

1879 "THE FORTY-SIXTH YEAR OF OUR SECOND CENTURY" 2025

## **SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH**

**3310 E. COMMERCE STREET, SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78220**  
**THE REV. DR. ROBERT L. JEMERSON, SR., D. MIN., PASTOR**

**"In 2025, We are Walking in the Will of the Divine"**

**"The steps of a *good* man are ordered by the LORD,  
And He delights in his way." Psalm 37: 23**

**NOVEMBER 30, 2025**

**11:00 A.M. WORSHIP SERVICE**

### **Enter to Worship**

**Only one life  
It'll soon be past**

### **Depart to Serve**

**Only what's done  
For God will last!**



**"God make this house of worship we have raised to You wide enough to receive all who need human love, fellowship and the Father's care and narrow enough to shut out envy, pride and hate. Make its threshold smooth that it may be no stumbling block to childhood weakness or straying feet, but rugged and strong enough to turn back the tempter's power. God make this house of worship the gateway to Your eternal Kingdom."**

# ADVENT

## A TIME OF ANTICIPATION

Advent, a period of four weeks before the Nativity, is observed in the Western Churches as a Season of Solemnity of Emotion and action, and a Great Time of Anticipation!

It became a general observance in the sixth century. Its four Sundays were believed to have been introduced into the calendar by Gregory the Great, and on these grounds, the Gospel readings were chosen for the four Sundays preceding the Birth of our Savior.



Traditionally, the candles represent  
The number of weeks before the  
Christmas celebration. They represent  
FAITH, FREEDOM, JUSTICE, MERCY. The  
Large Candle or “CHRIST CANDLE” reminds  
us that Christ is the “LIVING LIGHT OF THE WORLD.”

## THE MEANING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

“The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light . . .” (Isaiah 9:2).

Light is the most powerful symbol of the Advent season. For the four weeks before Christmas, the People of God wait in prayerful hope for the dawning of the Messiah, the Perfect Light to burn away the darkness of sin and alienation.

The first reference to Christmas as we know it is found in a Christian calendar of the fourth century. The feast of Jesus’ birth was celebrated by the early Christians of Rome on December 25, to coincide with the pagan feast of *Sol Invictus* “The Birthday of the Unconquered Sun.” It is believed that Pope Julius I adopted this pagan feast of the *Sun* to celebrate the birth of the *Son* of God.

The lights of Christmas trees and decorations should remind us that Christ is God’s light to the world, shattering the darkness of mistrust and misunderstanding.

In the midst of the shopping, decorating, cooking, writing Christmas cards, and other activities of the holiday season, the custom of the *Advent wreath* is an excellent way for families and communities to keep the real meaning of Christmas in perspective.

The *four candles* of the Advent wreath represent the four weeks of Advent and the thousands of years that the People of God awaited the promised Messiah. The candles are *purple* in color, a reminder of the spirit of penance and prayer that marks the Advent season (one of the candles may be rose for the Third Sunday of Advent, traditionally known as “Gaudete Sunday” from the opening words of that Sunday’s liturgy: “Rejoice in the Lord always!”). Each week one candle is lit until all four are aglow on the Fourth Sunday of Advent.

The *round* wreath itself symbolizes the eternity of God and the Father’s presence throughout human history. *Evergreen* branches are often used in decorating the wreath, reminders of the eternal life of God in Christ.

# *& Advent*

Over hundreds of years, Advent has become a favorite custom for those who celebrate Christmas.

The circle of the wreath represents eternity, while the lighting of candles renews the journey towards hope, love, joy and peace in the world.



## Candle Lighting Guide for Advent

### First Sunday

#### *Prophecy Candle*

*“Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.”*

*Jeremiah 33:14-15*

### Second Sunday

#### *Bethlehem Candle*

*And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:) To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child. And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered. And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.” Luke 2:4-7 The wise men traveled far to see the child born in a manger under the star of Bethlehem. They brought their earthly gifts, and returned home by another route, having knelt before the Prince of Peace. May the gift of Christ bring hope, love, joy, and peace into our lives and throughout the world.*

### Third Sunday

#### *Shepherds' Candle*

*“And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.” Luke 2:12-14 The wise men traveled far to see the child born in a manger under the star of Bethlehem. They brought their earthly gifts, and returned home by another route, having knelt before the Prince of Peace. May the gift of Christ bring hope, love, joy, and peace into our lives and throughout the world.*

### Fourth Sunday

#### *Angels' Candle*

*Angels appeared to Joseph and Mary, saying “do not be afraid.” Joseph took Mary to Bethlehem, where she gave birth to her son, Jesus. This is the Son sent to the world to show God’s love. That love still shines for us today. Knowing that the of Christ ends in suffering and our world is filled with pain and turmoil, we pause to marvel at Christ’s birth and rejoice in God’s glory. We have much for which to be thankful. Let us be joyful and sing with the angels in praise!*

# THE LIGHTING OF THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

## Deacon Thomas and Mrs. Doris Dunlap The Prophecy Candle

**Leader:** Let us draw near to God so that we may be filled with joy and hope and obedience as was Mary, the servant of God chosen to bear the Son in human form. “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.” Romans 15:13-14

**People:** “Behold, the days come, saith the LORD, that I will perform that good thing which I have promised unto the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days, and at that time, will I cause the Branch of righteousness to grow up unto David; and he shall execute judgment and righteousness in the land.” Jeremiah 33:14-15

**Leader:** Our scripture for the First Sunday of Advent is taken from the Gospel of Luke, the First chapter, verses twenty-six through thirty-eight it reads:

**All:** And in the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God unto a city of Galilee, named Nazareth, To a virgin espoused to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David; and the virgin's name was Mary. And the angel came in unto her, and said, Hail, thou that art highly favoured, the Lord is with thee: blessed art thou among women. And when she saw him, she was troubled at his saying, and cast in her mind what manner of salutation this should be. And the angel said unto her, Fear not, Mary: for thou hast found favour with God. And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS. He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

## The Lighting of the First Advent

**Leader:** As we light the First candle of the Advent wreath, our thoughts focus on the Prophecy of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

**All:** Oh, come, Oh come, Emmanuel now let all the heavens adore you, And saints and angels Sing before you. Let us dwell in grace and in truth victoriously. Your star is rising, and your light is come. Oh, come you Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God’s Son. Amen.



**The Preparation for Worship** “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.” John 1:1

**The Prelude**

**“Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring” Bach**

Mrs. La Faye Duren, Organist

**The Call To Worship and the Invocation**

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor

### WORSHIP IN PRAISE

**\*The Opening Hymn of Praise**

**“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! **Refrain: O come, let us adore Him; O come, let us adore Him; O 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!

**Refrain:**

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! **Refrain:**

**The Lighting of the First Advent Candle**

Deacon Thomas and Mrs. Doris Dunlap

**The Responsive Reading**

**Isaiah 9: 2-7**

Rev. Angela Jackson

**Minister:** The people who walked in darkness Have seen a great light; Those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, Upon them a light has shined. You have multiplied the nation *And* increased its joy; They rejoice before You According to the joy of harvest, As *men* rejoice when they divide the spoil. For You have broken the yoke of his burden And the staff of his shoulder, The rod of his oppressor, As in the day of Midian.

**People:** For every warrior’s sandal from the noisy battle, And garments rolled in blood, Will be used for burning *and* fuel of fire. For unto us a Child is born, Unto us a Son is given; And the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of *His* government and peace *There will be* no end, Upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, To order it and establish it with judgment and justice From that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will perform this.

**\*The Gloria Patri** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost, As it was in the Beginning is now and ever shall be world with out end. Amen, Amen.**

**The Welcome**

Mrs. Stephanie Haley

### WORSHIP IN MEDITATION

**The Morning Prayer**

Rev. Dawarren Ennis

### WORSHIP IN GIVING

**The Offertory Sentence and Prayer**

Rev. Keith Jackson

**\*The 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.**

### WORSHIP IN PROCLAMATION

**The Music of Preparation**

**“Emmanuel”**

The Voices of Second Baptist Church

**The Sermon**

**“Fear Not It Is All Good”**

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor

**The Text:** “And having come in, the angel said to her, “Rejoice, highly favored *one*, the Lord *is* with you; blessed *are* you among women!” But when she saw *him*, she was troubled at his saying, and considered what manner of greeting this was. Then the angel said to her, “Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Highest; and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David. And He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of His kingdom there will be no end.” Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” And the angel answered and said to her, “*The Holy Spirit* will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God. Now indeed, Elizabeth your relative has also conceived a son in her old age; and this is now the sixth month for her who was called barren. For with God nothing will be impossible.” Then Mary said, “Behold the maidservant of the Lord! Let it be to me according to your word.” And the angel departed from her.” Luke 1: 28-35

**The Invitation to Discipleship**

**“Grateful”**

The Voices of Second Baptist Church

**The Benediction**

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor

**The Postlude**

**“Postlude on Antioch” Handel**

Mrs. La Faye Duren, Organist

**\* Please Stand**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Rev. Dr. Kenneth and Mrs. Velma Kemp and the family of Mrs. Zenobia Willoughby sends:** “Dear Dr. Jemerson and Second Baptist Church: Thank you, in our time and loss, you have supported us in our peace and healing through your gracious deeds, friendship and prayer.”

**Mrs. Stephanie Collier sends:** “Dear Rev. and Mrs. Jemerson: Thank you for 32 years of service to us and the community. Even though I am not in San Antonio, I still consider you my home. I pray for you daily and wish you the best.”

**Rev. Sandra Dorsainvil, American Baptist Churches USA sends:** “Dear Dr. and Mrs. Jemerson, I join your congregation and the body of Christ to celebrate you and your ministry—Happy and blessed 32 years of being God’s light.”

**Mrs. Bridget McKinney, Director of Christian Education sends:** “The Thanksgiving in the Park Team would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped with 2025, Thanksgiving in the Park. Your prayers, kindness, service and generosity blessed many families in our community.”

### 2026 ANNUAL BUDGET PACKETS

All auxiliaries, ministries, and department heads that utilize church funds must complete 2026 Annual Budget Request Forms. Organization officers are asked to pick up the packets from the church office beginning Monday, November 3, 2025, Monday thru Friday, 9:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. Completed forms must be returned to the church office no later than Sunday, December 14, 2025. This is a requirement in order for you to receive funds for the year. You may contact Trustee Martha Taylor at (210) 887-1935 if you have any questions.

### WE ARE PRAYING FOR YOUR HEALING

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson	Mrs. Robbie Alexander	Mrs. Roslyn Barksdale	Mrs. Lizzie Barfield
Mrs. Shirley Bateman	Mrs. Oweta Bowman	Mrs. Jeanette and Mr. Kirk Brown	Mrs. Corean Carter
Trustee Alfred Jack Carter, Jr.	Mrs. Opal Charles	Mr. Major Davis	Mrs. Barbara Dawson
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Deacon Jay Johnson	Deacon Thomas Johnson	Mrs. Mary Johnson	Mr. Bob Levy
Mr. Clarence Marshall	Mrs. Lillian Moore	Mrs. Thelma Pete	Mrs. Daisy Richardson
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Mr. Oscar and Mrs. Doris Vicks	Mr. Clarence Bell and Family	Trustee Dr. Louis and Mrs. Betty Levy	
Mr. Rudolph and Mrs. Vivian Coleman	Mr. Henry and Mrs. Helen Embry	Mr. Freddy Jennings	
Deacon Stacey and Mrs. Martha Fairbanks	Mr. Lincoln and Mrs. Nellie Hardaway	Mrs. Karen Dowden	
Mr. E. B. and Mrs. Erma Jackson	Mr. Robert and Mrs. Wilma Johnson	Dr. Willie J. and Mrs. Patsy Lett	
Mr. James and Mrs. Charlotte Mulkey	Mr. Willie and Mrs. Sheralin Mitchell	Deacon Bruce and Mrs. Dot Scott	
Mr. Anthony and Mrs. Carla Smith	Trustee Will and Mrs. Gloria Wright	Mr. Gerald Embry	
Deacon Charlie and Mrs. Sandra Wesley	Mr. Raymond and Mrs. Larnette LeBlanc	Mr. James T. Clark	

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO MEMBERS CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

**November 30** Mrs. Annette Auzenne, Mrs. Tina Sanders, Miss Crystal Shaw **December 2** Mr. Terry Powell  
**December 3** Mrs. Patsy Lett **December 4** Taja Rodgers, Miss Tonie Moreland **December 5** Trustee Daniel Scott, Mr. Matthew Phrease, James Pickens, Jr.

### DEACON OF THE WEEK NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 6, 2025

The Deacon of the Week is **Deacon Lawrence Harkless**. Members may call the Deacon or the Pastor at (210) 227-2605 to express concerns or encouragement. Deacon Harkless can be reached at (909) 208-4315 .

### MIDWEEK WORSHIP SERVICE

Wednesday, December 3, 2025

Church Family Dinner 6:00 P.M. - Worship Service 6:30 P.M. Chapel

Youth Bible Study 6:30 P.M. Taylor, Bland Burns Choir Room



**Second Baptist Church**

# 146TH CHURCH ANNIVERSARY



**"THE MIND OF CHRIST"**

**SCRIPTURE: PHILIPPIANS 2: 5-11**

**GUEST SPEAKER:**

Rev. Dr. Gina Jacobs-Strain  
General Secretary,  
American Baptist  
Churches USA



**CHAIRPERSONS:**

Deacon Daniel and  
Mrs. Jennifer Martin and  
The Carter Family

**SERVICE 11:00 A.M.**

**Sunday, December 14, 2025**



**3310 East Commerce Street**

**San Antonio, Texas 78220**

**Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr.,  
Pastor**

COMING SOON

TO YOUR  
SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH COMMUNITY CENTER



Mark Your  
Calendar

SATURDAY  
DECEMBER  
20

## WMU WOMEN'S SPIRITUAL RETREAT

9:30 A.M. TO 3:30 P.M.

### **Spiritual Spa Moment**

**Making Lemonade out of Lemons**

**What is God Asking ME to Do?**

**Meditation - Sanctuary of Silence**

**The Power of Prayer in Every Season**

**Are you Suffering in Silence?**

**Legacy of Women in Scripture**

**Let's Move**



Mrs. Candi Ellis-Davis, President, WMU

Dr. Eva M. Mason, Chairperson

Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Pastor

You may Text to Register  
210 364 9821





## **SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH**

3310 E. COMMERCE ST., SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS 78220

REV. DR. ROBERT L. JEMERSON, PASTOR



# **THE CHRISTMAS STORY IN CAROLS,**



# **HOLY COMMUNION**



# **CHRISTMAS RECEPTION**

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2025**

Second Baptist Church Sanctuary | 11:00 A.M.

A LUNCH RECEPTION WILL FOLLOW IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE SERVICE  
VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORSHIP SERVICE



# **Christmas Teddy Bear Drive 2025**

**Deadline:**  
**Sunday, December 21, 2025**  
**Second Baptist Church Narthex**



**Second Baptist Church**  
**Rev. Robert L. Jemerson, Sr., Pastor**  
**Deborah and Rebekah Circle of the**  
**Women's Missionary Union**



Second Baptist Church  
3310 E. Commerce Street,  
San Antonio, Texas 78220  
Rev. Dr. Robert L. Jemerson, Pastor

READY TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE?  
DONATE A TOOTH BRUSH TO SAMMINISTRIES



## OPERATION TOOTH BRUSH

SAMMinistries is an interfaith ministry whose mission is to help the homeless and those at risk of becoming homeless. SAMMinistries believes that life on Earth is a community and it is their desire that all who come there will find a place which mirrors God's love for the world...

DONATION LOCATION:  
NARTHEX OF SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

\*Donations can be dropped off from  
November 2025-Decemembr 2025

SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH  
WOMEN'S MISSIONARY UNION  
PRESIDENT, MRS. ERMA ELLIS-DAVIS  
REBEKAH AND DEBORAH CIRCLE

# CHURCH DIRECTORY

THE REV. DR. ROBERT L. JEMERSON, DMIN., PASTOR

RESIDENCE: 11402 FOREST SQUARE 78233 Cell Phone: (726) 241-9710

Office Phone: (210) 227-2605 Fax: (210) 227-7419

Email address: baptistoffice@sbcglobal.net

Website: www.secondbaptistsat.org

ASSISTANT TO THE PASTOR: Rev. Keith Jackson Cell Phone: (210) 947-7624

DIRECTOR OF YOUTH MINISTRY: Rev. Dr. Argra Nell Thompson

CHURCH SECRETARY: Miss Miracle McCloud

FINANCE SECRETARIES: Mrs. Carolyn Shakir and Mrs. Nancy Willridge

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Active Chairperson Emeritus Deacon Alley Jackson

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### BUDGET DIRECTOR

Trustee Martha Taylor

### SUNDAY SCHOOL SUPERINTENDENT

Mrs. Bridget Lewis-McKinney, Superintendent

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Mrs. Tobortha Samples, Chief Editor  
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Attorney Johnny Thomas, Chairperson

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Mrs. Delores Doyle-Lewis, Director

Mrs. Rhonda Harrison, Sponsor

Marius Bonds, President

Niyara Wilson, Youth Director

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Mrs. Erma "Candi" Ellis-Davis, President

## YOUTH IN ACTION FOR CHRIST (Y.A.C.)

Mrs. Sandra Thomas-Ojimadu, Chairperson

Deacon Patrick Lewis, Co-Chairperson

## MUSIC DEPARTMENT

### ORGANIST

Mrs. LaFaye Duren

### BASS GUITAR

Mr. James Pickens

### CLARINET

Mrs. Elaine Curry

## VOICES OF SECOND BAPTIST CHURCH

Mr. Alexander Ambrozaitis, Director/Musician

### DRUMMER

Deacon Patrick Lewis

### CHANCEL CHOIR

Mr. Lloyd Bagwell, President

### CHIMES CHOIR

Mrs. Alice Powell-Brown, Director

### COMFORTERS CHOIR

Mrs. Marian Olison, President

### CONTEMPORARIES CHOIR

Mrs. Ernestine "Tina" Dickerson, President

### GOSPEL PEARLS CHORALE

### HAND BELL CHOIR

Mrs. Alice Powell-Brown, Director

Mrs. Vanessa Lewis, President

## JESUS ACTION MUSIC MINISTRY

Mrs. Ernestine "Tina" Dickerson, Director

### JUNIOR CHOIR

### MENS' CHORUS

Mrs. La Faye Duren, Director

Deacon Archie Brown, President

## PRAISE DANCE AND MIME MINISTRY

Mrs. Nancy Willridge, Sponsor

### INSTRUMENTS OF PRAISE

Mrs. Elaine Curry, Director

James Pickens, Jr., Drum Major

### YOUTH CHORUS

Mrs. Tenesia Gaston-Ennis, Sponsor

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Mr. Clement Bruce, Sponsor

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**The Sound Ministers:** Trustee Calvin Bateman, Mr. Walter Clemons, Mr. Korling Duren, Mr. Bob Levy, Ronald and Reece Washington.