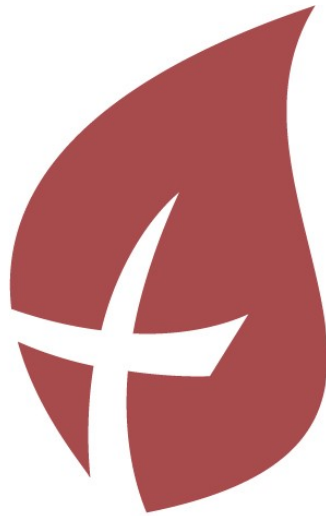


# ***Sunday Morning Worship***

***November 30, 2025***



**FIRSTBAPTIST  
CHURCH  
UPPERMARLBORO**

**7415 SW Crain Highway, Upper Marlboro, MD 20772**

**301-952-0117 :: [www.fbcum.org](http://www.fbcum.org) :: [fbcum@firstbaptistum.com](mailto:fbcum@firstbaptistum.com)**

# ***Order of Worship***

***November 30, 2025***

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Silent Prayer**

**Call to Worship — Matthew 11:28-30**

***Song — O Come, All You Unfaithful***

***Song — O Come, Let Us Adore Him***

**Scripture Reading — John 1:1-14**

**Pastoral Prayer**

***Song — Behold Our God***

**Prayer of Thanks**

**Worship Through Giving of Tithes and Offerings**

**Message — Mike Rogers**

**“A Bruised Reed He Will Not Break”**

**Isaiah 42:1-9**

***Song — O Come, O Come Emmanuel***

**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 — Matthew 11:28-30 (ESV)

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<sup>28</sup> “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. <sup>29</sup> Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.

<sup>30</sup> For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”

## O Come, All You Unfaithful

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Bob Kauflin | Lisa Clow

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### **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

# O Come, Let Us Adore Him

John Francis Wade | Frederick Oakeley

## Verse 1:

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

## Verse 2:

We'll praise His name forever,  
we'll praise His name forever,  
we'll praise His name forever,  
Christ, the Lord.

## Verse 3:

We'll give Him all the glory,  
we'll give Him all the glory,  
we'll give Him all the glory,  
Christ, the Lord.

## Verse 4:

For He alone is worthy,  
For He alone is worthy,  
For He alone is worthy,  
Christ, the Lord.

## Scripture Reading — John 1:1-14 (ESV)

<sup>1</sup> In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In him was life, and the life was the light of men. <sup>5</sup> The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

<sup>6</sup> There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. <sup>7</sup> He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. <sup>8</sup> He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

<sup>9</sup> The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. <sup>10</sup> He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own, and his own did not receive him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, <sup>13</sup> who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

<sup>14</sup> And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

# Behold Our God

Jonathan Baird | Meghan Baird | Ryan Baird | Stephen Altrogge

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## **Verse 1:**

Who has held the oceans in His hands  
Who has numbered every grain of sand  
Kings and nations tremble at His voice  
All creation rises to rejoice

## **Chorus:**

Behold our God seated on His throne  
Come let us adore Him  
Behold our King nothing can compare  
Come let us adore Him!

## **Verse 2:**

Who has given counsel to the Lord  
Who can question any of His Words  
Who can teach the One who knows all things  
Who can fathom all His wondrous deeds

## **Verse 3:**

Who has felt the nails upon His hands  
Bearing all the guilt of sinful man  
God eternal humbled to the grave  
Jesus, Savior risen now to reign!

## **Bridge:**

You will reign forever  
(let Your glory fill the Earth)

## **Sermon Notes**

### **“A Bruised Reed He Will Not Break” :: Isaiah 42:1-9**

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# O Come, O Come Emmanuel

John Neale | Steve Cook | Bob Kauflin

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## **Verse 1:**

O come, O come, Emmanuel  
And ransom captive Israel  
That mourns in lonely exile here  
Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel!

## **Verse 2:**

O come Thou Dayspring from on high  
And cause Thy light on us to rise.  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night  
And death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come to thee O Israel!

## **Verse 3:**

O come, O come, True prophet of the Lord  
And turn the key to heaven's door  
Be Thou our comforter and guide  
And lead us to the Father's side.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall by His Word  
our darkness dispel.

## **Verse 4:**

O come our great High Priest and intercede  
Thy sacrifice our only plea  
The judgment we no longer fear  
Thy precious blood has brought us near.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Has banished every fear of hell.

## **Verse 5:**

O Come Thou King of nations bring  
An end to all our suffering  
Bid every pain and sorrow cease  
And reign now as our Prince of Peace.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come again with us to dwell

## **Verse 6:**

O come, O Wisdom from on high,  
Who ordered all things mightily;  
To us the path of knowledge show  
And teach us in its ways to go.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
Shall come again with us to dwell

## **This Week at First Baptist Church**

### **Sunday, November 30**

9:00 AM DiscipleLIFE classes

10:00 AM Sunday Worship

### **Monday, December 1**

### **Tuesday, December 2**

10:30 AM Tuesday Ladies' Bible Study

### **Wednesday, December 3**

6:30 PM Church Prayer Meeting

### **Thursday, December 4**

### **Friday, December 5**

### **Saturday, December 6**

11:00 AM Ladies' Christmas Tea

### **Sunday, December 7**

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**

### **Wednesday, December 3**

6:30 PM — Church Prayer Meeting

### **Saturday, December 6**

11:00 AM — Ladies Christmas Tea

### **Sunday, December 7**

Budget Review Meeting — immediately following worship service

### **Sunday, December 14**

Church Members' Meeting — immediately following worship service

### **Wednesday, December 24**

6:30 PM — Christmas Eve Worship



# Praying with First Baptist Church

## A Prayer Guide for the week of November 30

### 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 in 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 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 have direct partnerships 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 their semester at school. 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 14 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. Pray for wisdom and a God-centered vision for how to use the resources that God has given our church. (James 1:5)
- Pray we would care more about God's opinion of us than the praise of man. (Pr 29:25; 14:26)
- Pray that good spiritual fruit would come from discipleship efforts in small groups, one to one meetings, and as people show hospitality to others in our church. (1 Pt 4:9; Gal 6:2)
- 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)
- Pray our church family would not grow weary of doing good. Pray we would live and interact with one another in a way that reveals God's steadfast love and mercy to the world. (Gal 6:9)
- 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 that God would help us comprehend his 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)
- The following individuals have expressed particular prayer concerns:

**Margaret Austin, Alice Copeland, Connie Crawford, Jim and Pat Ernster, Becky Henderson and Family (death of mother), Gay Laxton (death of sister), Family of Lucie Lowe (died Nov 15), Bonnie Trott, Latasha Wilson**

(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.)

## Ministry Spotlight

“Ministry Spotlight” is meant to bring to your attention active church ministries and programs at FBC Upper Marlboro. We hope that each month you will pray for all those serving and consider how you may support their efforts. *You may notify us if you would like to learn more about the ministries at FBCUM by using the Digital Communication Card (see QR code on the back of this bulletin). Pick up a copy of “Places to Serve” in the magazine racks near the exits for information on all the church ministries.*

### Young Adult Ministry

The Young Adult Ministry has a mission to see young adults grow and develop as disciples of Jesus Christ. The ministry consists of Christian adults ages 18 - 35 who will gather at least once a month or a minimum of 12 times a year. Coming together on purpose to pour into the lives of one another. Scripture tells us that Jesus called His disciples to follow Him, observe and apply His teaching. Pastor Zach Schlegel has encouraged the leaders of the Young Adult Ministry to follow Christ’s example through gatherings with mature believers that the young adults may explore how a life richly immersed in God’s word transforms into the desire to seek Christ likeness.

This was at the heart of why Treonte (Trey) Fields and Manase Langi united to serve in this ministry. In fact, Trey shared his personal story, that when the Lord saved him, he did not have a spiritual mentor that could understand the pressures confronting young adults. Although he was able to learn from mature Christians, he also felt that there was a need to have someone that was in the same status in life, dealing with the



same struggles that confronted him as a young adult. Proverbs 27:17– Iron sharpens iron, and one man sharpens another. When Pastor Zach presented the opportunity to Trey, he felt it was blessing to be able to encourage the young adults and point them to a community of people who were experiencing the very same things in life. The interesting thing about the Young Adult Ministry is the diversity within the group. Some members are just beginning adult-hood-college bound students making decisions about the future, others are working full-time jobs and are making decisions about how to advance their career while others are married with children and are not only maintaining a home but deciding how they will raise their children.

## Ministry Spotlight

Gatherings are an essential part of our growth in the Young Adult Ministry. Gatherings are opportunities to have fellowship with members of the ministry and some of our mature Christian church members around a comforting meal and just spending time sharing. There is always something inspiring about hearing how God has impacted a person's life. Some of the benefits of the gatherings includes, developing new relationships and witness how God impacts many lives for His glory.

A Gathering at the Moorehead's.....

A typical gathering took place at the home of the Tyrone & Sharon Moorehead for about ten (10) members of the Young Adult Ministry. As with any new group gathering, prayer, ice breakers and some snacks opened the flow of conversations. The time together was spent sharing details about specific challenges that they face and sharing how they could see God's hand at work in their situation. Tyrone said, "The young adults inspired me by their shared belief and devotion to the



Lord. It was so encouraging seeing and hearing them discuss how much they seek and desire to follow the Lord." Charles Kirkland, III shared, "The Young Adults Ministry has allowed me to have biblical conversations with people of a similar age, as well as, gain insight into how the Lord is working in other people's lives, at my age, and how we all share similar struggles."

***Thank you, to Treonte Fields and Manase Langi (currently on military deployment) for their dedication in serving on this ministry and for all of the hosts that have selflessly opened their homes to engage with our Young Adult Ministry at FBCUM. If you have any questions or would like to support the Young Adult Ministry, please contact Treonte Fields or Manase Langi for more information.***

***The Young Adult Ministry is planning to attend CrossCon 2026 in Louisville, Kentucky, in January, for more information or details about this conference, please contact Tre Fields.***

# Announcements

1. **Church Prayer Meeting — THIS Wednesday, December 3, at 6:30pm.** Join us as we gather for a time of praying together, hearing testimony, and encouragement from God's Word.

2. **Ladies' Christmas Tea :: Saturday, Dec 6 :: 11am—12:30pm.** Registration is closed for this event.

This is an evangelistic and fellowship event for women of FBCUM to invite non-Christian family, friends, colleagues, and neighbors to enjoy a festive gathering, food, and a short gospel message. Pray God would draw us closer to himself and one another as we gather. Contact Camille Hawit with questions.

3. **Lord's Supper Celebration Next Sunday, Dec 7.** We encourage you to prayerfully prepare your heart to receive the supper together as we remember the work of Christ on our behalf. If you know of any reconciliation that needs to happen between you and another brother or sister in Christ, we hope you'll take the time to prayerfully do that before we gather next Sunday.

4. **New DiscipleLIFE Classes for Adults Begin Dec 7.** See insert for class descriptions and info.

5. **Budget Review Meeting — Sunday, Dec 7.** Church members are invited to review and discuss the proposed 2026 church budget with the pastors following the worship service on Dec 7.

6. **Church Members' Meeting — Sunday, Dec 14.** We will be voting on memberships and the 2026 Budget. We will also thank God for the work he's done in 2025 and prayerfully consider where we see God leading our church in 2026. Minutes from our previous Members' Meeting will be available in the church office on 12/7.

7. **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 to celebrate with us.

8. **Young Adults to CrossCon :: January 5-7.** The Young Adults are planning a trip to CrossCon in Louisville, KY, on January 5-7. If you're interested in joining call or text Tre Fields (301-357-2675). Visit [www.crosscon.com](http://www.crosscon.com) to learn more about the conference.

9. **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 the year, please remember that any gifts to be counted toward your 2025 annual giving statement must be postmarked, in the church office, or submitted online by Dec. 31. As a reminder, there are three ways you can give:

- online: click the link or scan the QR code,
- in-person: designated boxes in the church foyer or during the worship service,
- by mail: send to the church office.

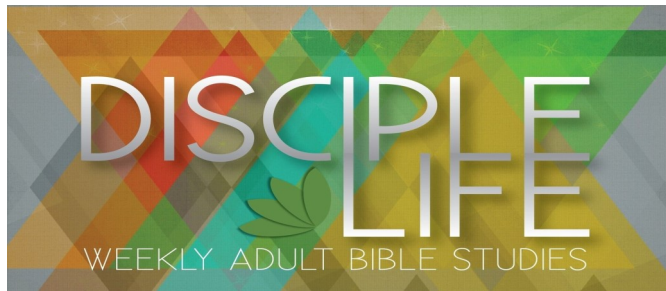


Church members with a benevolence request, please contact the church office.



## **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.



## **Winter 2025-26 (Dec. - Feb.) DiscipleLIFE Classes for adults:**

**BEGINNING SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7 @ 9AM**

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

### **Explore the Bible – Matthew Chapters 1-13:**

For Christ followers, we have no greater example than what we see in the life of Jesus. By listening to His words and watching His actions, we learn the do's and don'ts of living out our faith. As you study Matthew 1–13, you'll get a firsthand account of what it's like to walk with Jesus each day—and learn what it means to become a citizen of God's kingdom. (Books available in room 117/118 starting Sunday, 11/23.)

- **Explore the Bible (Coed) — Room 117/118 :: Teachers: Bill Lowry & TBD**
- **Explore the Bible (Women) — Room 115 :: Teacher: Tanya Joy**

*If you are remaining in your current Explore the Bible Class, there is no need to sign up again.*

### **Elective Class — How People Change (Coed):**

"How People Change" is a video-based seminar that helps participants understand the motivations behind their actions and provides a biblical framework for changing long-standing patterns by focusing on the gospel of Jesus Christ and the importance of the cross. Join us as long-time pastors and biblical counselors, Paul David Tripp and Tim Lane, explain how understanding Christ's life, death, and resurrection help lead to lasting personal and behavioral change.

- **Room 114 :: Teachers - Mike Rogers and Zak Kergel**

### **Elective Class — Discover Stewardship (Young Adult Coed):**

This class invites you to explore how our money, time, health, and skills can be used for God's glory. Together, we'll move beyond the false promises of the "prosperity gospel" and embrace the joyful truth that God owns everything, and we are His stewards. This isn't about more rules. It's about discovering how every part of life, what we say, what we do, how we spend, can be done in the name of the Lord Jesus. (Col. 3:17) Join us as we uncover what Scripture says about living purposefully and joyfully as stewards of all God has entrusted to us.

- **Room 112 :: Teachers - Tyrone Moorehead and TBD**

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





# Christmas Preparations

[Isaiah 42:1-9](#)

**"A Bruised Reed He Will Not Break"**– November 30, 2025



## Introduction

The book of Isaiah tells the story of the salvation of God's people through judgement. Because of their sin and idolatry, Jerusalem will fall and God's people will be exiled. However, Isaiah's message of judgment comes with a message of hope. God will fulfill His promise to His people – promises made thousands of years before in Genesis 12. Even though God promised deliverance and comfort, the people were discouraged and doubted.

God responds in chapter 41. The exile was divinely orchestrated judgment for their sin. He told them to look at His sovereign work in history, put away the idols, and live in a way that the nations would see that Israel's God is the King of all.

Do you ever read the passages of scripture and wonder what was up with the Israelites? How could they act the way that they did? But if you are honest with yourself, you often act as they did. We all do. Do you ever feel weary? Do you fight for faith? Are you ever confused with where you might fit into God's plan? Do you long for God's plan to be completed? Waiting is hard. We can all attest that the trappings of the world can pull our hearts toward lesser things. Are you tempted to allow those lesser things to take the "driver's seat?" This is idolatry.

This was a major part of Isaiah's warning to the Israelites. Just as he told the Israelites to put away idols, so must you. Whatever your heart clings to is really your god. It needn't be an image of wood. What are you to do? Take a good look at Jesus! When you see Jesus clearly, you will see that He is better than any idol that you can build or hold in your hearts. You play a vital part in His sovereign plan.

## Sermon Outline

1. See that Jesus is better. Vs. 1-4
2. See that you play an important part in His sovereign plan. Vs. 5-9

## Read & Discuss

### 1. Read Vs. 1 – 4

"Behold!" Take a good look at "my servant." This servant would have been understood by the Israelites as the coming Messiah. This Messiah is Jesus. God wants you to see Jesus in contrast to the worthless idols in your life. ([Isaiah 41:24, 29](#)) In contrast to these idols, the servant of the Lord is a delight, bringing peace and justice to His people. He is the glorious alternative to your idols. He is so much better.

How much better is He? He is the One that God upholds; He is hand-picked of God. His Spirit is upon Jesus. He has the very essence of God within Him - the God-Man. He is a living, breathing, active God as opposed to the dead, lifeless and worthless idols. You can call on Him in prayer. He has ears to hear all of your joys and sorrows. Honor Him in public and private. Trust Him to guide your future. He has eyes to see. He knows your past, present and future circumstances. Listen to His voice in the truths of His Word. Delight and lean into the living God. He is better!

Jesus is better than other earthly rulers. [Isaiah 41:25](#) refers to King Cyrus of Persia who was a proud ruler, stepping on and crushing people to get what he wanted. In contrast, God will set things right without calling attention to Himself. He won't disregard the small and insignificant. He won't grow weary! Jesus gave lives back to suffering people, and He didn't do it for fame. God's plan is for a gentle Servant to bring justice to the nations. You should seek to emulate Him in any authority in which He has put you. Where has God placed you in a position of authority or influence? When you take a good look at Jesus as your model, are you using that position of authority and influence for God's glory and for the good of others?

God has a plan for human existence. He knows how humans and human society can be at their best. He knows what will make you happy. God's kingdom will come and His will will be done. There will be no corrupting idolatry. He will set things right. The massive disorder of the human condition is an indication of idolatry. You must use wisdom and understanding, discerning that the human plan for salvation has an idolatrous agenda. True order will come through Jesus. He is the hope of the world. He took your sins and miseries on Himself to bring you salvation. Do you see how Jesus is better?

You should want this message to get to all nations. How? You can take the time to **learn** about the different cultures and nations that need Jesus. We can all **pray** that God will bring the Gospel to these places. You might be in a position to **give** in ways for the Gospel to go to those far reaches of the world. Maybe God is calling you to **go** to take the gospel to a place that is dark and unknown. But we can go to our neighbor and share the good news.

Do you delight in Jesus or is He in the corner of your life? Do you see that Jesus is the only hope for the world and for your own life? Have you come to Him in humility, repentance and faith? Repent, submit to Jesus and obey Him. Jesus is better.

## 2. Read Vs. 5 - 9

Here, God is speaking **to** His servant, commissioning Him to do the work of God on earth. He will be a covenant and light. ([vs. 6](#)) He will deliver mankind from the darkness of idolatry, opening the eyes of the blind. ([vs. 7](#)) Do you sometimes think that you will never change? Thanks be to God - He is committed to lead you into new life. His name is at stake. He will not give His glory to anyone else. ([vs. 8](#)) God will make His love known to you; you are not confined to your sinful life. God took on flesh, died on the cross to pay the penalty for sin, victoriously conquering death in the resurrection to make redeem you and reconcile you to God.

You play an enormous role in making His name great. You are intended to be a beacon of hope to the lost. Your acts of humility, forgiveness, repentance, and worship are meant to open the eyes of the blind so they can behold the glory of Jesus. The New Testament writers made it clear that the church is essential to God's glory. ([1 Peter 2:9-10](#)) Nothing else exemplifies God's glory like the church! The church is built of broken sinners saved by the righteous, glorious grace of a merciful God. When the church lives in unity, she plays a significant part in God's plan to proclaim His excellencies to the world. Pray that He will continue to strengthen us for this task.

Keep your eyes fixed on Jesus. See, believe, embrace and live out your part in His sovereign plan. God has kept His word. ([vs. 9](#)) Get rid of your worthless idols and trust Him - the real, merciful, living, just God. He is your only hope. When you submit to Him, He will NOT let you go! Then, when you see Jesus clear and rightly, the response is always worship. ([vs. 10](#))

This is the first Sunday of Advent. It is a time to remember and reflect on the Old Testament saints who longed for the promised Messiah and on the nervous anticipation the New Testament saints must have felt when the announcement was made that the Messiah was coming as a newborn child. Today, even though you reap the glorious benefits of the mystery of the gospel that has been revealed to you, do you long for the fulfillment of the future promise of Jesus' return? When He returns, He will bring about the full consummation of His glory, deliver the final blow to evil and usher in the new heavens and the new earth. All will be made right just as it was in the very beginning - God's people in God's place under His righteous rule, forever. Are you weary of waiting? Are you tempted to turn to lesser gods? Take a good look at Jesus this advent season and beyond. Resolve to worship Jesus and no other.

### 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.

|                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Next week's sermon text: <a href="#">Luke 2:1-17</a> "Jesus is Born" |
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## Family Guide for week of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025

*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](#).

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## **Bible Intake:** (Listening to God)

Day 1 – Matthew 4:23-25

Day 2 – Matthew 5:1-12

Day 3 – Matthew 5:13-16

Day 4 – Matthew 5:17-20

Day 5 – Matthew 5:21-26

\*Read **Luke 2:1-7** in preparation for church on Sunday, December 7, 2025

## **Prayer:** (Talking to God)

Pray about one thing you read in Scripture together.

Pray for a few church members on pg. 37 of our church directory. Pray for any specific needs of you and your family.

Ask God to give you hope and strength in the areas where you are struggling to trust Him.

Ask God to supply unity and hope for your church. Ask Him to give the people a passion for His Word, a love for others, and a commitment to the church's mission of making disciples.

## **Sing together**

"Behold Our God " – Use the bulletin from Sunday.

## **Memory verses for the month**

**Psalms 145:9** "The Lord is good to all, and his mercy is over all that He has made."

**Luke 1:37** "For nothing will be impossible with God. "

## **Catechism question for the week<sup>1</sup>**

**Question 20: Who is the Redeemer?**

**Answer:** The only Redeemer is the Lord Jesus Christ.

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