

# Christmas Service, December 22

- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS
  - December Offering currently at \$31000 for church planting among 10/40 Window
  - Christmas Eve at 400 or 530, no childcare, but the kids space will be open if you need to bring your kids over there and sit with them. Kid friendly service, though
  - No service the last Sunday in December. Make sure to grab the primer and go to website under Pastor's Blog
- *Come All Ye Faithful*
- Today we are here remember what God has done: *Galatians 4:4–7, [4] But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, [5] to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. [6] And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" [7] So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.*
  - It seems impossible, doesn't it? Not just that God would send his son, that Jesus would be God in the flesh, but that he would also live a perfect life, and also die, and also be resurrected, and also give us his Spirit and make us heirs!
  - But God has always been about doing the impossible. From breathing out stars to creating all things. But if you are like me, everything right now is so rushed and busy that you feel like that all feels so far away. You need to be still and wait, to meet with God, to draw near to him that he will draw near to you.
  - Today is a gift for you to slow down, to be still, to remember what the Lord has done and provided for those who wait on him in trust! He does the impossible.
  - *Psalms 16*

*[1] Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.*

*[2] I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord;  
I have no good apart from you."*

*[3] As for the saints in the land, they are the excellent ones,  
in whom is all my delight.*

*[4] The sorrows of those who run after another god shall multiply;  
their drink offerings of blood I will not pour out  
or take their names on my lips.*

*[5] The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup;  
you hold my lot.*

*[6] The lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;  
indeed, I have a beautiful inheritance.*

*[7] I bless the LORD who gives me counsel;  
in the night also my heart instructs me.  
[8] I have set the LORD always before me;  
because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.*

*[9] Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices;  
my flesh also dwells secure.*

*[10] For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol,  
or let your holy one see corruption.*

*[11] You make known to me the path of life;  
in your presence there is fullness of joy;  
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

○ **REFLECT: Think about all of the things that have been stressing you out and then remind yourself: "I have no good apart from you, God."**

○ *King Forevermore into O Come Let Us Adore Him*

● A PERFECT WORLD, A BROKEN WORLD

- The world wasn't always this way - busy, flustered, even evil. It was designed perfectly by a perfect God. Mankind walked with God in his presence. He created them to reign over the earth as little kings, managing or stewarding his dominion.
- But something went wrong. In rebellion we threw off God's yoke of grace and love and exchanged it for one of sin and shame. We followed the voice of God's adversary, believing that our way was the better way.
- But before God removed the first parents from his presence in the Garden of Eden, he made a promise to save. He promised to send a deliverer, an offspring of Eve, who would crush the head of the adversary and restore that which was lost.
- Since that time, mankind has been in a place of waiting and trusting. Waiting for God to fulfill his seemingly impossible promise. Trusting that his Word is true, that he is who he says he is, that he will do what he said he would do.
- *Psalms 25*

*[1] To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul.*

*[2] O my God, in you I trust;  
let me not be put to shame;  
let not my enemies exult over me.*

*[3] Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;  
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.*

*[4] Make me to know your ways, O LORD;  
teach me your paths.*

*[5] Lead me in your truth and teach me,*

*for you are the God of my salvation;  
for you I wait all the day long.*

*[6] Remember your mercy, O LORD, and your steadfast love,  
for they have been from of old.*

*[7] Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;  
according to your steadfast love remember me,  
for the sake of your goodness, O LORD!*

*[8] Good and upright is the LORD;  
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.*

*[9] He leads the humble in what is right,  
and teaches the humble his way.*

*[10] All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness,  
for those who keep his covenant and his testimonies.*

*[11] For your name's sake, O LORD,  
pardon my guilt, for it is great.*

*[12] Who is the man who fears the LORD?  
Him will he instruct in the way that he should choose.*

*[13] His soul shall abide in well-being,  
and his offspring shall inherit the land.*

*[14] The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him,  
and he makes known to them his covenant.*

*[15] My eyes are ever toward the LORD,  
for he will pluck my feet out of the net.*

*[16] Turn to me and be gracious to me,  
for I am lonely and afflicted.*

*[17] The troubles of my heart are enlarged;  
bring me out of my distresses.*

*[18] Consider my affliction and my trouble,  
and forgive all my sins.*

*[19] Consider how many are my foes,  
and with what violent hatred they hate me.*

*[20] Oh, guard my soul, and deliver me!  
Let me not be put to shame, for I take refuge in you.*

*[21] May integrity and uprightness preserve me,  
for I wait for you.*

■ *“Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame;” (v3a)*



- He fasted a glorious abode to be born not just in human form, but in a manger
  - He fasted commanding others what to do to feast on becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross
  - He fasted his righteousness in order to feast on our sin, becoming sin on that cross to satisfy the full wrath of God
- Jesus let go of all these things so that we could embrace the most wonderful gift - God himself. He offered us a great exchange, many actually.
  - His righteousness for our sin
  - Purposelessness for divine calling
  - Brokenness for new creation.
- He has done the impossible. He is able to do more than we could ask or imagine.
- **REFLECT: Will you trust him today? Will you surrender your life to this King and give yourself only unto him?**
- *To Him Who is Able*
- Now he sends you back into the darkness, commissioning you to a higher purpose than you've ever lived. Bringing the Light of the World to dark places so that more people can find the freedom found only in Jesus Christ!
- *Tremble*
- *All Glory Be to Christ*

## Christmas Eve Service, December 24

- *All Glory Be to Christ*
- *O Holy Night*
- *Hark the Herald Angels Sing*
- Theme: Maranatha?
- *O Come O Come Emmanuel*
- *Silent Night*