



December 23, 2018

Ferguson Avenue Baptist Church

10050 Ferguson Avenue ❖ Savannah, Georgia 31406

Where Christ Is Exalted and the Fellowship Is Exciting

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If you have any questions concerning the message from today, or are interested in obtaining information about church membership, please see the Pastor after the service, drop a note in the offering plate indicating your desire to talk with the Pastor, or call the church office.

Announcements

Wednesday Nights Upcoming

On **December 26** and **January 2** no activities or services are planned.

Year End Contributions

In order to include more contributions to FABC on your 2018 report, you must turn it in to the office by December 31. Thank you!

Choir Cantata Tonight!

Tonight at 6:00 p.m. the Adult Choir, along with special help from the Children's Choir, will present *The Glory of Christmas*. Come and bring a friend!

Christmas Eve Service

We will celebrate our Savior's birth with a Communion service tomorrow, Monday, **December 24**, at 5:00 p.m. Please join us!

Church Office Closed

The office is closed on Monday and Tuesday, **December 24 and 25**, for the Christmas holiday.

Special Ministry Project

Reggie Brown has blessed 175 homeless men from Old Savannah City Mission with a skully cap, scarf, gloves, and socks, using contributions from friends and coworkers. He wants to increase that to 225. He spends only \$7 per person. If you would like to help, you can make a check to FABC and designate Reggie's project on the memo.

This Week at FABC Today

Coffee Fellowship	9:00 a.m.
Sunday School	9:30 a.m.
Morning Worship	10:30 a.m.
Choir Practice	5:00 p.m.
<i>The Glory of Christmas</i>	6:00 p.m.

Monday

Office Closed.

Christmas Eve Service 5:00 p.m.

Tuesday

Merry Christmas! Office Closed.

Wednesday & Thursday

No Services, Activities Scheduled

FABC Deacons

Shawn Champion	433-0098
Mickey Fell	920-4557
Ron Fowler	901-409-8628
Jimmy Kicklighter (CH)	355-5616
Jack Moore	547-5000
Billy Morris, Sr.	398-1038
Kelly Stanford	441-2151
John Sumner	658-4186
Michael Walker	655-2497
Ric Zittrouer	210-0344

10:30 a.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* **Opening Chorus & Greeting**

"O Come All Ye Faithful"

Words are on the back of the bulletin

* Call to Worship

John 1:1-2, 14

* **Hymn #87**

"Joy to the World"

Prayer of General Confession

Luke 2:29-32

Special Music

Scripture Reading

Acts 27:13-38

Napoleon Martin

Receiving of Tithes And Offerings

* **Hymn #99**

"Angels from the Realms of Glory"

Message

Bob Dimmitt

Migdal Edar

Luke 2:8-17, Christmas 2018

* **Hymn, to right**

"Doxology"

Old Hundred tune

6:00 p.m.

Welcome and Announcements

* **Hymn #91**

"The First Noel"

Prayer

Receiving of Tithes And Offerings

Cantata:

The Glory of Christmas

Closing Remarks

Tom Keller

* **Hymn #85**

"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

* All those who are able, please stand.

A.M. Notes

Migdal Edar
Christmas 2018
Luke 2:8-17

The NT does not mention the exact place in Bethlehem where Jesus was born.

Micah 4:8

Some believe the OT states that the Messiah would be born at the _____

The Life And Times Of Jesus The Messiah
by Alfred Edersheim

These lambs were apparently wrapped in _____

Who were the shepherds who first received the news of the birth of the Messiah?

It could very well be that Jesus was born in Bethlehem, at the birthing place of

The Glory of Christmas

Celebrating Christ's Birth

Please sing along when directed to do so! Words are below.

The Glory of Christmas!

Angels we have heard on high sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echo back their joyous strains.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, in excelsis Deo, Deo!

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Prepare the Way of the Lord!

Child of Promise, Child of Love

Soloist: Emily Wise

Jesus Is Born Tonight!

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Children's interlude

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings, ris'n with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

Christ Is Born This Holy Night

Guide Us to the Perfect Light

The Glory of Christmas! Finale

○ come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
○ come ye, ○ come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him, born the King of angels!
○ come, let us adore Him, ○ come let us adore Him,
○ come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!
○ sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest!

○ come, let us adore Him, ○ come let us adore Him,
○ come let us adore Him, Christ the Lord!

When this local church was established 50 years ago, its leadership wanted to be certain that, no matter the economic circumstances, everyone within its doors at Christmas time received at least a small gift: a bag containing an apple, an orange, and a candy cane. Many a Christmas Day salad has been made with this fresh fruit, served along with an extra candy treat. Please get yours from the foyer as you leave, with our thanks for your presence here tonight, and with our wishes for a wonderful holiday season.

Take time to contemplate God's coming to earth, offering us the gift of His life and love. He showed this love by living a sinless, perfect life, sacrificing it on the cross to pay for our sinful imperfection, and rising again from the dead, proving His power over death. If you haven't yet, please repent and accept this ultimate gift of salvation, beginning an eternal relationship with Jesus Christ, trusting Him alone for salvation.

FABC Adult Choir

Director: Robert Holland

Accompanist: Tiffany Hong

Sound: Mike Russell

Narrators: Michael & Ruth Kleinpeter

Soprano

Sona Bailey
Mary Ann Fowler
Jill Holland
Michelle Leverett
Shelma Lewis
Emily Wise

Alto

Jessica Dimmitt
Janice Donaldson
Julie Ficek
Savannah Martin
Heather Schraeder
Dawn Stanford
Lauren Wade
Rebekah Waite
Linda Walker

Tenor

Robert Holland
Chris Leverett
Glen Martin
Napoleon Martin
Dean McCraw

Bass

Shawn Champion
Bob Dimmitt
Jimmy Donaldson
Ron Fowler
Billy Morris, Sr.
Aaron Waite

FABC Children's Choir

Auni Cruz-Camacho
Nayeli Cruz-Camacho
Nukiya Cruz-Camacho
Ellie Ficek
Isaiah Ficek
Ben Kleinpeter

Edmund Posner
Esther Posner
L'Ili Schraeder
Cora Wade
Lydia Wade

Poinsettias were placed in the church by:

Annette Berry

In Memory of John L. Berry

Sylvia Blue & Dennis Morgan

In Memory of Charles and Mrs. Blue,
William and Evie Kinney, and Willie,
Mildred, Emma, Danny and Roger
Morgan



Jim & Rita Campbell

In Memory of Charlie Crew and James Donaldson

Sue Crews & Family

In Memory of Charlie Crews

Bob & Cindy Dimmitt

In Memory of Cindy's mother Beverly Meils Nelson

Jimmy & Janice Donaldson

In memory of their daughter, Jessica, and their parents, James &
Nan Donaldson and Cecil & Mary Williams

Danny & Janet Edwards

In Memory of their parents, Vernon & Ruth Fields and Willis &
Beulah Edwards, their brothers Larry Fields and Ronnie Edwards,
and their sister-in-law Jennifer Fields

June Erlandson

In Memory of Ed Erlandson, Doris Erlandson, and John Erlandson

Bucky Lanier, and Jay, Lisa, Kaitlyn, Lauren, & Addisyn Rowe

In Memory of Tricia Lanier

Wayne Noha

In Memory of George & Christine Noha, Pam, Bubba, and Donny

Aileen Pinckney

In Memory of Frances & Rufus Bloodworth

Neil Reagan

In Memory of Evelyn Reagan

Jay, Lisa, Kaitlyn, Lauren, & Addisyn Rowe

In Memory of J.E. Rowe, Sr. and Diane Rowe

Kelly & Dawn Stanford

In Memory of Kete and Frieda Stanford, and Butch Atkins, and in
Honor of Art and Cindy Dister

John & Tricia Sumner

In Memory of Bill & Sadie Gattmann, and Rosalee Barfield

Billy & Brenda Waters

In Memory of Louis & Ruby Rahn

Charles & Cindy Wise and Emily Wise

In Honor of Dr. & Mrs. Claude Su, and in Memory of Joseph &
Marion Wise and Jean Banks

Articles

My Dear Globdrop,

As you made perfectly clear, my last letter made you rather nauseous. My closing line “sent chills down your spine and vomit up your throat.” Apparently, you felt comfortable telling me this. Never forget, nephew, you report more to a superior officer than to an uncle. I should hate to remind you.

Although you spoke rashly, I do understand your disbelief. How could I, a commander in his Lowness’s army, end by wishing you a *Merry* Christmas? Should we not rather feel horror concerning what took place so long ago on the day below all days, which many others avoid like the plague?

I still remember my utter revulsion when news of The Invasion broke. As the humans carried on unaware, we saw it for what it was: *an act of war*. A junior tempter at the time, I longed for nothing else than to join Screwtape as he stormed in behind our Master. They devoured all the male offspring in their hunt for the child . . . coming but one short. For a time, headquarters thought we succeeded, but he escaped (to Egypt of all places). The trauma of such memories lingers.

But we have not ceded that dark day to the Enemy. While weaker demons turn off their lights and lock the doors the nights before Christmas, the true soldiers have ventured into Enemy-occupied lands to drag unsuspecting souls behind our lines.

How Demons Celebrate Christmas

I suspect we shall always be appalled by the Arrival. Yet, we have grown quite fond of how the humans *celebrate* the horrid anniversary. We *love* caroling with them, feasting with them, exchanging presents, decorating, and watching movies. While you would have us take the holiday skulking through the shadows and licking our wounds, we have regained lost ground. Can you not observe our influence?

1. Celebrate ‘Xmas’

Have you not observed how we kept at what we failed to do so long ago — eliminating the child?

The pine trees and presents, mistletoes and twinkling lights, Santa and snowmen, sugar cookies and family cheer — *these* are Christmas. We’ve hidden the child beneath many straws of hay. Their merriments are inns without spare rooms. These shepherds stay in their fields. Wonderfully have they become magi who swap their gifts with one another, never noticing the bright star that leads to Bethlehem. Behold, Christmas delightfully abridged. We spell it *Xmas*.

We need not Scrooge at such festivities. Let “visions of sugar plums dance in their heads.” Buy Tiny Tim a turkey. Invite them near to roast chestnuts over the open fire! The infant escaped two thousand years ago, but we have found other ways to dispose of him.

2. Gift-Swap the Child

Now, some insist on holding some form of Christian tradition each year. The religious will not abandon the child. No matter. We merely swap in a sterile, adorable — *safe* — baby Jesus to think about, sing about, and put up for holiday decorations.

Witness their Christmas baby. Do you see how sweetly he rests in the Virgin’s arms? Observe how docile, how serene, how meek. Do you also see how strangely inarticulate, nonjudgmental, and impersonal he is? *Never allow him to grow up*. For many, we

have kept him as a babbling babe who cares nothing about sin, holiness, or his Father's glory. Most who look upon him would sooner pet and pamper than bow and worship.

I, for one, love our mangled Messiah! The nativity scene looks more like the Enemy's Christmas card than his war room. We have replaced "Immanuel" with a commandless, wakeless, vacant babe. He is less than their Champion, less than the Enemy in profane garb, less, even, than a man. Not God-baby, but Gerber-baby.

3. Make Everything Merry

Once we've dealt with the child, we must fill the void.

Have you smelled the hope, peace, and joy wafting in the air? Felt the warming sense that *everything will be all right*? We named it *Christmas Spirit*. A few sprays of family fuzzies, days off work, gift getting and giving, goodwill toward men, and we replace ancient reasons for "joy to the world."

Make *everything* merry. Focusing the humans on their feelings is a sure way to steal that "news of great joy" from your subject. Sentimentalism, nephew, sentimentalism. The mushier their foundation for gaiety, the better. We offer only temporary reprieves. After presents lie unwrapped, living rooms empty, goodwill fades, and work resumes, we can leave them more miserable on December 26 than they've been all year.

4. Comfort the Holiday Christians

Finally, nephew, Christmas affords a brilliant opportunity to implement one of our favorite holiday initiatives: *twenty-four-hour Christianity*. Do you notice how religious they become during this season? We do not mind church attendance soaring. We encourage their playing Christian for a day. They need annual religious check-ins. A little soul dentistry, as it were.

Globdrop, sprinkling some religion into their annual diet lulls their conscience asleep while promising some degree of absolution. The Enemy takes attendance at Christmas, you see, and as long as they make some effort to stop by each year, he surely wouldn't condemn them along with the non-Christmas-Eve-service-attending heathen. These holiday saints make for delicious Christmas cookies.

Merry Xmas Indeed

Observe our genius, nephew: a time of year designed to remind them of the Enemy's triumph, repurposed to drive them further away. Despite the vermin's noise and jubilee, the child is quietly missing from his own birthday celebrations. Busyness. Stress. Presents. Syrupy sentiments. Familial warmth. Good food. It all leaves me dreaming of a dark Xmas.

Still a week away, time remains. Gather with them before the fire. Sing about Rudolph's red nose, "Jingle Bells," and how they may have seen mommy kissing Santa Claus. Encourage them to attend their annual church service (check the registry for safe services). Focus their attention inward. Fill their bursting schedules with anything but humble adoration. Let *no one* look upon the child.

Never let them worship the unsanitized Messiah, or gather around that wretched tree we decorated with the child years later. Do not let them pray together, read Scripture together, invite our dead ones over to spend time together. Keep it good-humored, shallow, safe.

So, a *very* Merry Xmas to you and yours!

Your festive uncle, Wormwood

By Greg Morse, staff writer for desiringGod.org. In "The Globdrop Letters," a senior demon (Wormwood) corresponds with a junior demon to advise him in the evil art of subtle deception. The series follows in the large footsteps of C.S. Lewis in his classic work *The Screwtape Letters*. 9

Missionary of the Week

Jim & Karan Romaine
MTW - New York

The primary focus of Jim and Karan's ministry is to Muslims in the city of New York. As a cost-cutting tool, they have recently moved from Queens to Brooklyn. Their ministry is expanding to a new area, and they still aren't far from their previous place. New York has nearly a million Muslims from over 80 different countries! Please pray for their contacts and neighbors they minister to in many practical ways.



In other ministry outlets, Jim has made several trips to India, to teach Indian village evangelists.

Because Muslims are well connected to their family and friends in their home countries, this ministry also has a global connection. Many of the Turks Jim and Karan are friends with have returned to New York after visiting family abroad during the summer. They have given the Romaines phone calls, letting them know they are back, wanting to get back together!

At the end of October, the Heart 4 Muslims conference drew over 400 people wishing to learn ways to reach their Muslim neighbors with the gospel!

Jim enjoys striking up conversations with Muslim neighbors. Some of the folks he has met, you can pray for:

- a member of the Cabinet at the Turkish Ministry of Finance
- a journalist with the largest Turkish daily newspaper
- a district director of a large Turkish political party
- an electrical engineer, an IT specialist
- a director of a Turkish Businessmen's Association
- a photographer for the President of Turkey
- many ESL and business students
- Melik, a friend with whom they have been able to share the gospel
- a young believer who has found a full-time job. The Romaines meet with him almost every week for Bible study

Also pray for Jim and Karan's financial needs. They have fallen behind in support, especially as some of their contributors are aging. They would like to find more financial partners.

Sunday School Classes & Descriptions

Adult

- “Revelation” - Organ Side Overflow
Room: Matt Coleman
- “Chronological Survey of the Bible” -
Fellowship Hall: Bob Dimmitt
- “Church History” - Youth House: Steve
Posner
- “First Songs of Christmas” - Room 28:
Tamera Smith, Women’s Class

Students & Children

- Babies - Room 3: Kay Stanford & Sandra
Bridges
- 1s & 2s - Room 24: Michael & Ruth Klein-
peter/Danny & Kamee Roberson
- 3s & 4s - Room 25: Emily Wise, Susan Su,
Donna Martin
- Kindergarten, 1st & 2nd Grade - Room
200: John & Pam Humphrey
- 3rd-6th Grade Boys - Room 202: Ric
Zittrouer & Richie Mills
- 3rd-6th Grade Girls - Room 204: Mary
Ann Fowler, Amy Horton
- Youth Guys - Room 206: Tim Wade,
Bobby Deloach, Shawn Champion
- Youth Girls - Room 207: Sona Bailey,
Jessica Dimmitt, & Lauren Wade

Isolation is an indicator that a Christian has or is turning to another (idol) instead of God to meet a felt need or desire. Whether abrupt or gradual isolating oneself from other believers (and people in general) characterizes the life of an idol worshipper. We cringe inside at the prospect of having our sin exposed, so we hide. Isolation is a way to avoid confrontation. An idolator doesn’t want anyone interfering and threatening to take away their false god.

Bible Reading Schedule

December 2018

	1	2 Corinthians 9-11
	2	2 Corin. 12 - Galatians 2
	3	Galatians 3-6
	4	1 Thessalonians
	5	2 Thessalonians
	6	1 Timothy 1-4
	7	1 Timothy 5-6
	8	2 Timothy (1-4)
	9	Titus & Philemon
	10	Hebrews 1-5
	11	Hebrews 6-9
	12	Hebrews 10-11
	13	Hebrews 12-13
	14	James
	15	1 Peter
	16	2 Peter
	17	1 John
	18	2 Jn., 3 Jn., Jude, & Rev 1
	19	Revelation 2-5
	20	Revelation 6-10
	21	Revelation 11-15
	22	Revelation 16-18
	23	Revelation 19-22
	24	Luke 1-2
	25	Luke 3-5
	26	Luke 6-8
	27	Luke 9-11
	28	Luke 12-14
	29	Luke 15-18
	30	Luke 19-20
	31	Luke 21-22



O Come All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant;
O come ye,

O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come and behold Him,
Born the King of angels!

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesus, to Thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing!

O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him;
O come, let us adore Him,
Christ the Lord!



Video and audio recordings of the messages are available for listening or downloading from www.fabchurch.com/sermons

For Hearing Impaired

If you have difficulties hearing, we have listening aid devices available. Ask any of the ushers, or the technician in the sound booth, if you are in need of one of these devices.

Nursery December 23

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Mary Fowler, Kay Stanford,
Pam Sarhan

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Lisa & Addisyn Rowe/
Lauren Rowe, Myri Hymon
6:00 P.M.

Tricia Sumner, Bethany Humphrey

Nursery December 30

10:30 A.M.

Babies:

Susan Su, Kay Stanford

Toddlers - 4 year olds:

Barbara Mason, Anna Wedincamp
6:00 P.M.

Charles & Cindy Wise, Dawn Stanford

Ushers December 23

10:30 A.M.

John Bridges, Reggie Brown,
Jimmy Kicklighter, Bucky Lanier
6:00 P.M.

Joe Morris, Jay Rowe

Ushers December 24

5:00 P.M.

Jimmy Donaldson, Dean McCraw

Ushers December 30

10:30 A.M.

Jack Moore, Ron Fowler,
Danny Roberson, Kelly Stanford
6:00 P.M.

Ron Fowler, Cole Morris

Sunday Greeters - December 23

Leasa Brown, Becky Hendricks

December Lock-Up Deacons

Jack Moore, Billy Morris, Sr.