

WORSHIP ORDER

♪ Tell Me the Story of Jesus

Welcome

Birth of Jesus

📖 John 1: 1,14 Noah Ellis

♪ Go Tell It on the Mountain

📖 Luke 1: 26-38 Glenn Laubmeier

♪ O Come All Ye Faithful

📖 Matthew 1: 18-25 Brian Case

📖 Luke 2: 1-7 Brian Case

♪ What Child Is This

📖 Luke 2: 8-20 Gabe Chaffin

♪ O Come Let Us Adore Him

📖 Matthew 2: 1-15 John Gibson

♪ Joy to the World

J George Eyrich

“Mark’s Thoughts”

Crucifixion

📖 John 3: 16 Brenton

📖 Matthew 27: 11-50 Jerry McCorkle

📖 Isaiah 53: 3-8 John Tyrney

♪ Highly Exalted

Lord’s Supper

♪ Why Did My Savior Come to Earth?

J Al Bloir

“Mark’s Thoughts”

Resurrection

📖 Matthew 28: 1-7 Asher Anderson

♪ Low in the Grave He Lay

📖 Luke 24: 1-12 Joe Krebs

♪ I know that my Redeemer Lives

“Mark’s Thoughts”

♪ Have You Been to Jesus?

Closing remarks- Mark Hodges

Offering

♪ Silent Night

Special Christmas Service

WELCOME:

Welcome our guests!

As always it is good this morning to come together filled with love for God and a desire to be with our church family.

Today we’re going to share in a very simple yet meaningful spiritual activity. We’re going to open the scripture and read together as a church family.

- Nothing is more basic to the Christian experience than to meaningfully read the word of God and hear these words as coming from the mouth of God.
 - Asking and answering...
 - “*What does God have to say?*”
 - What has He revealed about Himself?
 - What does He desire from His Children?
- It’s in the reading of scripture that we hear the words that have blessed the angels in their hearing from God Himself.

Today we will take a *scripture reading journey* that will take us from the “Beginning” to the Birth of God In Flesh to the Death Of That Same One, and finally, To The Victory Over Satan’s Last Remnant Of Power.

- Jesus, with divine authority exits the tomb in victory over sin and death!

We will have several readers participating this morning (There is a detailed schedule of readings, prayers and songs in today’s bulletin Worship Order).

- Whether you open your Bibles and follow along or attentively listen to these readings, let the light of His word wash over you!
- May your hearts be strengthened in the faith that comes by the hearing of the very words of God as He tells the story of Jesus.

BIRTH OF JESUS

“It is impossible to conceive how different things would have turned out if that birth had not happened whenever, wherever, however it did. ... for millions of people who have lived since, the birth of Jesus made possible not just a new way of understanding life but a new way of living it. It is a truth that, for twenty-one centuries, there have been untold numbers of men and women who, in untold numbers of ways, have been so grasped by the child who was born, so caught up in the message he taught and the life he lived, that they have found themselves profoundly changed by their relationship with him.”

Frederick Buechner (Bēēkner)

CRUCIFIXION

THE OLD RUGGED CROSS

On a hill far away stood an old rugged cross,
The emblem of suffering and shame,
And I love that old cross where the Dearest and Best
For a world of lost sinners was slain.

Oh, that old rugged cross, so despised by the world,
Has a wondrous attraction for me;
For the dear Lamb of God left His glory above,
To bear it to dark Calvary.

In the old rugged cross, stained with blood so divine,
A wondrous beauty I see;
For 'twas on that old cross Jesus suffered and died,
To pardon and sanctify me.

So I'll cherish the old rugged cross,
Till my trophies at last I lay down;
I will cling to the old rugged cross,
And exchange it some day for a crown.

RESURRECTION

“Let us beware of regarding the Lord Jesus Christ, only as one that is dead. Here, I believe, many greatly err. They think much of His atoning death, and it is right that they should do so. But we ought not to stop short there. We ought to remember that He not only died and went to the grave—but that He rose again, and ascended up on high, leading captivity captive. We ought to remember that He is now sitting on the right hand of God, to do a work as real, as true, as important to our souls, as the work which He did when He shed His blood. Christ lives, and is not dead. He lives as truly as any one of ourselves. Christ sees us, hears us, knows us, and is acting as a Priest in heaven on behalf of His believing people. The thought of His life ought to have as great and important a place in our souls—as the thought of His death upon the cross.”

NT WRIGHT

FINAL COMMENTS

“... the powerful changes that happen in the life of a disciple never come from the disciple working hard at doing anything. They come from arriving at a place where Jesus is everything, and we are simply overwhelmed with the gift. Sometimes it seems as if God loves us too much. His love goes far beyond our ability to stop being moral, religious, obedient, and victorious, and we just collapse in his arms.

Out of the gospel that Jesus is the only Mediator between God and humanity comes a Christian life that looks like Jesus, a life Jesus would recognize....

Out of that discovery comes a Christian life that is free from the tyranny of unnecessary adjectives and simply follows after the One who loves us beyond words or repayment.”

— **Michael Spencer,**