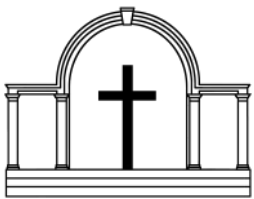




Simeon and Anna (painted by Jan van't Hoff)



**UNIVERSITY
BAPTIST CHURCH**

WORSHIP OF GOD IN CHRIST

First Sunday after Christmas

December 31, 2017

11:00 a.m.

CHIMES

We sound three chimes, awakening us to the presence of God, alerting us to the voice of Christ, and centering us in the embrace of the Holy Spirit.

Please quiet voices, hearts, and cell phones as we prepare to worship.

OPENING SENTENCE

Leader: We gather with joy in this Christmas season.

People: **Let us worship God!**

PRELUDE - *Joy To The World* Hayes

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

(We light the two candles on the communion table to remind us of the oneness of Christ with God and with humankind.)

OPENING THE BIBLE

(We open the Bible to remind us that God speaks to the people through the Holy Word.)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is born!

People: **Christ is born!**

Leader: Because of this birth, life is full of promise for you and for me. Life is full of promise for our community.

People: **We celebrate today the presence of God's promise in our midst.**

Leader: The promise of a small child coming into a crowded, hurting world, and growing to be a liberator.

People: **It's the promise of you and me, struggling and stumbling together, growing and celebrating, reaching out to make a new presence in our world. Alleluia!**

** HYMN 85 - *The First Nowell* THE FIRST NOWELL

** INVOCATION

WELCOME

HYMN 107 – *Oh, Come, Little Children* (stanza 1)..... SCHULZ
(As we sing the hymn, the children are invited to come to the front for the Children’s Sermon.)

CHILDREN’S SERMON

(At the conclusion of the Children’s Sermon, all children, kindergarten through grade two, are invited to attend Children’s Church.)

HYMN 107 – *Oh, Come, Little Children* (stanzas 2 & 3)..... SCHULZ

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON Galatians 4:4-7 (NRSV)

⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Leader : This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

** HYMN 112 - *He Is Born*..... IL EST NE

GOSPEL LESSON (see insert) Luke 2:21-40 (NRSV)

Leader : This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God!

SOLO - *This Christmastide (Jessey’s Carol)* (see insert).....Fraser

MORNING PRAYER

ANTHEM - *Ding Dong! Merrily on High* (see insert).....Arbeau

SERMON

“Becoming Jesus”

Rev. Will Brown

MEDITATION - *O Little Town of Bethlehem* Redner

INVITATION

** HYMN 116 - *Our Savior’s Infant Cries Were Heard* ST. AGNES

** PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GIVING OF OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY - *"Love has come and never will leave us!"* Cherwien

** DEDICATION - *A Christmas Doxology*.....Charles Coffin, 1736

*To God, all glorious heav'nly Light,
To Christ revealed in earthly night,
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE - *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*Cherwien

** GREETING

** THOSE WHO ARE PHYSICALLY ABLE ARE INVITED TO STAND AT THESE POINTS
IN THE SERVICE.

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Will Brown, Associate Minister for Community
Diane Mundell, Guest Choir Director and Soloist
Barbara Moore, Organist
Sanctuary Choir

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The texts of *To God, All Glorious Heav'nly Light, Ding Dong! Merrily on High, and This Christmastide (Jessey's Carol)* are reprinted by permission to University Baptist Church. Christian Copyright License No. 363447.

UBC Mission Statement

God has called University Baptist Church to minister to the University Community and to the residents of the Greater Charlottesville-Albemarle Community serving as agents of Christ's love and justice for those in need and offering a vital family of faith.

*University Baptist Church, 1223 West Main Street, Charlottesville, Virginia 22903
(434) 293-5106
www.universitybaptist.org*

Luke 2:21-40 (NRSV)

²¹After eight days had passed, it was time to circumcise the child; and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb.

²²When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord ²³(as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), ²⁴and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

²⁵Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. ²⁶It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. ²⁷Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, ²⁸Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

²⁹“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

³⁰for my eyes have seen your salvation,

³¹which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

³²a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel.”

³³And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. ³⁴Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed ³⁵so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

³⁶There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, ³⁷then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. ³⁸At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

³⁹When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. ⁴⁰The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Ding Dong! Merrily On High

Ding dong! Merrily on high in heav'n the bells are ringing:
Ding dong! verily the sky is riv'n with angel-singing.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

E'en so here below, below, let steeple bells be swungen,
And io, io, io, by priest and people sungen:
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

Pray you, dutifully prime your matin chime, ye ringers;
May you beautifully rhyme your e'entime song, ye singers.
Gloria, Hosanna in excelsis!

This Christmastide (Jessey's Carol)

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

Holly, ivy, mistletoe, and the gently falling snow
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

From a simple ox's stall came the greatest gift of all.
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

Children sing of peace and joy at the birth of one small boy.
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

Let the bells ring loud and clear, ring out now for all to hear.
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

Trumpets sound and voices raises in an endless stream of praise.
Truth and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

Green and silver, red and gold, and a story born of old.
Peace and love and hope abide this Christmastide, this Christmastide.

WELCOME TO UNIVERSITY BAPTIST CHURCH

We are blessed by your presence with us in worship, and trust that this hour will help to deepen your spiritual life. We look forward to meeting you personally at the close of the service.

BROADCAST SYSTEM FOR HEARING IMPAIRED

Our sanctuary is equipped with a broadcast system for the hearing impaired. Please contact one of the ushers to borrow a personal receiver.

BROADCAST INFORMATION

The worship service of our church is broadcast live every Sunday on WINA 1070 AM, 98.9 FM, online at the WINA website, and on YouTube.

WORSHIP HOUR CHILDCARE

Childcare is available during the worship service for newborns through preschoolers on the ground level. See the ushers for information and directions. The Childcare worker today is Judy Gough.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH

We offer a Children's Church for K-2nd graders. Children start the worship hour in the sanctuary with their families and then follow their leaders upstairs to Room 210 after the Children's Sermon. Children are also welcome to stay with their families in the sanctuary, and children's bulletins and activity bags are available from the ushers. The Children's Church leaders today are Debby Johnson and Hunter Cooper.

FLOWERS

The flowers in the sanctuary today are given to the glory of God, and in celebration of her daughter, Taraneh's, December birthday, by Sima Brown and family.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Monday, January 1, 2018 & Tuesday, January 2, 2018

Church Office Closed

Wednesday, January 3

No Supper, No Activities

Thursday, January 4

9:30 am

Pre-K Play Group

Food Drive

For Blue Ridge Area Food Bank
January 8-February 4

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

Monday, January 1

Tuesday, January 2

NO SUPPER, NO ACTIVITIES

Wednesday, January 3



Worship Service on YouTube LIVE!

Soon, University Baptist Church will begin broadcasting the weekly worship service live on YouTube. As we make final preparations for this, we need your help:

Go to YouTube and search for "University Baptist Church." Then subscribe to our channel. When we have 100 subscribers, we will be eligible for a custom URL.

End of Year Giving

Your offerings this year have built on the successful ministry God has created at UBC. Please prayerfully consider making an extra year-end gift to the church to set the stage for God's work in the future. All contributions need to be postmarked by December 31 to be included in the 2017 contributions statements.



End of Year Giving with a Joyful Heart

CBF Global Missions

Contributions are still being accepted for the CBF Global Missions Fund. Our goal is \$3,000.



UBC Cancellation Policy

In the event of bad winter weather, announcements of any cancellations or changes in worship or church activities will be made on our local TV stations; Radio AM WINA 1070 and FM 98.9, ESPN AM 1450, FM WVTF 89.7, Z95.1, 3WV 97.5, and The Corner 106.1; and on the home page of our website.

We will make an announcement usually no later than 8 am Sunday or 1 pm for Wednesday evening activities.

Stewardship Pledges for 2018

We invite you to prayerfully consider turning in a Pledge Card if you have not already done so. You can send your card to the church office, put it in the offering plate on Sunday, call Sue Walton at the office, or email office@universitybaptist.org.