

## The Worship of God

December 2, 2018 · 10:45 am · First Sunday of Advent

As we gather for worship, notice the Moravian star at the front of the sanctuary. The Moravian star is a traditional Advent decoration that reminds us of the star that guided the Magi to find the Christ child. The star also symbolizes the Christ Child himself of whom Scripture prophesied, "A star shall come out of Jacob," (Numbers 24:17).

### GATHERING as God's Children

Introit **Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne** arr. Ken Varner

Welcome Jennifer Rygg

Please sign the friendship register and pass it down the pew. If you are the last to sign, please date and tear out the sheet and place it in the offering plate.

Responsive Call to Worship Jennifer Rygg

A voice cries out, "In the wilderness clear a way for the Lord;  
**make a way in the desert, a road for our God.**

Every valley must be lifted up, and every mountain and hill leveled.

**The rough places will become a level plain, the rugged land a wide valley.**

The glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it at the same time.

**For the Lord has decreed it."**

"Go up on a high mountain, O herald Zion!

**Shout out loudly, O herald Jerusalem! Shout, don't be afraid!**

Say to the towns of Judah, 'Here is your God!'"

**"Behold, a virgin shall conceive and bear a son.**

And they shall call his name Immanuel (which means God with us)."

**"The Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth."**

++ Hymn of Praise No. 79 **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel** VENI EMMANUEL

Lighting the Advent Wreath Andrew and Kristina Hill

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light the candle of hope. This Advent season, we are reflecting on the theme of God With Us, emphasizing a different image of God each Sunday. Today, our image of God is Our Potter. A potter shapes and molds the clay, with great hope that the clay will take on the shape and the design the potter has planned. Isaiah writes:

**Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.**

As we light the candle of hope, we place our hope in God, remembering that although we cannot always see the outcome, God is always at work, shaping, molding, and creating.

**Our hope is in God, Our Potter.**

### RECEIVING the Word of God and RESPONDING to God in Worship and Service

Old Testament Reading **Isaiah 64:1-9** Jim Davis

The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Thanks be to God.**

Video **Potter and Clay**

Musical Reflection No. 489 **The Potter's Hand** THE POTTER'S HAND  
Praise Team

++Offertory Hymn No. 103 **O Come, All Ye Faithful** ADESTE FIDELES

Offertory Prayer Jim Davis

Offertory **I Wonder as I Wander** arr. Mark Hayes

++Offertory Response (see insert) **What Can I Give Him** CASTLE

Anthem **In the Bleak Midwinter** arr. Kathy Darden  
Sanctuary Choir

After the anthem, children ages 4 - 2nd grade may be dismissed to Children's Chapel.

Sermon **"Finding Hope in Advent with God Our Potter"** Jennifer Rygg

++ Hymn of Response No. 83 **Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus** HYFRYDOL

During the song of response, our pastor is available for those who desire to follow Christ as Savior, to renew their relationship with God, to unite with this church, or to seek prayer.

### GOING Into the World

Announcements and Pastoral Benediction Jennifer Rygg

Meditation

As the candle is extinguished, the flame is carried from the sanctuary to represent the Hope we carry with us as we go into the world.

++ Benediction Hymn **No. 120**

**Emmanuel**

McGEE

++ Congregation is invited to stand. Those who prefer may remain seated.

CCLI License # 1542736

**Worship Notes**

**Children and Worship:** Children of all ages are welcome to join us for worship.

**Nursery** care is available in room 102 for children ages 4 and younger.

**Children's Bulletins** are available at the sanctuary entrances.

**Children's Chapel** is provided in room 211 during the sermon for ages 4 - 2nd grade.

**Worship Bags** are available in front of the first pew on each side of the sanctuary. Children are encouraged to take a bag at the beginning of the service and return it to the hook at the end of the service.

**Special Events for Advent and Christmas**

Wed, Dec 12	5:45 pm	Church Family Christmas Dinner and Children's Christmas Program
Sun, Dec 16	10:45 am	Sanctuary Choir Cantata
Sun, Dec 16	3:00 pm - 5:00 pm	Drop-in at Pastor's Home (207 Nottingham Way, Anderson)
Wed, Dec 19	6:30 pm	Christmas Caroling (after supper)
Mon, Dec 24	5:30 pm	Christmas Eve Worship

**every member a minister**

**FULL-TIME STAFF**

Rev. Jennifer McClung Rygg · Pastor  
Rev. Chris Cottingham · Minister of Music and Youth  
Joseph Reed · Office Manager

**PART-TIME STAFF**

Marlena Dixon · Building Manager  
Keleigh Frazier · Director of Children's Ministry  
Matt Limbaugh · Guest Organist  
Rev. Cara Morgan · Ministerial Intern  
Diane Scott · Senior Fellowship Coordinator  
Becky Westmoreland · Financial Assistant



Welcome to our Advent worship series, **God With Us**.

Each week in this series focuses on a different word picture of the coming Christ found in the poetic and prophetic words of Isaiah. In our worship for today we will remember that God is with us as **Our Potter**, who shapes us according to his will.

**December 2, 2018**

**First Sunday of Advent**

First Baptist Church of Pendleton  
351 South Broad Street · PO Box 187 · Pendleton, SC 29670  
(864) 646-3913 [www.fbcpendleton.org](http://www.fbcpendleton.org)

**Welcome, Guests!** Thank you for worshiping with us today! Please take a moment to complete the welcome card located in the pew and place it in the offering plate. You can share your experience at our church by visiting our website, clicking on "Visitors" and then "Visitor Response Survey."