

WE EXIST TO... GROW IN CHRIST, LOVE LIKE CHRIST, LIVE FOR CHRIST

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

WELCOME / PRAYER OF INVOCATION

I HEARD THE BELLS ON CHRISTMAS DAY Hymns of Grace, 249

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER

SERMON: "GOD'S GRACE THROUGH THE BIRTH OF THE PROMISED SON" GENESIS 21:1–7

COMMUNION

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,

and in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord; Who was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He arose again. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, and He will come to judge the living and the dead.

> I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy and universal Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR Hymns of Grace, 246

> Away IN A MANGER Hymns of Grace, 232

HIS NAME SHALL BE

Verse 1

Oh, can you hear the angels' song That rang so sweet and clear When heaven's light and music fell And mercy found us here? Glory in the highest And on the earth be peace. "Glory to God!" the angels sing!

Verse 2 He came to tell the Father's love, His goodness and His grace, To show the brightness of His smile, The glory of His face. Glory in the highest And on the earth be peace. "Glory to God!" Your children sing!

Chorus (His name shall be called) Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace for all eternity. Oh, His name shall be.

Verse 3 He came to lift the weary ones, Give peace and perfect rest, To take away our burdens And to give a glorious gift. So glory in the highest And on the earth be peace. "Glory to God!" the world will sing!

Bridge One name above all others, One name that came to save us! Oh, sing, "His name is, His name is Jesus!" (REPEAT)

Ending His name shall be, His name shall be.

Words & music: Jonas Myrin & Matt Redman, @ 2016 Capitol CMG Paragon, CCLI License # 11328480

BENEDICTION

TODAY:	Christmas Eve / Candlelight Service @ 6 PM
Dec 31:	Fellowship breakfast from 9– 945 AM - please bring a dish to share

for Christ. If you are interested in joining a Jan 5: Thrive, for students in 5th–12th grade, meets at the home of GGC, please contact one of your elders. The Richard & Chrissy Burns in Reed GGC meets Sunday evenings in Nobleboro from 630–8 PM Nobleboro. Sorterup GGC meets Wednesday evenings in Damariscotta. The Holladay GGC Jan 7: Members' Meeting following the meets Thursday evenings in Bristol. morning worship service

General Info:

TVC Kids: We strive for family-friendly worship & want to encourage parents to keep their children in the sanctuary or East Hall for worship. To help families, backpacks filled with a note sheet, a coloring page, and snacks are available for children Pre-K – 5th grade. Note sheets are available for children in 5th – 8th grade. The backpacks will be handed out prior to the sermon.

We also offer Rooted which is a time of teaching & learning for children in grades K–4 that meets downstairs in the Fellowship Hall classroom. The children who participate in Rooted will be dismissed by Pastor Phil prior to the sermon.

We also offer a volunteer staffed Nursery that meets in the Fellowship Hall during the sermon. We are thankful & appreciate the opportunity to serve you & your children.

We understand that children can get restless & squirmy, so if you have to leave the service with your child, please feel free to do so; but please know that you are welcome to rejoin the service at any time.

Gospel Growth Communities (GGCs): GGCs are just one way you can purposefully & intentionally invest in your church family as we seek to grow in Christ, love like Christ & live

Discussion Questions:

- 1. Who is God (what does this passage tell me about God's character)?
- 2. What has God done (how do I see God's character in action)?
- 3. Who am I (how does God's character and action shape how I see myself)?
- 4. What do I do (if I believe 1–3 how would I respond and relate to others)?

Notes:

Elders: Breck Holladay, Phil Nicewonger, Jeff Norton & Grant Sorterup

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Preacher: Phil Nicewonger Service Leader: Matt Norton