



A Look BACK A Look AHEAD

**WORSHIP OF GOD | FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT | NOVEMBER 30, 2025
FIFTH SUNDAY MISSION PROJECT**

First Rochester | An American Baptist Church

175 Allens Creek Road | Rochester, New York 14618 | rochesterfbc.org

Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon, senior pastor | Eliecia Young, pastoral assistant

Joshua Johnstone, music director | Samuel Baker, organist

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Feel free to use any gender-neutral language in hymns or responses.

Prelude	<i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	<i>J. S. Bach</i>
Chiming of the Hour		
Welcome, Invitation to Mission & Ministry, and Invocation		Eliecia Young
Invitation To Worship		Young/Connelly Family
One: We are a people accustomed to waiting. Waiting in line. Waiting in traffic. Waiting for that call.		
Two: But are we waiting for the right things this December? Are we waiting for the Lord?		
One: Advent is a season of waiting, but this year, let it also be a season of giving.		
Two: Long ago, God saw his children had a great need for a savior, but even now there's need for Christ to come down into our lives.		
One: But as we wait for Christ to be revealed to us again, let us not wait to do the good Christ has called us to do.		
Two: This day we light the Candle of Blessings, for as the Lord has blessed us with so many gifts, we are called to be blessings to others. Let us all pray together:		
Lord God, reveal yourself to us again. Help us this Advent season to focus on your son Jesus, who came not to be served, but to serve. Help us not to serve ourselves this December, but to serve you as we serve others. Amen		
Children Excused	<i>Returning for the Mission Project</i>	
*Hymn	<i>Long Ago, Prophets Knew</i>	#167
Scripture	<i>Isaiah 2:1-5</i>	Eliecia Young
Morning Prayer: Sharing our joys and concerns with Unison Lord's Prayer		Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon
Special Music	<i>Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing</i>	arr. Joshua Johnstone
Scripture and Prayer	<i>Matthew 24:36-44</i>	
Meditation	<i>A Look Back, A Look Ahead</i>	Rev. Joanne Gilbert-Cannon
*Closing Hymn	<i>Savior of the Nations, Come</i>	#168
Invitation to Mission and Ministry	<i>Creating Snack Kits for Cameron's Street Ministry</i>	In the Garden Room

TODAY'S OFFERING WILL BE COLLECTED AS YOU LEAVE THE SANCTUARY.

INVITATION TO MISSION AND MINISTRY

We welcome you to First Rochester, regardless of race, class, gender, physical challenge, place of origin, or sexual orientation. If you're new with us, please fill out the connection card found in your pew and drop it with the offering. We look forward to getting to know you better!

TODAY:

- Thank you to the numerous volunteers who make Sunday worship and programs work.
- Our Children will leave for Sunday School following the Advent Candle lighting.
- Following worship, join us in the Garden Room, adjacent to the sanctuary, to pack snack kits for Cameron's Street Ministry, then stay for a time of fellowship.
- Children's Choir will be held following the Mission Project packing and a brief fellowship.

THIS WEEK:

- On December 3, 10, & 17 on campus at 6 PM, we will discuss our Advent readings from D. Bonhoeffer's book, *God Is in the Manger: Reflections on Advent and Christmas*. To order a book, whether for discussion or your own reflection, sign up in the Garden Room.
- OWLS (Older Wiser Learning Seniors), on Thursday, December 4, will be *Travels in Iceland* by Dr. Don Schwab. Chair exercise at 11:30 AM. Lunch and program at 12:15 PM. Donations welcomed. Please RSVP to kandeetabor@gmail.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- December 7 will be a giving Sunday... Center for Youth food items, Star Gifts for Cameron, and mittens, hats, gloves, and scarves for Cameron Clients are all due.
- Advent Music will be performed by our First Rochester Choir on December 7 during worship.
- Join our wrapping party in the parlor on December 7-2nd Hour-for the CCM's family gifts.
- Our Children's Christmas Program will be during worship on December 14 and followed by a Christmas luncheon. Please sign up in the Garden Room for ordering and seating numbers.
- Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be held on Wednesday, December 24 at 5:00 PM.
- There will be limited office hours from December 26 through January 1. Please call before if you need access to the church.

GIVING:

- For today's Fifth Sunday Mission Project at the end of worship, we will pack snack kits for Cameron Community's Street Ministry.
- Cameron Community's Star gifts and hats, mittens, gloves, and scarves are needed by Dec. 7.
- On Communion Sunday, December 7, the Missions Team is asking the congregation to donate jams, jellies, and Chef Boyardee products for the Center for Youth.

SIGN-UPS:

- Check out the table in the Garden Room for various sign-ups. **We need ushers for the next several weeks—Are you willing?** We also need a participation count for the BBQ Christmas luncheon on December 14, and those who want a Bonhoeffer Advent Reflection Book—participation in the discussion is not required—may be used for your personal reflection.

MEETINGS:

- Trustees—December 15 at 6:00 PM on Zoom; Council—December 16 at 6:00 PM on Zoom.

