

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27, 2020

“The reality of God is measured by the truthfulness of His speech, not by my grasp of His presence. Under the sun sometimes everything is mixed up and back to front that actually we are meant to learn that God intends for us to be suspicious of ourselves - suspicious of why we doubt Him and why cannot find Him, suspicious of the deceptions our our own hearts - but nevertheless trusting the truth of His Word with every fibre of our being, even when we cannot see Him.”

— David Gibson



Order of Worship
CrossSound.org

Gathering

Go Tell It On The Mountain — *Words: John W. Work, Jr., 1907;*
Music: African-American spiritual

Go, tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angels' chorus
That hailed the Savior's birth

Down in a lowly manger
The humble Christ was born
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

The largest book in the Bible is primarily a book of poems set to music to sing God praises. This is all part of God's design to surround His presence with singing. Gratitude to God expresses dependence upon God and is an antidote for cynicism, criticism, and bitterness.

Welcome

O Little Town of Bethlehem — *Words: Phillips Brooks, 1867;*
Music: ST. LOUIS by Lewis H. Redner, 1868

O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by.
Yet in the dark streets shineth, The everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary; And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep the angels keep, Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars together, Proclaim the holy birth;
And praises sing to God the King, And peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts, The blessings of His heaven.
No ear may hear His coming, But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive Him still, The dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels, The great glad tidings tell;
O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord, Emmanuel.

JESUS STORYBOOK BIBLE

SONG — Zach Fleury

Message

Text: 2 Peter 1:20-21

Title: Church Without Walls “Famous Last Words”

Speaker: Dave Sellers

Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation. ²¹ For prophecy never had its origin in the will of man, but men spoke from God as they were carried along by the Holy Spirit.

It has been the practice of the church for thousands of years to have portions of the Bible read during worship services. We do this because we are people who need to be shaped by all of God's word.

Joy to the World — *Words: Isaac Watts, 1719;*
Music: ANTIOCH by Lowell Mason, 1836

Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing, And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! The Savior reigns;
Let men their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found, far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness
And wonders of His love, and wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of his love.

STORIES – Elle and Mark Bullard

BENEDICTION

The benediction, different from good wishes or even a prayer, is a pronouncement of God's blessing. God sends us out in peace, giving us his presence as we go to be blessing-bearers to the world.

Announcements

Prayer Request Pray for those who are stressed that they find peace, pray for those who are grieving that they be comforted, pray that we all know the joy of Emmanuel, God with us.

Community Group - Sign-Up TODAY! The 10-week Winter session begins January 3! Sign-up by emailing Roger Barber at irbarbers@gmail.com. Please indicate your group/day preference (see below):
Dave & Carrie Sellers - Tuesday (Kid Friendly)
Mark & Cheryl Harrison - Thursday (Poulsbo)
Bob Cordell & Bill Parrott - Thursday (Poulsbo) (Kid Friendly)
Dave & Laura O'Connell - Thursday (Kid Friendly)
Linda Gordon & Roger Barber - Saturday
Patrick & Jenny Kilby - Sunday (at noon) (Kid Friendly)
Jeff & Ann Ogard - Sunday (Poulsbo)

Crisis Hotline Volunteers Needed for Coffee Oasis, a ministry that helps local homeless youth, have seen a huge increase in the number of kids struggling emotionally and thus using a text hotline they offer. Interested? Email joshua.goss@thecoffeooasis.com or go to <https://thecoffeooasis.com/volunteer/>

Men's Ministry BIBLE STUDY: Friday mornings via zoom.
Email Roger: irbarbers@gmail.com for link
- MEN'S RETREAT: Save the date! Sept.17-21, 2021 @ Ft. Worden

If you need support, would like prayer, or have a question, contact: info@crosssound.org
Find info about COVID-19 at: www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus
COVID-19 Hardship? Reach out. Please send a note to info@crosssound.org

Financial Update: Last week's total \$33,325 Actual Income to Date \$458,130.78
Budgeted Income to Date \$514,408.25 Annual Budget (7/19-6/20): \$1,019,623
You can support the worship and the work of the church at www.crosssound.org/give