

SERIES: GRATITUDE & BLESSINGS

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, December 17-18, 2022

SERMON: The Wonderful Words of Christmas: *Love and Salvation*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:20-21; Luke 2:7; John 3:11-21

Matthew 1:20-21 But after he had considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, “Joseph son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary home as your wife, because what is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. 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.”

Luke 2:7 and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no guest room available for them.

John 3:11-21

[11] Very truly I tell you, we speak of what we know, and we testify to what we have seen, but still you people do not accept our testimony.

[12] I have spoken to you of earthly things and you do not believe; how then will you believe if I speak of heavenly things?

[13] No one has ever gone into heaven except the one who came from heaven—the Son of Man.

[14] Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness, so the Son of Man must be lifted up,

[15] that everyone who believes may have eternal life in him.”

[16] For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.

[17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him.

[18] Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God’s one and only Son.

[19] This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but people loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.

[20] Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed.

[21] But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God.

SERIES: GRATITUDE & BLESSINGS

DATE: Saturday - Sunday, December 17-18, 2022

SERMON: The Wonderful Words of Christmas: *Love and Salvation*

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:20-21; Luke 2:7; John 3:11-21

What does God want us to know?

1. We live in _____.

- **Isaiah 9:2** *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.*
- **John 3:20-21** *Everyone who does evil hates the light, and will not come into the light for fear that their deeds will be exposed. But whoever lives by the truth comes into the light, so that it may be seen plainly that what they have done has been done in the sight of God*
- A question, “Do I tend toward the _____ or _____?”

2. We need _____.

- **John 1:5** *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.*
- **1 Corinthians 2:14** *The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.*
- Even Nicodemus could not perceive the _____.

3. The _____ has come.

- It comes by the _____ and _____ of the Father.

4. God made a _____.

- He gives _____.
Everlasting life is eternal because God is eternal.
- He brings _____.
- We are either _____ or _____ in our sins – no middle ground.
- “*You have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in you.*” - Augustine

Lagniappe

Christmas & New Year Schedule . . .

Already this month we have had some wonderful Christmas Programs, Connect Group Parties, Children and Youth Parties, and beautiful music. Now I want to let you know of what will be happening over the next few weeks.

NO Midweek activities will be happening now through January 1st. We will resume with Tuesday Men's Breakfast on January 3rd, and Wednesday Evening activities on January 4th.

The Church Office will be closed Friday December 23rd, Monday December 26th, and Monday January 2nd.

Christmas Eve – Saturday – we will have services at 1:00PM, 3:00PM, and 5:00PM. This is a great time to invite friends and family to worship with you. *Childcare (2 years and under) is available by reservation only. Email Darlene at ddrivon@fbccov.org*

Christmas Day - Sunday - we will have one service at 10:00 AM. It will be a meaningful time of worship and praise - different than anything we have done before. *There will be PRESCHOOL Childcare (2 years and under) available for this service.*

New Year's Eve – Saturday – **NO Service or Connect Groups**

New Year's Day – Sunday - we will have our regular two services at 9:30AM & 11:00AM. **NO Connect Groups**. All Preschool classes and childcare will be on their regular schedule – but **NO Children's classes**.

ALSO, let me take this time to challenge each of you to take time to reflect and remember **Why** we celebrate **CHRIST**mas – and tell your children and grandchildren **Why**.

