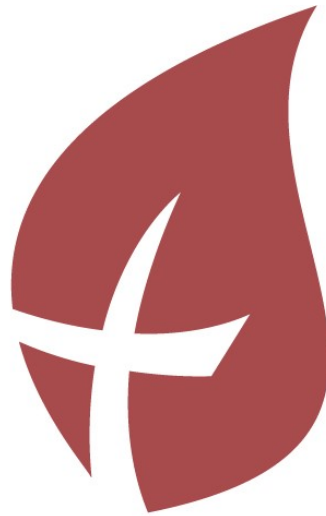


Sunday Morning Worship

December 1, 2024



**FIRSTBAPTIST
CHURCH
UPPERMARLBORO**

7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772

301-952-0117 :: www.fbcum.org :: fbcum@firstbaptistum.com

Order of Worship

December 1, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Lighting of Advent Candles

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship — 1 Chronicles 29:9-13

Song — O Come, All Ye Faithful

Song — How Great Thou Art

Scripture Reading — Psalm 19:1-14

Pastoral Prayer

Song — My Heart Is Filled

Prayer of Thanks

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

Message — James Burcham

“Contrasting Pictures of the Heart”

John 12:1-3; Romans 1:18-21

Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

Song — O Come, All You Unfaithful

Song — Doxology

Benediction

Comfort Rooms: To help accommodate families with small children and individuals with special needs or medical conditions, a live video feed of the worship service is available in rooms 116, 117/118, 119, 120-125.

Visitors & Guests: Stop by the Welcome Desk for church information and to receive a welcome packet.

Call to Worship — 1 Chronicles 29:9-13 (ESV)

⁹ Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the Lord. David the king also rejoiced greatly.

¹⁰ Therefore David blessed the LORD in the presence of all the assembly. And David said: “Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. ¹¹ Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. ¹² Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. ¹³ And now we thank you, our God, and praise your glorious name.

O Come, All Ye Faithful

John Francis Wade

Verse 1:

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

Chorus:

O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
O come let us adore Him
Christ the Lord

Verse 2:

Sing choirs of angels,
Sing in exultation
O sing all ye citizens of heaven above.
Glory to God all glory in the highest.

Verse 3:

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,
Born this happy morning
Jesus to Thee be all glory given.
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing.

How Great Thou Art

Stuart K. Hine

Verse 1:

O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds Thy hands have made
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder
Thy power throughout, The universe displayed

Chorus:

Then sings my soul
My Savior God to Thee
How great Thou art
How great Thou art

Verse 2:

And when I think that God His Son not sparing
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing
He bled and died to take away my sin

Verse 3:

When Christ shall come
With shout of acclamation
And take me home, What joy shall fill my heart
Then I shall bow in humble adoration
And there proclaim
My God how great Thou art

Scripture Reading — Psalm 19 (ESV)

- ¹ The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.
² Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.
³ There is no speech, nor are there words,
whose voice is not heard.
⁴ Their voice goes out through all the earth,
and their words to the end of the world.
In them he has set a tent for the sun,
⁵ which comes out like a bridegroom leaving
his chamber,
and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.
⁶ Its rising is from the end of the heavens,
and its circuit to the end of them,
and there is nothing hidden from its heat.
⁷ The law of the LORD is perfect,
reviving the soul;

- the testimony of the LORD is sure,
making wise the simple;
⁸ the precepts of the LORD are right,
rejoicing the heart;
the commandment of the LORD is pure,
enlightening the eyes;
⁹ the fear of the LORD is clean,
enduring forever;
the rules of the LORD are true,
and righteous altogether.
¹⁰ More to be desired are they than gold,
even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey
and drippings of the honeycomb.
¹¹ Moreover, by them is your servant warned;
in keeping them there is great reward.

(continued on next page)

Scripture Reading — (continued)

¹² Who can discern his errors?

Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

¹³ Keep back your servant also

from presumptuous sins;

let them not have dominion over me!

Then I shall be blameless,

and innocent of great transgression.

¹⁴ Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart

be acceptable in your sight,

O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

My Heart Is Filled

Keith and Kristyn Getty

Verse 1:

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths
of my disgrace
And gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
And clothed me in His light
And wrote His law of righteousness
With pow'r upon my heart.

Verse 2:

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses
with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose ev'ry promise is enough
For ev'ry step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

Verse 3:

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who reigns above,
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth
Is given by the King;
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow Him.

Sermon Notes

“Contrasting Pictures of the Heart” :: John 12:1-3; Romans 1:18-21

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## Church Covenant

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Having, as we trust, been brought by divine grace to repent and believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and to give up ourselves to Him, and having been baptized upon our profession of faith, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, we do now, relying on His gracious aid, solemnly and joyfully renew our covenant with each other.

We will engage in assembling ourselves together while praying for one another. We will strive for and promote the spiritual growth and advancement of the church by; sustaining worship, ordinances, discipline, and doctrines; contributing cheerfully and regularly to the support of the ministry, the expenses of the church, the relief of the poor, and the spread of the gospel through all nations.

As a body of believers, we agree to maintain family and personal devotions, to educate our children in the Christian faith, and to seek the salvation of our family and acquaintances. We will seek to avoid all practices or speech which bring unwarranted harm to the body or jeopardize our own or another's faith.

We will walk together in Christian love by faithfully caring for, watching over, and admonishing one another as occasions may require. In conflict, we will seek to follow Christ's example of reconciliation without delay. We will always strive to be humble and courteous in our speech and slow to take offense. We moreover engage that when we remove from this place we will, as soon as possible, unite with a like-minded church where we can carry out the spirit of this covenant and the principles of God's Word.

O Come, All You Unfaithful

Bob Kaulfin | Lisa Clow

Verse 1:

O come, all you unfaithful
Come, weak and unstable
Come, know you are not alone

Verse 2:

O come, barren and waiting ones
Weary of praying, come
See what your God has done

Chorus:

Christ is born, Christ is born
Christ is born for you

Verse 3:

O come, bitter and broken
Come with fears unspoken
Come, taste of His perfect love

Verse 4:

O come, guilty and hiding ones
There is no need to run
See what your God has done

Bridge:

He's the Lamb who was given
Slain for our pardon
His promise is peace
For those who believe

Verse 5:

So come, though you have nothing
Come, He is the offering
Come, see what your God has done

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him all creatures here below
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost
Amen!

This Week at First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 1

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship w/ Lord's Supper
6:00 PM Youth Night

Monday, December 2

Tuesday, December 3

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies Bible Study

Wednesday, December 4

6:30 PM Church Prayer Meeting

Thursday, December 5

10:00 AM Women's Bible Study (Ephesians)

Friday, December 6

Saturday, December 7

Sunday, December 8

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes
10:00 AM Sunday Worship
12:00 PM Budget Review Meeting
6:00 PM Youth Night

Upcoming Events at First Baptist Church

Sunday, December 8

Budget Review Meeting — immediately following worship service

Saturday, December 14

9:00 AM — 12:30 PM :: Christmas Vacation Bible School for Senior Saints

Sunday, December 15

Members' Meeting — immediately following worship service

Tuesday, December 24

6:30pm — Christmas Eve Worship

Wednesday, January 1

6:30pm — Prayer Meeting

Sunday, January 12

Church Potluck Lunch — immediately following worship service

Sunday, January 26

Starting Point Seminar — immediately following worship service
(Seminar for those interested in church membership. Contact the church office to register or use the Digital Communication Card on the back of this bulletin.)

Praying with First Baptist Church

A Prayer Guide for the week of December 1

Prayer of the week:

One of the ways we learn to pray is by using the examples in Scripture as an inspiration for our own prayer life. This week, we encourage you to use the prayer of the Apostle Paul from the book of Colossians 1:9a-10:

*“9 And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you...
10 to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him:
bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God;”*

We recognize our need for God’s help in all the areas of our lives. The categories and requests listed below are intentional ways to pray for each other as a church family. For help in knowing how and what to pray for, look up the Scripture included with each item.

Ongoing prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for opportunities and boldness to share the gospel with loved ones (Matt. 28:19)
- Pray for conversions (John 3:3, Acts 16:14)
- Pray for the children of our church to hear and understand the gospel and be saved. (Luke 8:8)
- Pray for the preaching of God’s word – for faithfulness, fruitfulness, and God’s glory (2 Tim. 4:2, 1 Cor. 2:4-5, Isa. 55:10-11)
- Pray for increased one to one discipleship relationships in our church family (Matt. 28:19-20)
- Pray for unity in our diversity both on Sunday and through the week (Rom. 15:13, Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for continued growth and joy in the gospel (1 Cor. 15:1-5, 2 Pet. 1:12)
- Pray for growth in holiness, hatred of sin and growth in humility (Prov. 8:13, 1 Pet. 1:14-16)
- Pray for honest, loving relationships in our church (Col. 3:12-13, James 5:16)
- Pray for families: marriages to thrive, parents to teach/love/discipline carefully, and children to obey (Eph. 5:22-6:4)
- Pray that giving would be faithful, joyful, consistent, and sacrificial (2 Cor. 8:9)

Prayer items outside our church:

- Pray that our elected officials would fear God, seek His wisdom, have integrity, humility, and work together for the good of society and not self. (1 Tim. 2:1-2, Rom. 13:1-7)
- Pray for fruitful ministry in other gospel-proclaiming churches in our area. (Rom. 15:20, 1 Cor. 16:1-3, Matt. 28:19-20)

- Pray that God would bring a swift end to wars going on throughout the world and establish peace. Pray for protection and care for the many refugees fleeing to safety. Pray that those impacted would trust in God in the midst of their suffering. (Ps. 139:23-24)
- Pray for those effected by natural disasters around the world, especially recent hurricanes through the Southeast U.S. Pray God would provide for immediate needs and preserve life. Pray God would comfort those grieving the death of loved ones. Pray for relief workers to work safely and quickly to bring stability (Psalm 119:88; 34:18)
- Pray for our ministry partners locally and around the world—Baptist Convention of Maryland/Delaware (BCM/D), North American Mission Board (NAMB) and International Mission Board (IMB). Pray especially for those we are directly involved with: Jeremy McClain (Mercy of Christ Fellowship Church, DC), Joel Kurz (The Garden Church, Baltimore), Daniel and Brandy Spandler-Davison and Susanna Schriever (Bangkok City Baptist Church, Thailand). Pray the gospel would flourish and churches would be planted and strengthened through their work. Pray that God would supply their needs. (Ps 93:4, Col. 1:5-6, 1 Pet. 4:12-17)

Particular prayer items in the life of our church:

- Pray for our students wrapping up a semester at school this month. Pray that they would be diligent in their studying/training and finish well. Pray they would grow in their faith and seek opportunities to glorify God with their skills and education. (Prov. 3:5-6; 1 Cor. 10:31).
- Pray for our upcoming Members Meeting on Dec 15 after worship. Pray that God would continually help us to grow in unity and service to one another as fellow believers here at FBCUM and help us work together for kingdom purposes. (Eph 4:2-3)
- Pray for our ministry leaders, deacons, and elders during this budget season as they pray and prepare a budget to present to the church next month. Pray for wisdom and a God-centered vision for how to use the resources that God has given our church. (James 1:5)
- Pray for our church family as we consider amendments to our church constitution. Pray that we would work together to comprehend and establish God's good design for the church and center our lives around it for the sake of his glory being made known. (Eph 3:10; 3:21)
- Pray we would care more about God's opinion of us than the praise of man. (Pr 29:25; 14:26)
- Pray that we know a profound contentment no matter what circumstances we find ourselves in – a contentment from knowing God is our help. (Heb. 13:5-6)
- Pray God would guard our church from fear, anxiety, and disunity. Pray that we would trust that God is good and be assured that He is in control. (John 13:34-35)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Mary Dina, Lucie Lowe, Sharon Powers (death of sister), Bonnie Trott, Glenn Walker

(To submit a prayer request, please use the Prayer Request Card available in the sanctuary and drop them in the offering basket or contact the Prayer Room at 301-952-8877.)

Announcements

1. **New DiscipleLIFE Classes for Adults Began TODAY.** See the bulletin board outside the church office for class information and locations.
2. **Church Prayer Meeting — THIS Wednesday, December 4, at 6:30pm.** Join us as we gather for a time of praying together, hearing testimony, and encouragement from God's Word.
3. **Budget Review Meeting — Sunday, Dec 8.** Church members are invited to review and discuss the proposed 2025 church budget with the pastors following the worship service on Dec 8.
4. **Church Members' Meeting — Sunday, Dec 15.** Lord willing, we will have our regularly scheduled Members' Meeting immediately following the worship service on Sunday, Dec 15. We will be voting on memberships and the 2025 Budget. We will also thank God for the work he's done in 2024 and prayerfully consider where we see God leading our church in 2025. Minutes from our previous Members' Meeting will be available in the church office on 12/8.
5. **Christmas Eve Worship at 6:30pm.** Join us for an evening of worship as we remember and rejoice in the Christmas story of how God became flesh in the person of Jesus Christ, our Savior. Feel free to invite family, friends, and neighbors.
6. **Christmas Vacation Bible School for Senior Saints — Dec 14.** The youth group will be hosting a fun-filled day of Christmas themed VBS for our Senior Saints (60+) on Dec 14 from 9am-12:30pm. See the bulletin insert for more details and registration information.
7. **Advent Devotional 2024.** There are still copies of the suggested Advent devotional, "The Light Before Christmas," by Marty Machowski available at the bookstall for \$10.00.
8. **Year-End Giving.** We thank God for the faithful giving of our church family that sustains the gospel ministry here at FBCUM. As we near the end of 2024, please remember that any gifts to be counted toward your 2024 annual giving statement must be postmarked, in the church office, or submitted online by Dec. 31. You can give three ways:
 - online: click the link or scan the QR code,
 - in-person: designated boxes at the Welcome Desk or during the worship service
 - by mail: send to the church office.Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.



Digital Communication Card

Are you interested in receiving more information about the church, meeting with a pastor, or sharing a prayer need? Scan the QR code to fill in our digital communication card and someone will follow up with you. You're always welcome to contact the church office: 301-952-0117.





You are Invited!!
CVBSSS –
Christmas Vacation Bible School for
Senior Saints!

All senior saints 60+
Hosted by Youth@UM

Lesson, music, games, snacks, crafts.

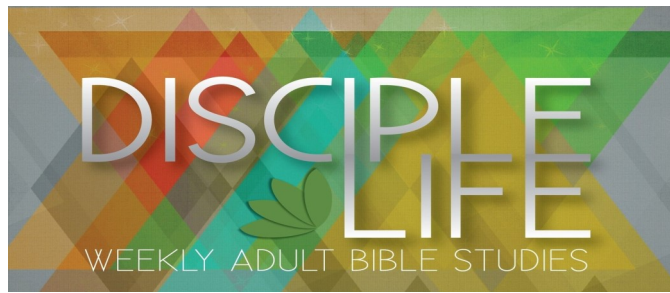
Invite a friend!

Date: Saturday, December 14th
Time: 9:00am–12:30

RSVP Today!

Scan the QR code to register or email Jason Brown
at FBCUMstudentministries@gmail.com





Winter 2024-25 (Dec - Feb) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:

FALL SESSION BEGINS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

To help us prepare, we are asking that everyone sign up for the class they wish to attend by [clicking here](#).

Explore the Bible – Exodus and Leviticus

This winter, we'll study *Exodus*; *Leviticus*. These books remind us that imperfect people can depend on a perfect God to lead them through whatever wilderness they face. As you study how God worked among His people, you'll see that He is still at work in your life as well. He still guides, cares, protects, and delivers. (13 sessions) (Books are available in the room 117/118 starting this Sunday, 11/24)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) — Room 117/118 :: Teachers: Tyrone Moorehead & Tre Fields**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 :: Teacher: Tanya Joy**
- **Explore the Bible (Men) - Room 113 :: Teachers: Faris Hawit & Dimitri Louis**

Growing Together: Mentoring Beyond Small Talk and Prayer Requests (Women)

Take your mentoring efforts beyond small talk and prayer requests---establish cross-generational female friendships that exemplify the discipleship Paul affirmed in Titus 2! Topics include: how to set expectations and share your story; savor the Word of God together; resist temptations; cultivate contentment in all seasons; choose what is best; and more. (Books will be available for \$11 on the first day of class.)

- **Room 112 :: Teachers - Kristine Louis & Nikki Butler**

Anxiety: Knowing God's Peace (Coed)

Anxiety can feel like a daily battle—at times bringing great suffering to both the body and the soul. Whether you experience nagging worry or debilitating panic, God's Word offers hope and help. The Bible is honest about human experiences of dread and fear, even in the lives of believers. We wage our war against anxiety through the disciplined exercise of biblical faith rooted in who God is, what he has done for us in Christ, and how he promises to continue to care for those who belong to him. (This 31-day devotional will be available for \$11 on the first day of class)

- **Room 114 :: Teachers - Mike Rogers & Darryl Arrington**

**** DiscipleLIFE classes for all ages meet every Sunday morning at 9am. ****



God's Word for God's People

[James 1:16-17](#), [John 12:1-3](#), and [Romans 1:1-3](#)

"Contrasting Pictures of the Heart"—December 1, 2024



Introduction

The heart. An EKG will give a depiction of the health of your heart because it is central to everything you are physically. Scripture mentions the term "heart" over 1,000 times. It is a key ingredient to understanding biblical revelation.

A grateful heart is a sign of a believing heart. The condition of our heart is revealed by our attitude toward gratitude. Your heart is who you are. It is what makes you who you are in your inner life. Seeing life through the eyes of faith causes you to see the Lord's hand in all your life.

God gives us good gifts - His word, His law, His Son. ([James 1:16-17](#)) Everything that we have that is a good gift is from God. You can believe this or reject it. In the universe that God has created, there is constant change, but God never changes. In His goodness, He is constant. God's goodness is at the center of His handiwork.

God is not only perfect and powerful, but He is also unchangeably good. In light of this, the only appropriate response to this is gratitude. Gratitude of heart is foundational to our moral behavior, financial choices, time management, and emotional health. Is there something in your life that causes you to struggle with gratitude? Do you see God's hand in the trials of life? What are some of the things that you have learned through the trials of life?

Sermon Outline

1. A dark heart - Romans 1:18-21
2. An enlightened heart - John 12:1-3
3. A deceived heart. John 12:4

Read & Discuss

1. Read Romans 1:18-21

The Apostle Paul paints a picture in this passage that all men are without excuse. No one can ask, "who is God, where is God, what does God want?" Creation speaks to who God is. The problem is that we enjoy sin so much that we refuse to acknowledge Him. What are some of the ways you see God in nature?

When man sees God in nature, he suppresses that truth because he likes sin. ([John 3:19](#)) One way we suppress the truth is by not being grateful. You are going to worship somebody or something. You are going to serve somebody. Who are you serving? What does your checkbook, credit card statement or calendar indicate about who you are serving? Are you grateful for all of God's good gifts.

2. Read John 12:1-3

Can you imagine what it would be like to watch this scene? Mary sat at the feet of Jesus, listening to His teaching. She came in gratitude to wash Jesus' feet with an expensive ointment. This occurred a little less than a week before Jesus went to the cross.

The religious leaders were looking for Jesus as if He was a fugitive. Mary's act was risky. The world will do everything it can to get rid of Jesus. Mary came with a grateful heart. She believed that Jesus was the Messiah. Mary knew what she was doing. She was showing her love and gratitude for her Lord. This scene moves from a general revelation to a special revelation. She was in the presence of the Christ. She could see this in Jesus' words and in His person. She was in the presence of the Light of the world. What are ways that you can show your gratitude for what Jesus has done for you?

3. Read John 12:4-8

Standing by Mary was Judas. Instead of gratitude, he is grumbling. Satan had entered him. Satan is the great deceiver - the father of lies. Judas didn't care about the poor. He only cared about himself.

Complaining and gratefulness are incompatible. What does God think about complaining? (Exodus 15-17 and Numbers 11) God finds complaining frustrating. Look at what God did the nation of Israel for complaining. They complained when they were in want **and** when they had enough.

People are suffering all over the world. You may not like what is going on in the world today, but your complaining will not make a difference in those things. What will make a difference is your gratitude to God. It's not just in your words. It's your thoughts. Are there grumbling thoughts that you need to replace with grateful thoughts?

Judas had a dark, deceived heart. It is a picture of unbelief and a stark contrast to Mary's heart. He was in love with money. Where are you? Is your heart deceived? Is your heart enlightened? Is your heart dark?

What are some things you can do to apply these truths to your life?

- Remember gratitude may be now or never. ([John 12:8](#)) This could be your last day on this earth. Let it be filled with gratitude toward God for all He has done.
- Recognize the tragedy of ingratitude. Grumbling and complaining will affect you and those around you. Imagine what our church and nation would be like if we began thanking God for everything He has done. ([2 Timothy 3:1](#))
- Follow Jesus. If you are going to be a grateful person, you need to follow Jesus. ([John 1:12](#)) Turn from sin that has been causing you to run away from God and follow Jesus with all of your heart.

Work at being grateful and expressing gratitude every day. You must work at it. Express gratitude to God for your physical and spiritual blessings. God has given you so much! Keep looking for blessings. Always thank God before you ask Him for something. We can all be grateful! Humble yourself. Fall at the feet of Jesus. Give your heart to Him. Do it today!

Prayer of Response

1) After hearing God's Word, what sin do I need to confess? From what do I need to repent?

2) How should my life be lived this week based on what I have heard? What should I *understand*, *believe*, *desire*, or *do*?

Spend time praying together in response to God's word asking for His help and greater faith to follow Him in the week to come. If you missed the sermon on Sunday or would like to listen again, visit our website at fbcum.org

Next week's sermon text: we turn to Ruth 2 "The Thrill of Hope"
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Family Guide for week of December 1st, 2024

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Suggestions on getting started:

- Decide on a time & place (breakfast, dinner, before bed, etc...)
- Start simple and short (ten minutes or less). Start with three things: 1) Read God's word, 2) Pray together and 3) Sing together. Scripture memory and catechism questions are *optional* if you have the time. Better to start small than bite off more than you can chew and give up.
- Be flexible. It doesn't need to look cookie-cutter similar for every family. Know yourself and know your kids: their personality, age, maturity, etc. [For younger kids consider starting with a good children's Bible like [The Big Picture Story Bible](#).]
- If you don't know the answer to a question someone has, don't act like you do! Say something like, "Great question, let me look into that." Study, ask a pastor or Christian friend and get back to them.
- Embrace the chaos. Kids are kids – don't expect it to be a perfect roundtable discussion with quiet, attentive children every time. Be patient and persistent. Patterns and habits help to set expectations over time.
- To learn more about family worship check out Donald Whitney's book (available at our church bookstall): [Family Worship: In the Bible, In History, and In Your Home](#).

Family Guide for week of December 1st, 2024

Deuteronomy 6:6-7 And these words that I command you today shall be on your heart. You shall teach them diligently to your children, and shall talk of them when you sit in your house, and when you walk by the way, and when you lie down, and when you rise.



Bible Intake (Listening to God)

Advent Week One

Day 1 – Genesis 1:3-5

Day 2 – Psalm 19:1-6

Day 3 – Psalm 119:103-105

Day 4 – Matthew 4:12-17

Day 5 – Matthew 5:13-16

**Read Ruth 2 in preparation for church on Sunday, December 8, 2024*

Prayer (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 28 of our church directory.

Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Thank God for His amazing power and for creating light.

Ask God to help you follow His Word, so you walk in the light of His truth.

Sing together

"O Come, O Come, Immanuel" – found on page 17 of the Advent Devotional
"The Light Before Christmas." Or "O Come All Ye Faithful" – using the bulletin from Sunday.

Memory verses for the month

Isaiah 9:2 *"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone."*

Psalms 34:17 *"The righteous cry out, and the Lord hears, and rescues them from all their troubles."*

Catechism question for the week¹

Question 21: What sort of Redeemer is needed to bring us back to God?

Answer: One who is truly human and also truly God.

¹ New City Catechism (<http://newcitycatechism.com/>)