

FIRST CHURCH, SARASOTA

Love God. Love People. Make Disciples of Jesus Christ.

Contemporary Service

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright, Senior Pastor
Baron Garriott, Director of Praise Music

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRAISE SONGS

Praise Band

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Donna Maynard, Director of Ministries

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Alyssa Machado, Director of Children and Youth

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

Our Father who art in heaven hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on Earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

We are grateful for your generosity to the ministries of First Church. You may give online at www.firstsrq.com; click GIVE. Thank you for your faithful support. You are making a difference in the lives of those in need.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Praise Band

SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 1:18-25¹

THE MESSAGE

A Charlie Brown Christmas: Depressed at Christmas

Rev. Dr. Sam Wright

PRAISE SONG

BLESSING

PASSING THE PEACE

¹ Matthew 1:18-25 (CEB)

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ took place. When Mary his mother was engaged to Joseph, before they were married, she became pregnant by the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband was a righteous man. Because he didn't want to humiliate her, he decided to call off their engagement quietly. As he was thinking about this, an angel from the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph son of David, don't be afraid to take Mary as your wife, because the child she carries was conceived by the Holy Spirit. She will give birth to a son, and you will call him Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins." Now all of this took place so that what the Lord had spoken through the prophet would be fulfilled:

Look! A virgin will become pregnant and give birth to a son,
And they will call him, Emmanuel. (Emmanuel means "God with us.")

When Joseph woke up, he did just as an angel from God commanded and took Mary as his wife. But he didn't have sexual relations with her until she gave birth to a son. Joseph called him Jesus.

ANGEL TREE GIFTS

Thank you! If yours are not here yet, bring them to the church tomorrow (November 28) if you can. The Salvation Army truck will be here Tuesday morning to load all the gifts.

HELPERS NEEDED – CHRISTMAS DECORATING

Tuesday, November 29th - 9 a.m.

You choose what you would enjoy doing as you work with the team to decorate campus. While making the church beautiful, you will also make new church friends. Sandy Grimes is our experienced leader for “Hanging of the Greens.” Contact her (**941-962-7052; loonpoint@msn.com**).

POINSETTIAS IN MEMORY OR HONOR OF LOVED ONE(S)

Deadline to purchase is Sunday, December 4. Forms at the entrance tables. Remember you can take yours after the 7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve service.

SALVATION ARMY RED KETTLE

First Church will have an online Virtual Red Kettle as well as a kettle in the narthex Sundays, December 4 and 11. Look for the virtual Red Kettle link in the November 29 e-news. All the money helps our community needs.

ADVENT BEGINS TODAY, NOVEMBER 27

Advent Sermon Series: A Charlie Brown Christmas

November 27	<i>Depressed at Christmas</i>
December 4	<i>What Christmas Is Not About</i>
December 11	<i>Stressed Out Over Christmas</i>
December 18	<i>Failing at Christmas</i>
December 24	<i>Coming Together at Christmas</i> (5 and 7:30 p.m. ~ Sanctuary)
December 25	<i>The Real Meaning of Christmas</i> (ONE Service at 10 a.m.)

SPECIAL CHRISTMAS EVENTS

Annual Christmas Concert in Sanctuary – December 18 ~ 7 p.m.
Christmas Eve Services (traditional) in Sanctuary – December 24 ~ 5 and 7:30 p.m.
Christmas Day – December 25 ~ ONE SERVICE ~ 10 a.m.
New Year’s Day – January 1 ~ ONE SERVICE ~ 10 a.m.
Invite others to worship with you in the beauty of Christmas at First Church.

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

Tuesday, December 6, 10-11:30 a.m. - 104 and ZOOM

Tuesday, January 10, 10-11:30 a.m. - Fellowship Hall
All are invited to learn about Tampa’s Cornerstone Ministries,
one of the two in Florida Conference.
Contact: Leah Pittard (rockpitt38@gmail.com)

IN MEMORIAM

Charles Bouton - October 21, 2022