

Morning Worship

November 29, 2015

Pastor — Allan Lane

Organ --- Alva Lou Schottel

Worship Leader — Tim Waters

Piano — Marcia Hart

As you enter for worship, please silence your cell phones.

(CCLI permit # 424692 covers all copyright song lyrics)

Welcome and Fellowship Allan/People

Hymn # 16 "O Worship the King" Tim/People

Offering/Worship Prayer John Lewis

Tithes and Offerings People

Offering Music Marcia Hart

Missions Moment "Because of Who He Is"

Hymn # 77 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Tim/People

Anthem "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" Worship Choir

Hymn # 89 "O Come, All Ye Faithful" Tim/People

Chorus # 427 "For He Alone Is Worthy" Tim/People

Children's Worship

Scripture Reading Allan/People

Message Allan Lane

Hymn # 298 "I'll Live For Him" Tim/People

Prayer Concerns Allan/People

Chorus of # 448 "Just a Closer Walk with Thee" Tim/People

Isaiah's Hope Foretold

Isaiah 7:14, 9:6, 11:1-2. 53:3-5

The Prophet Isaiah is longing for the Lord to somehow come down into his world to make sense out of all the nonsense, to bring peace to all the problems, to dispel the

darkness and to extricate evil. Isaiah is hungry to have the Holy One enter our whacked-out world in an extraordinary manner. In the Prophet's writings we see . . .

1) A Sure Sign . (Isaiah 7:14)

- The Lord Himself will give the sign. That's similar to what Abraham said in Genesis 22:8: "God himself will provide the lamb."
- The sign was given to all of us. The word "you" in this passage is plural, indicating that it was not just a sign to King Ahaz but to everyone as the angel made clear in Luke 2:10: "Do not be afraid. I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people." Verse 13 mentions that this sign is specifically given to the "house of David."
- The sign will be a son born to a virgin. In the Hebrew, there is a grammatical interjection that should read, "Behold, the virgin will be with child..." It's used to arrest attention, to indicate the importance of what is about to be said. This is no ordinary pregnancy and no ordinary birth. A virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son. This would certainly stand out as a miraculous sign.
- The Son would be God incarnate. The name Immanuel means, "The strong God with us." While this was not Jesus' proper name, it was a name that belonged to Him as an attribute. This is who He is. From the point of this miraculous birth on, God would Himself be present among His people. This verse is quoted in Matthew 1:22-23: "All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: 'The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel' – which means, 'God with us.'"

Did Ahaz understand all this? No. Was it fulfilled during his lifetime? No. It was a prophecy, focusing on the future, given to all people so that God could be with all people for all time to be a sure sign.

2) A Sent Son . (Isaiah 9)

The phrase "to us" means "for us, for our benefit" and the emphasis is on the child. The baby was given for our benefit. This verse sets forth the indescribable uniqueness of Jesus. Notice that both His humanity and deity is described. We see attributes of God and characteristics of man.

"For to us a child is born." This describes his birth as a baby.

"To us a son is given." Jesus is God's Son given as a gift.

The child was birthed in Bethlehem and the gift of the eternal Son is given to us. On top of that, the "government will be upon His shoulders." This means that all the expectations of the throne of King David are fulfilled in Christ (see 2 Samuel 7:13-16). The baby bundled in the straw holds the universe together. The one nestled on Mary's shoulders, bears everything on His shoulders. He is redeemer and ruler of all. Part of the reason we have been inoculated by the incarnation and even bored with the baby is because we focus only on the infant Jesus. He is far more than that as we see in his four-fold titles. The phrase, "and He will be called" means "He will justly bear this name..."

- He is Profound – "Wonderful Counselor."
- He is Powerful – "Mighty God."
- He is Personal – "Everlasting Father."
- He is Peaceful – "Prince of Peace."

It's amazing to me that Isaiah not only knew that Immanuel would be born to a virgin as a sure sign; but he also understood that He would be the sent Son. We're reminded of what Gabriel said to Mary in Luke 1:32: "He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High." He's a sure sign and a sent Son. Third, He's...

3) A Shoot from a Stump . (Isaiah 11:1-2)

A shoot will come up from the stump. Jesse is the father of King David and it's through his line that the Savior will come to the world. Listen to the words of Luke 2:4: "So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David." Jesus is described in Revelation 5:5 as "the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David." This shoot will become a Branch that will bear fruit from the root of David. Once again Isaiah uses a play on words. The word "branch" in Hebrew means "nezer." What's cool about that is that Jesus spent a lot of time in Nazareth. Notice also that the Spirit of the Lord will rest on Him.

Isaiah is not only able to catch a vision of the Savior as a shoot, he can see a time when peace will prevail, previewing the angels' proclamation to the shepherds in Luke 2:14: "Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to men on whom his favor rests." He fleshes this out in a series of amazing contrasts to show that during His Second Advent, Jesus will usher in a time of protracted peace. There's a lot here but allow me to just quote Isaiah 11:6: "The wolf will live with the lamb, the leopard will lie down with the goat, the calf and the lion and the yearling together; and a little child will lead them." When Jesus comes again, He will come as the conquering King and the Prince of Peace. We tend to count the shopping days until Christmas; what we should be doing is counting the days until Christ comes again in glory and power so that we're ready for His return.

Isaiah gives a sure sign, he points to the sent Son, he ties the Messiah to David's throne as the shoot from a stump, and finally He is...

4) A Suffering Savior . (Isaiah 53:3-5)

Jesus came at Christmas so that by suffering and ultimately sacrificing Himself as our substitute, we can be saved from our sins. This purpose is stated from the very beginning of the Nativity account in Matthew 1:21: "She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

There is an amazing amount of pinpoint prophecies in Isaiah 53 that describe the substitutionary atonement of Christ on the cross. One can never start too early when getting ready for something really big.

What did Isaiah know about Immanuel? Ministering seven centuries before Christmas, how could he be so specific?

- Jesus is a sure sign
- He is the sent Son
- He is the shoot from a stump
- He is the suffering Savior

Isaiah wrote about the future but his words seem to indicate that he saw the Savior with his own eyes. Listen to John 12:41: "Isaiah said this because he saw Jesus' glory and spoke about him."

Conclusion

Jesus came not only to be born in this world but to be born in us. One can never start too early when getting ready for something really big. Are you ready right now to receive the Christ of Christmas? Isaiah's promises about Christ give us hope and when they're fulfilled in us they bring peace. But like a present, Jesus must be received. I love the words in Isaiah 65:1-2: "I revealed myself to those who did not ask for me; I was found by those who did not seek me...all day long I have held out my hands to an obstinate people, who walk in ways not good, pursuing their own imaginations."

Let's not miss the meaning behind Christmas this year. As a way to keep us from falling into our culture's consumerism trap, we're going to gather around the table of remembrance right now. Isaiah 64:9 summarizes our plight and our plea: "Do not be

angry beyond measure, O Lord; do not remember our sins forever..." and Isaiah 1:18 gives us the promise: "Come now, let us reason together...though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall be like wool." Now that's something big worth getting ready for.

Something Big Is Worth the Wait!

Get Ready for Christmas

A Kindergarten teacher was observing her classroom of children while they were drawing. She came to one little girl who was working diligently, and asked what the drawing was. The girl replied, "I'm drawing God." The teacher paused and said, "But no one knows what God looks like." Without missing a beat, or looking up from her drawing, the girl replied, "They will in a minute."

That's the story of Christmas. Throughout all the centuries, many people believed in God, but they didn't really know what God was like. Then Jesus was born, and in Jesus, we have a picture of who God is. Actually, if the Hebrews had been listening to the words of the Prophets, they were given an accurate sketch of the Messiah.

We complain that the Christmas hype seems to start earlier and earlier each year, but just think about poor Micah. Micah saw the first Christmas coming 700 years before Mary and Joseph ever arrived in Bethlehem to find no room in the Inn. That's right. 700 years before Jesus was born in that humble stable, Micah, an ancient Jewish prophet, said it would happen. Micah made two accurate predictions. The first is that Messiah would be a descendant of King David. The second is that He would be born in the little town of Bethlehem – and Micah was 100% accurate (Micah 5:1-5).

The Bible is full of prophecies that tell us about Jesus' life before He even lived it. More than 300 of them were fulfilled when Jesus came to earth, and many will be fulfilled when He returns. One thing is for certain, if Jesus was just a human, He could not have orchestrated history so that all these prophecies would be fulfilled. Of course humans have no control over where they are born, or their family line. But that's the whole point. These prophecies show that Jesus was not just a human.

As we move about in our community, we are reminded once again that no matter how many Christmas pageants are presented, no matter how often the Christmas story is told, a majority of people still have no real understanding of why we celebrate Christmas. They have never understood Who Jesus is, nor why He was born in Bethlehem, nor why His birth was necessary. Many people have no idea how Christianity differs from Buddhism, or Hinduism or Islam.

On the other hand, we who are Christians may feel that we know the answer to all these questions, but we too need a refresher course from time to time. As we draw closer to Christmas we must go back and replay the story - the old, old story of why it was necessary for God to send His Son from heaven as the only means of salvation. Getting ready for Christmas requires our preparing our hearts by hearing the story again, so that we might share it.

God Bless You!

Bro. Allan

Opportunities For Service

Living out Your Spiritual Commitment . . . and Fulfilling Christ's Divine Plan

Sunday, November 29, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: John Lewis, Gary Yarbrough,
Joseph Coats, Isaac Waters Alternate: Larry McKahan

Missions Study.....Noon

No Evening Worship

Wednesday, December 2

Youth Study..... 6:30 pm

Prayer / Bible Study6:30 pm

Adult Choir 7:30 pm

Thursday, December 3

G Team.....6:30 pm

Sunday, December 6, 2015

Choir Rehearsal..... 9:00 am

Sunday School 9:15 am

Morning Worship.....10:30 am

Nursery: Volunteers as needed

Ushers: Larry McKahan, Isaac Waters,
Ken Kirkpatrick, Bill Schottel

Alternate: Steven Buckley

Christmas Tea at the Lane's 2-4 pm

No Evening Worship

Monday, December 7

Food Kitchen

Wednesday, December 9

Prayer Warriors.....10:00 am

Youth Study.....6:30 pm

Bible Study.....6:30 pm

Adult Choir7:30 pm

Up-Coming Events.....

November 29 — International Missions Study-Noon

November 29 — December 5—Week of Prayer for

International Missions and Lottie Moon Christmas Offering

December 5—Dorcas Class Christmas Party 2-4 pm

December 6 — Christmas Tea at the Lane's 2-4 pm

December 7 — Food Kitchen

December 20 — Food Pantry Collection Day

December 23 — Christmas Eve "Eve" Service

December 24 — Christmas Eve—Office Closed

December 25 — Christmas—Office Closed

GROW Team

Commit to **GROW!** **Everyone make a contact!** Invite someone to Bible Study and Worship this week. ☺

.....

Sunday Nights

We will not have Sunday Evening Service here tonight. Plan to attend the Mission Study at noon.

Wednesday Night Prayer and Bible Study

We will be meeting this Wednesday at 6:30 pm for Prayer and Bible Study. Plan to attend!

Missions Study

Today, November 29 is our International Missions Study immediately following the morning service.

Christmas Tea at the Lane's

Sunday, December 6 from 2-4 pm

Food Kitchen

We will serve Monday, December 7, at 5:30 pm. Please feel free to join us.

Thank You

Thank you for all the prayers, phone calls and cards during the death of my mother.

-Brigida Winans

DORCAS CLASS CHRISTMAS PARTY!!!

Saturday, December 5, 2-4 pm

Doris Richardson's home

505 Southwood Lane

Thank You

Thank you to my church family for all the prayers, phone calls and offers of food during Mom's illness and passing. I thank you all for the church luncheon after Mom's funeral and for the birthday card shower. I love you all.

-Linda Dotson

Patee Park Food Pantry

Collection Day

December 20

Donated items may be placed in the basket in the hallway. You may donate monetarily as well. Thank you for supporting this ministry of our church.

Dear Calvary Baptist Church,

It was good to be at your church on November 1. Thank you for welcoming us and allowing us to speak. It was a joy and honor to be there. We felt very welcomed by you all. Thanks for praying for us! We appreciate it so much.

In Christ, Matt, Karrissa,
Ty and Wyck Long

For the Record-

Attendance: November 22, 2015

Sunday School.....	56
Visitors.....	2
Total.....	58
Contacts Made.....	11
Morning Worship.....	57
Children's Worship	10
Sunday Night	N/A
Wednesday Night	21

Financial Record:

Weekly Budget.....	\$ 2,040.52
Offering Received...	\$ 1,718.42

Offering Received by Mail:

December Counting Team:

Don Beavers and Jordan Lane

December Van Driver:

Mike Green

Remember to call 232-3747

before 8 am if you need a ride.

December Member Birthdays:

03 ... Brent Fortune
08 ... Madeline Swink
09 ... Allison Adkinson
11 ... George Ferbert
15 ... George Burgess
16 .. Addison Leichti
16 ... Doris Richardson
19 ... Jessica Kirkpatrick
20 ... Leona Reynolds
20 ... Brenda Burgess
23 ... Joseph Coats

December Anniversaries

Bill and Alva Lou Schottel
December 22, 1962

George and Maxine Ferbert
December 31, 1955

Prayer Requests ...

Linda Dotson and Family
Family of Eleanor Becerra
-Brigida's mother
Maxine and George Ferbert
Bill Haskins—recovery
Joyce Izer—Praise the Lord for healing!
Stacy Gray—cancer treatment
Muriel Elder and Family
Linda Rails—Doris' Richardson's sister
Grant Schottel—advanced training
Henrietta Caballero—Brigida's Sister
Austin Chalfant—Abby's nephew
Gary and Marilyn Singleton—health
Bob Barquist—cancer
Louanne Laurence—Joyce's Mother
Lester Buck Kathryn Beavers
LoLeta Middleton Dorothy Post
Allen Jennings Ann Riddle
Jim Winans Jozy Winans
Nellie Reynolds Leona Reynolds
Kevin Duty Kenny Duty
Madeline Swink Bobby Griswold
Lois Pace Susan Patten
Debbie Sands Sue Higgins
Brenda Burgess Judy Anderson
Carolyn Houts Roscoe Lane
Keon McKahan Dorothy Post
Missionaries Don and Diane Combs
Nickolay Nazaruk, Peski 2 Church
David and Deborah Grace
Jeanette Swackhamer—Beja People
Our Nation and Leaders
Our Military Service people
Today's Prayer Requests ...

Our Nation and our Leaders ...

Five More New Families...
