



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

November 30, 2025
First Sunday of Advent

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9:00 a.m.
First Sunday of Advent

Chiming of the Hour

We gather in community this morning to worship God.
To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to Worshipers

Georgia McKee

Centering Silence

One: We breathe in the breath of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Worship

Georgia McKee

One: At the changing of the seasons, as we anticipate the birth of the Word made flesh,

All: Let us call our attention to hope.

One: This morning, we light the candle of the first Sunday in Advent, the candle of hope.
God, let the light of hope be called into our sight.

All: Help us to hope for our world, our community, and for hope to meet us where we are, illuminating our very lives.

One: May hope fall into the shadows of this world,

All: Into the shadows of injustice and uncertainty, the shadows of change and sorrow.

One: As the flame of the candle of hope dances and flickers, we are invited into this dance
of hope, of light, calling out

All: O light come down to earth, be praised!

+Congregational Song

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

GENEVAN 42/arr. Merivil



1. "Com - fort, com - fort now my peo - ple, tell of peace!" So says our God;
2. For the her - ald's voice is cry - ing in the des - ert far and near,
3. Straight shall be what long was crook - ed, and the rough - er plac - es plain.



"com - fort those who sit in dark - ness, mourn - ing un - der sor - row's load.
call - ing us to true re - pen - tance, since the reign of God is here.
Let your hearts be true and hum - ble, as be - fits God's ho - ly reign.

+All congregants are invited to stand in body or spirit.



Scripture Reading — John 1:1-14

Jordann McMahan

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

For the Word of God in Scripture,
 For the Word of God among us,
 And for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

Message

Jordann McMahan

Prayer Practice — Visio Divina

Amanda Hines

Music for Meditation

Lord, I Need You
 Julie Francis

Carson/Maher/Nockels

Lord, I come, I confess.
 Bowing here, I find my rest.
 And without you, I fall apart.
 You're the one that guides my heart.

Where sin runs deep, your grace is more.
 Where grace is found is where you are.
 And where you are, Lord, I am free.
 Holiness is Christ in me.

Lord, I need you, oh, I need you.
 Every hour, I need you.
 My one defense, my righteousness;
 Oh God, how I need you.

So teach my song to rise to you
 When temptation comes my way.
 And when I cannot stand, I'll fall on you.
 Jesus, you're my hope and stay.

Sending

Jordann McMahan

Benediction

Jordann McMahan

One: God our maker,
We honor the sacred multitude that resides in you.

**All: May the guardian in you protect us.
May the child in you delight in us.**

One: May the friend in you challenge us.
May your ashes resurrect us.

**All: May your sky shelter us.
May the mystery of you liberate us.**

One: Provide abundance and healing in all forms to those who need it today.
And deliver us from shame, hatred, and the chains that bind us.

**All: For you have made us, and we are still being made.
Amen.**



We're glad you're here.

If you're a guest today and would like to let us know, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to access our online response card. You can also scan the code to make a financial contribution or submit a prayer request. Response cards and offering envelopes are available in the pews and can be given to any minister after the service.

Parking note: When possible, please use the north parking lot to save closer spaces for our guests with limited mobility.



Scan for the latest Wilshire news and events.

wilshirebc.org

We acknowledge that this land where we gather once held the sacred voices of Indigenous peoples and bore the suffering of the enslaved.

Cover art: *The Word Made Flesh*, Mike Moyers, 2014. **Call to Worship:** "Liturgy for the Ritual of Morning Coffee" in *Every Moment Holy*. **Benediction:** Cole Arthur Riley's *Black Liturgies*. **Scripture quotations:** New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America, used by permission, all rights reserved, adapted for inclusive language. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved.