

November 30, 2025

FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

GOD INVITES US TO WORSHIP HIM

Rev. Dave Lindberg

Leader: May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing in the Lord

Jesus Christ, so that...you may abound in hope

People: which does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured

into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

*Song

*CALL TO WORSHIP

ONCE IN ROYAL DAVID'S CITY

Based on Romans 15:13; 5:5

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed, where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed: Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little Child.

2

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,

and His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall: with the poor, and mean, and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.

3

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by, we shall see Him, but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high; when like stars His children crowned all in white shall wait around.

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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Nicene Creed

Christians, what do you believe?

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, begotten from the Father before all ages, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made; of the same essence as the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; he became incarnate by the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and was made human. He was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried. The third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures. He ascended to heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again with glory to judge the living and the dead. His kingdom will never end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life. He proceeds from the Father and the Son, and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified. He spoke through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic* and apostolic church. We affirm one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look forward to the resurrection of the dead, and to life in the world to come. Amen.

*That is, the true Christian church of all times and all places.

GOD CLEANSES US FROM OUR SIN

SONG OF CONFESSION

LORD HAVE MERCY

1

For what we have done and left undone,
We fall on Your countless mercies.
For sins that are known
and those unknown,
We call on Your name so holy.
For envy and pride, for closing our eyes,
For scorning our very neighbor.
In thought, word and deed,
we've failed You our King;
How deeply we need a Savior.

Chorus

Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

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For hearts that are cold, for seizing control,
For scorning our very Maker.
In thought, word and deed,
we've failed You our King,
How deeply we need a Savior.
(chorus x2)

SILENT CONFESSION

Matthew 1:20-21 ASSURANCE OF PARDON

...behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to Jospeh in dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Leader: In Christ you are forgiven. Thanks be to God. People:

SONG

(Collection of tithes, gifts and offerings)

For what You have done, Your life of love, You perfectly lived, we praise You. Though tempted and tried, You fixed Your eyes, You finished the work God gave You. And there on the tree. a King among thieves,

You bled for a world's betraval. You loved to the end, our merciful friend: How pure and forever faithful.

LORD HAVE MERCY (CON'T)

Chorus x2 Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us. Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord have mercy on us.

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*SCRIPTURE READING

Proverbs 4:10-27 Janet Gilchrist

10 Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many.

¹¹ I have taught you the way of wisdom; I have led you in the paths of uprightness.

12 When you walk, your step will not be hampered, and if you run, you will not stumble.

¹³ Keep hold of instruction; do not let go; guard her, for she is your life.

¹⁴ Do not enter the path of the wicked, and do not walk in the way of the evil.

15 Avoid it; do not go on it; turn away from it and pass on.

¹⁶ For they cannot sleep unless they have done wrong; they are robbed of sleep unless they have made someone stumble.

17 For they eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence.

¹⁸ But the path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day.

¹⁹ The way of the wicked is like deep darkness: they do not know over what they stumble.

- ²⁰ My son, be attentive to my words; incline your ear to my sayings.
- ²¹ Let them not escape from your sight; keep them within your heart.
- ²² For they are life to those who find them, and healing to all their flesh.
- ²³ Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life.
- ²⁴ Put away from you crooked speech, and put devious talk far from you.
- ²⁵ Let your eyes look directly forward, and your gaze be straight before you.
- ²⁶ Ponder the path of your feet; then all your ways will be sure.
- ²⁷ Do not swerve to the right or to the left; turn your foot away from evil.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God!

PASTORAL PRAYER Elder Greg Gorman

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

GOD FEEDS US FROM HIS WORD

*SCRIPTURE READING James 2:14-26

¹⁴ What good is it, my brothers, if someone says he has faith but does not have works? Can that faith save him? ¹⁵ If a brother or sister is poorly clothed and lacking in daily food, ¹⁶ and one of you says to them, "Go in peace, be warmed and filled," without giving them the things needed for the body, what good is that? ¹⁷ So also faith by itself, if it does not have works, is dead.

¹⁸ But someone will say, "You have faith and I have works." Show me your faith apart from your works, and I will show you my faith by my works. ¹⁹ You believe that God is one; you do well. Even the demons believe—and shudder! ²⁰ Do you want to be shown, you foolish person, that faith apart from works is useless? ²¹ Was not Abraham our father justified by works when he offered up his son Isaac on the altar? ²² You see that faith was active along with his works, and faith was completed by his works; ²³ and the Scripture was fulfilled that says, "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness"—and he was called a friend of God. ²⁴ You see that a person is justified by works and not by faith alone. ²⁵ And in the same way was not also Rahab the prostitute justified by works when

she received the messengers and sent them out by another way? ²⁶ For as the body apart from the spirit is dead, so also faith apart from works is dead.

Leader: The Word of the Lord. **People:** Thanks be to God!

SERMON Rev. Dave Lindberg

"Faith is Never Alone"

GOD FEEDS US AT HIS TABLE

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- CTK welcomes all baptized believers who are communing members of gospel-believing churches to participate in the Supper.
- Gluten-free and nut-free bread is in a small box on the plate.

SONG DURING COMMUNION

INSTRUMENTAL

*Song

COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us;
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation,
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,

Born a child, and vet a King,

Born to reign in us forever, Now Thy gracious Kingdom bring. By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

By Thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

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GOD SENDS US WITH HIS BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word.

*DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him all creatures here below; Praise him above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SERMON NOTES James 2:14-26 "Faith Is Never Alone"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols

Join us Wednesday, December 24, at 5 pm for Lessons and Carols in the Old Gym.

Bible Studies.

The **Women's Studies** meet Tuesday, December 2 and 16 at 7:00 pm in the home of Alana Marquis (118 Cumberland Dr, Ovilla) *and* Thursday, December 4 and 18 at 9:30 am in the home of Karla Pollock (1123 Douglas Dr, Cedar Hill).

The **Men's Studies** meet Wednesday, December 3 and December 17 at 7:00 pm at 1846 Coffee in Cedar Hill, *and* Thursday, December 4 and December 18 at 5:30 am at 713 W Main St, Ovilla.

CTK Financial Update Through September 30

General Fund
Budget \$313,500
Contributions \$238,000
Expenses (\$290,000)

December Collection for Bridges Resource Center: Shampoo and Conditioner.

CTK Community Groups: Upcoming Meetings

Duncanville meets Sunday, December 14 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the home of Calvin and Katie Pitts (contact: calvinedgarpitts@gmail.com).

Cedar Hill meets Sunday, December 7 from 4:00 to 6:00 pm at the home of Jim and Janet Gilchrist (contact: janet.gilchrist@sbcglobal.net).

Ovilla meets Tuesday, December 9 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the home of Nate and Amy Ford (contact: jonathanraikes@gmail.com).

Midlothian meets Wednesday, December 10 from 5:30 to 7:30 pm at the home of Dave and Julie Lindberg (contact: dave@ctktexas.com).

Community Groups are designed to foster our Love of God and Neighbor as we gather to eat and pray together. We hope you find a group that works for you.

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