

NEWS+EVENTS

December 14, 2025

For more details and registration,
go to heritageokc.org/events

The Season of Advent: As we gather and prepare our hearts to celebrate Christ's birth, we encourage you to consider using the Advent resources on our app or at heritageokc.org/advent.

NO Wednesday Evening classes or 4MEN this week. See our holiday schedule and find more details about upcoming events at heritageokc.org/events.

Christmas Caroling: A group from Heritage will go caroling on Wednesday, Dec. 17. Meet at HBC at 6:00pm for brief instructions before visiting several members. If you plan to attend, please email jonathan@heritageokc.org.

MEN'S Third Thursday Fellowship: Dec. 18 - We will meet at Rudy's on Memorial at 11:30am for food, fellowship, and a brief devotional.

ABF, Youth and Children's classes will meet Sunday, Dec. 21 at 9am; however, these classes will NOT meet on Dec. 28.

Important Notice: To claim charitable contributions for 2025, donations must be made online, postmarked, or dropped off at the church by **Wednesday, Dec. 31**. Checks postmarked after Dec. 31 will not qualify for a charitable contribution, even if the check is predated or written in 2025. A record of your contributions to Heritage will be mailed to you in January.

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering: 100% of financial gifts collected are used to send and support missionaries to spread the gospel to unengaged, unreached people groups. Go to imb.org/lottimoon for more details and to give online.

Christmas Eve Service: Wednesday, Dec. 24, 5:30pm, we will meet in the Worship Center to celebrate our Lord's first advent! Join us for a brief time of singing carols and remembering our Savior's coming.

NEW Women's Bible Study starting Wednesday, Jan. 7, 6pm! Join us as we are reminded through Ephesians that, in Christ, believers have everything needed for a joy-filled life of faith, growing together in fellowship, maturity, and fruitful living. Sign up by Dec. 31 to reserve your book (\$10).

NEW 4MEN Study: begins Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 6am, or Wednesday, Jan. 7, at 6:30pm. Philippians conveys the Apostle Paul's love and appreciation for believers, coupled with encouragement to be faithful in the midst of suffering. All men are invited to join in this interactive walk through God's Word.



THE GOSPEL OF JOHN

As a family of forgiven people, we are honored that you have joined with us today as we seek to develop people who delight in God and declare His glory—from our neighborhoods to the nations. Our prayer is that you will connect with God through Christ this morning and that this would be the beginning of a deep connection with other believers as well. Please take a moment to fill out the Communication Card located in the chair pocket near you and place it in an offering pedestal in the back of the Worship Center.

Develop Delight Declare



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Special Music

*Immanuel /
Silent Night*

Call to Worship

Matthew 1:18-23

Pastoral Prayer

*Adam Jacobs
Teaching Pastor*

Songs of Worship

*Hark! the Harold
Angels Sing*

Oh Holy Nights

Scripture Reading

*Habakkuk 2:20;
Zechariah 2:13*

Songs of Worship

*Let All Mortal
Flesh Keep Silence
Emmanuel (Glory
in the Highest)*

Message

*Adam Jacobs
Teaching Pastor*

Song of Response

*Hark! the Harold
Angels Sing*

Benediction

Adam Jacobs

"Would we know the prime secret of being people like Abraham, Moses, Job, David, Daniel, Paul, and John the Baptist? They were all eminently humble men. Living at different ages, and enjoying very different degrees of light, in this matter at least, they were all agreed. In themselves, they saw nothing but sin and weakness. To God they gave all the praise of what they were. Let us walk in their steps. Let us covet earnestly the best gifts, but above all, let us covet humility. The way to true honor is to be humble. No one was ever so praised by Christ as the very man who says here, 'I must decrease,' the humble John the Baptist."

~ J.C. Ryle

"Jesus was not like John the Baptist. Jesus is God in descent. Jesus is God incarnate. This is the starting point of every Christology--not the wisdom of Jesus, His perfection, or His fulfillment of prophecy. It is this starting point that John the Baptist is driving home to His followers. 'The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth.' Jesus is above all. His words are above every human word. When we speak about Jesus today, the same theme must resonate from every pulpit and lectern. Jesus is God in descent. Jesus is important and glorified not because His teaching is winsome, but because He has come from the very heart of the Father. Indeed, He and the Father are one."

~ Gary Burge

A Waning Star

John 3:22-36

John the Baptist is faced with a question from one of his disciples regarding the upstart ministry of Jesus. John insists that he is simply a groomsman in the wedding, not the groom. John's joy is found in the magnification of Jesus, the bridegroom, not in his own ministry. He teaches us that Jesus's star must wax, even if it means ours must wane.

1. The Popularity Contest

2. You've Got It All Wrong

3. Just a Groomsman

4. A Ministry Like No Other

Additional References:

Numbers 11:26-30, 1 Cor. 4:7, Rev. 19:7-8, Eph. 5:25-27