

We See God in Each Other

GATHERING MUSIC

Marilyn Arland

CALL TO WORSHIP

Fagner Rocha and Jacobo Cerda

MELCOME

Carrie Veal

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Carrie Veal

One of the greatest gifts and challenges of faith is that we cannot be Christian alone.

We need one another.

We need one another to grow.

We need one another to love.

And we need one another to see God more clearly.

So together, let us lift our voices in unison.

Let us lean into the ties that bind and pray to our merciful God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Carrie Veal

God of today and tomorrow,

When Mary was pregnant and afraid, she ran to her cousin Elizabeth's house.

Elizabeth threw open the door with joy and showered blessings upon her.

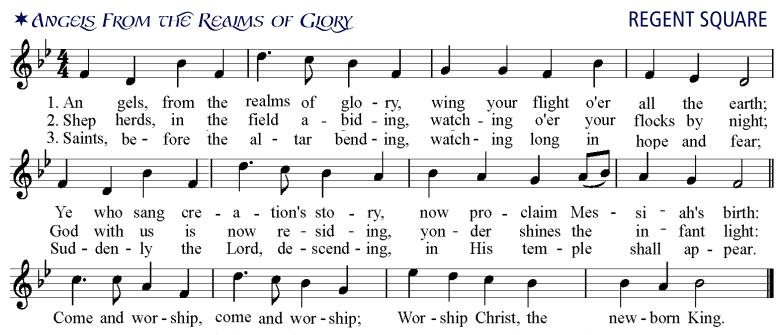
How often do we have that same opportunity?

How often do we leave the door locked, the curtains drawn, and the lights off?

How often do we shower critique or judgment instead of blessings and joy?

Gracious God, forgive us for our wrongs.

We want to see you when we see our neighbor. Amen.



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WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Tim Lyles

Friends, this is what I know—God delights in us. God throws open the door, just like Elizabeth, and says, "Come on home. There is room for you here!" And in that moment, we are blessed. In that moment, we are forgiven. In that moment, we are seen, healed, and welcomed home. So rest in this good news: you are saved by grace.

Let us respond together, using the words from Mary's song:

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant,
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed." (Luke 1:46:55)



PSALM 27



LITANY OF LOVE

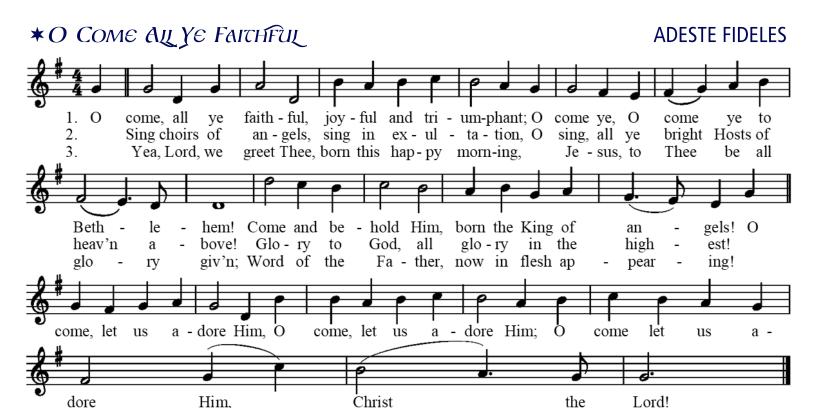
Gorman Family

In this season, we remember Christ's first Advent and anticipate his second.

We wait and we long for you, O God.

Today we light this candle believing the King of love will come, the gift of God's own Son. We wait and we long for you, O God.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF LOVE



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*Gospel Reading

LUKE 1:39-58

Steve Corley

³⁹ In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, ⁴⁰ where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. ⁴¹When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit 42 and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. ⁴³ And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? ⁴⁴ For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. ⁴⁵ And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." ⁴⁶ And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, ⁴⁸ for he has looked with favor on the lowly state of his servant. Surely from now on all generations will call me blessed, 49 for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name; 50 indeed, his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. 51 He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. ⁵²He has brought down the powerful from their thrones and lifted up the lowly; 53 he has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty. 54 He has come to the aid of his child Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, 55 according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." ⁵⁶ And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home. ⁵⁷ Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. 58 Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her.

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God!

All children are invited to come forward. Following Children's Time, All children who are returning to the Children's Wing are invited to room #102.

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Tim Lyles

We believe that creation is inextricably linked. We belong to one another in an undeniable way. We are bone of bone and flesh of flesh, life breathed into dust. We believe that God invites us to live into that truth—to love without abandon, to see the good in one another, to trust that all belong to God. We know that this life of connection is easier said than done, which is why we gather in this space, week after week, generation after generation, to be reminded: We see God in each other. This we believe. Amen.

TESTIMONY IN SONG

Trio

PROCIAMATION

Carrie Veal

Do You See What I See?

Invitation to Christian Discipleship

You are invited to dedicate your life to Christ, join our faith community, or answer a call from God to do ministry in this world by coming forward and share this decision with a pastor.

HOPE, PEACE, JOY AND LOVE

BAUGH

Hope, peace, joy and love! These are gifts You bring from above. Jesus, Emmanual, come to be. Light of Your love, reflected in me.

THE MORNING OFFERING

Please drop your connection card and offering in the plate as it is passed. If you would like to donate online, please go to secondb.org/give or @secondbaptistlbk on Venmo

*OFFERTORY PRAYER

Kathleen Campbell

OFFERTORY

Fagner Rocha and Jacobo Cerda

PEACE Sarah Baril, arr.

*Passing the Peace of Christ

Please share the peace with those near you.

*GO TELLIT ON THE MOUNTAIN

GO TELL IT

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

★BENEDICTION Carrie Veal

From generation to generation, we have been claimed and loved. From generation to generation, God has been by our side.

As we leave this place, may we go and know that we are not alone.

God knows you,

God loves you and calls you forth to be the person you are called to be.

Amen.

DR. FAGNER ROCHA

Dr. Fagner Magrinelli Rocha serves as Associate Professor of Music at Angelo State University, where he teaches violin and viola and directs the ASU Symphony Orchestra. Before his tenure at ASU, he served as Assistant Professor of Violin at Universidade Federal de Alagoas in Maceió, Brazil. He also serves as Music Director for the Big Spring Symphony, concertmaster for both the San Angelo Symphony and Ballet San Angelo Orchestras and Music Curator for the San Angelo Museum of Fine Arts. His career is marked by a blend of academic excellence, performance, and dedicated leadership in the field of music in West Texas. Dr. Rocha holds a Bachelor of Music in Violin performance from the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul (Porto Alegre, Brazil) and a Master of Music and Doctor of Musical Arts degrees in Violin Performance from Texas Tech University. He studied conducting with Dr. David Becker at Texas Tech University. He resides in San Angelo with his wife, Emilee, and their daughters, Olivia and Emma. Outside of his musical pursuits, he enjoys reading, running, and working on home improvement projects.

THIS WEEK AT 2B

TODAY

COFFEE DUTY - Pastor's Class

9:30 am: Worship & Livestream

10:45 am: Bible Study, Youth Ministry

3:00 pm: Bells Gloria Rehearsal - Room #101

4:00 pm: Service of Hope

6:00 pm: Second Chance Al-Anon - Room #134

MONDAY, December 22

No Activities

TUESDAY, December 23

6:30 am: Tuesday Morning Prayer Group @ Chicken Run Café

6:00 pm: Learn to Play Mahjong - Room #130

WEDNESDAY, December 24

Church Office Closed

5:00 pm: Christmas Eve Service

THURSDAY, December 25

Church Office Closed

FRIDAY, December 26

Church Office Closed

Following this worship gathering, please join us in the Grand Hall for a time of fellowship, connection and coffee. We do ask that all cups in the building have lids. At 10:45, there are Sunday school classes for children, youth, and adults. We invite you to visit a discipleship group today.

WE TAKE SERIOUSLY OUR MINISTRY OF PRAYER

Prayer cards are available. Please place your filled out card and offerings in the box on the rear wall of the Worship Hall or place in the offering plate as it is passed during worship.

ASSISTIVE LISTENING DEVICES ARE AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE.

Please ask an usher for assistance as you enter the sanctuary for worship.

EVERY MEMBER A MINISTER CHURCH STAFF

Rev. Carrie Veal

Senior Pastor

Annie Bray

Interim Associate Pastor of Children and Families

Zachary Carpenter

Communications Coordinator

Tracy Douthitt

Director of Business Operations

Larry Landusky

Pianist

Rev. Dr. Tim Lyles

Executive Pastor
Rev. Josh McDonald

Youth Pastor

Mike Spann

Director of Operations

Joni Lynch

Church Hostess

Marilyn Arland

Organist

Rev. Charles Foster Johnson

Pastor Emeritus

VISION & LEADERSHIP TEAM

Bobby Ebeling Stacy Elliott La Nelle Ethridge John Hunter Mark Flenniken Allie Smith

Jim Smith



