue to transform our hearts and guide our path  
that we may walk in the light of Christ all our days.  
In his name we pray. Amen.

\* The Hymn                    "Once in Royal David's City"                    140 - GG

1. *Once in royal David's city  
stood a lowly cattle shed,  
where a mother laid her baby  
in a manger for his bed:  
Mary was that mother mild;  
Jesus Christ, her little child.*
2. *He came down to earth from heaven  
who is God and Lord of all,  
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;  
with the poor and meek and lowly,  
lived on earth our Saviour holy.*
4. *And our eyes at last shall see him,  
through his own redeeming love;  
for that child so dear and gentle  
is our Lord in heaven above;  
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.*

A Gift of Music            "Lullaby on the Wind" (Ruth Elaine Schram)

Lisa, Sharyn, Malcolm

## *The Days were Accomplished...*

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 1 – 7

Spencer

\* The Carol “Away in a Manger” 114 - GG

1. *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.*
2. *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.*

Children's Time

3. *Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.*

A Gift of Music “One Tiny Babe” (Raymond Gould)

Malcolm

## *And there were in that Same Country...*

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 8 – 14

Kim

\* The Carol “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” 123 - GG

1. *It came upon the midnight clear,  
that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth,  
to touch their harps of gold:  
“Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
from heaven’s all-gracious King”:  
the world in solemn stillness lay,  
to hear the angels sing.*

2. *Still through the cloven skies they come,  
with peaceful wings unfurled,  
and still their heavenly music floats  
o'er all the weary world:  
above its sad and lowly plains  
they bend on hovering wing,  
and ever o'er its Babel sounds  
the blessed angels sing.*

A Gift of Music

"What Child is This?"

Emily and Spencer

### *And the Shepherds Returned...*

Scripture Reading Luke 2: 15 – 20

Emily

\* The Carol "Twas in the Moon of Wintertime" 142 - GG

1. *'Twas in the moon of wintertime,  
when all the birds had fled,  
Great Spirit, Lord of all the earth  
sent angel choirs instead.  
Before their light the stars grew dim  
and wandering hunters heard the hymn:  
Jesus, your king, is born; Jesus is born.  
In excelsis gloria.*
2. *Within a lodge of broken bark  
the tender babe was found.  
A ragged robe of rabbit skin  
enwrapped his beauty round.  
But as the hunters brave drew nigh  
the angel song rang loud and high:  
Jesus, your king, is born; Jesus is born.  
In excelsis gloria*

A Gift of Music

"O Holy Night" (Adolphe Adam)

Allison

## *The Light Shines in the Darkness*

Scripture Reading John 1 selected verses

A Gift of Music "Wonderful Peace" (Evers/Nordqvist)  
Gina, Lisa, Sharyn, Malcolm

\* The Lighting of Candles

\* The Carol "Silent Night, Holy Night" 122 - GG

1. *Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child,  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace,  
Sleep in heavenly peace.*
2. *Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar,  
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Saviour is born!  
Christ, the Saviour is born!*
3. *Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth,  
Jesus, Lord at Thy birth.*

\* Benediction



*We wish to express our thanks to...*

- **Scott, Crystal and Melanie** for leading us in the lighting of the Christ candle on our Advent wreath;
- **Allison, Sharyn, Lisa, Malcolm, Gina, Emily and Spencer** for sharing their gifts of music and song;
- and to **Linda Mourot** for her musical leadership!

\* \* \*

**Please Note**

Christmas Offering envelopes have been inserted in this bulletin and offering plates have been placed at both doors. We invite you to consider making a gift to help us offer support for the good work of *The Gathering of Baptists* and the *Association of Welcoming & Affirming Baptists*, two partner organizations. Thank you in advance, for your generosity, and for your continuing support of the life and ministry of this church throughout the coming year.

*Join us each Sunday morning at 10:30 a.m.*

## Burlington Baptist Church

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