

Sermon Series: Parousia - God with us

The tenderness of Christmas

Luke 2: 8—20

Main Point: Despite the gravity of sin, the Messiah was gentle

Outline:

1. There was a baby

2. The scene was serene

3. The result was wonderful

Announcements

1. We welcome everyone to our Church Gathering, and especially welcome those who are new. We pray that you will experience the faith, hope, and love of Jesus Christ. Please use our online welcome form to fill in your information and prayer requests, OR just speak with one of our church leaders. We are happy to get you connected and supported. Here is the link: <https://www.raleighccc.org/main/contact-us/>
2. The Church Council would like to share the names of the 1/1/2022 – 12/31/2023 **Deacon Candidates**. English Ministry – Paul Chan; Youth Ministry – Ed Lam. Please keep these deacon candidates in your prayers.
3. **The Church's Annual Congregational Meeting will be held Today, 2021** at 1:00 pm in the sanctuary and via Zoom where we will vote on the 2022 Church budget and the deacons.
4. **Operation Christmas Child - Making a Shoebox Online** – Please prayerfully consider helping us reach our goal of making 100 online gift-filled shoeboxes this year. You can make a shoebox online for a suggested donation of \$25 (\$9 for shipping, \$16 for gifts). Building your shoebox online through our RCCC Operation Christmas Child link <https://sampur.se/3D9eJjl> will help us keep track of the online shoeboxes that youth, students, families, and church members are making. Our deadline to reach our online goal is December 31. Thank the Lord that **83** online shoeboxes have already been made.
5. **Christmas Love Offering to Pastoral Staff** - This is the season to show our appreciation to our pastoral staff. If you wish to show your appreciation you may contribute to a pool of collections that will be distributed to the staff (pastor Liang, pastor Rob, pastor Jerry, minister Harry, and minister Raymond). You may contribute to (1) an undesignated pool that will be distributed proportionately to the staff and/or (2) give to a specific staff member by designating your gift to that person. GIFTS ARE NON-TAX DEDUCTIBLE PER IRS REGULATIONS. **The last Sunday that you can contribute is 12/26/2021.** The gifts will be presented on Sunday, January 2, 2022. Please contribute to the love offering by writing a separate check from your regular tithes and offering. Write on the memo line of the check "Christmas offering" or "Christmas offering for (name of staff)" and the amount if more than one person. NO ONLINE OFFERING. Thank you for remembering the staff during this holiday season. In addition to your generosity, the church will be providing a gift as well.
6. **Church Council is considering hiring Pastor Chang as our Interim senior pastor (part-time). We will hold a Q&A meeting at 2:30 pm on Dec 19 on Zoom.** The purpose is for our congregation to get to know him and vice versa. We encourage you to attend and pray for this."
7. Our church will hold a **candlelight service** on Dec 24 from 8:00 pm -9:10 pm at the sanctuary. It is a whole church service, it will be on-site and through Youtube. Please prepare your heart to attend and celebrate the birth of our Savior.

Children's Info. (Kindergarten – 5th Grade)

Children's Ministry offers both in person and online programs. **Sunday program adopts Lifeway's trusted "Gospel Projects for Kids", while Friday program resumes beloved AWANA.**

Children's ministry plans to open a new in-person preschool class (including Sunday school and Worship) for 3- & 4-year-olds on Sundays starting Jan 2nd, 2022. We will use "Gospel Project for Preschool" as teaching material. We look forward to seeing your children participate in this new class.

Programs are all in the old building:

In person children's Sunday School 9:30-10:45am

In person children's Sunday worship 11:15am-12:30pm

Online children's Sunday worship 11:00am-11:45 am

In person Friday night AWANA 7:30-9:30pm

The Children's Ministry Committee members are: Sunday Worship/School - Kaili Sawyer; Friday Program; Mike Liu; Special Programs: Mo-Yuen Chow. If you have any questions or want to volunteer, please email to children.rccc@gmail.com or contact them individually.

Registration: Please follow the link below and complete an online form soon. <https://www.raleighccc.org/main/children-programregistration2021-22/> Teachers will send lesson summary and reminders to registered parents, so parents can communicate with teachers and help their children by reinforcing the lesson.

Church Gathered: Order of Service

Worship By Singing	Music Team
Spiritual Focus: Spiritual Disciplines	
Worship By Praying Together	
Pastoral and Congregational Prayer	Pastor Rob
Worship By Trusting & Hearing Christ	
Sermon	Pastor Rob
Worship By Responding to Christ	
Offering	
Welcome and Announcements	
Benediction	Pastor Rob

*After a moment of silent meditation, please welcome one another. Drop off Connection Card in drop box.

Youth Announcements

1. **Youth Baptism** – Baptism will be on next Sunday, December 19, during English Worship.
2. **Celebrate Jesus During the Advent/Christmas Season**—Join us as we Worship Jesus Fully, Spend Less on Ourselves, Give More to Causes that Count, and Love Others Like Jesus Loves Us! Check out the Advent Conspiracy at adventconspiracy.org
3. **This Friday's Youth Group** - Join us on this Friday, December 17, from 7:30-9:30 p.m. for our Youth Christmas Fellowship.
4. **New Youth QT Plan - Four Gifts of Christmas- Dec. 14-17** - When the Wise Men found Jesus, they honored Him with gifts - gold, frankincense, myrrh, and worship. Join us for this 4-day Christmas QT Plan as we discover how we can honor the Lord Jesus with our lives. Contact Pastor Jerry to join this plan.
5. **Youth Sunday School —In-person and online** - Join us every Sunday from 9:30-10:45 a.m. for in-person Youth Sunday School classes on the 2nd floor of our new building. We also have an online class from 9:00-9:45 a.m. every Sunday.
6. **Wednesday Youth Prayer** – Join us every Wednesday from 7:00-7:40 p.m. through Zoom for Youth Prayer.
7. **Pray for More Youth Co-Workers**—Pray for the Lord to bless us with the additional Friday Youth Counselors, Youth Sunday School Teachers, and Disciplemakers needed in our Youth Ministry. If interested in serving in our Youth Ministry, contact Pastor Jerry at jmillerrc3@yahoo.com.

Upcoming Sermon

12/19/2021

Pastor Rob