



## CELEBRATE CHRIST THIS CHRISTMAS

**December 15 & 22, 2024**

**Pastor Trevor Cooper**

Good morning Church! Advent is the season leading up to Christmas when we celebrate Jesus coming into the world! Jesus was born in a manger and was also the Son of God & Savior of the world, who came that we might have hope and life in Him! We celebrate His incarnation, His life, His death and resurrection by keeping Jesus the reason for the season. Jesus is worthy of all of our attention this Christmas season and beyond.

### **1. Jesus is our HOPE.**

*"He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, **14** in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins."*

**Colossians 1:13-14**

*"And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, **11** and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven." **Acts 1:9-11***

*"For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. **17** Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord."*

**1 Thessalonians 4:16-17**

*"Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen."*

**Revelation 1:7**

### **2. Jesus is our PEACE.**

- Jesus fulfills the PROPHETIC PEACE.

*"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." **Isaiah 7:14***

*"For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. **7** Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore." **Isaiah 9:6-7***

"There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,  
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. **2** And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest  
upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the  
Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord."

**Isaiah 11:1-2**

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to  
you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." **John 14:27**

"And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those  
who were near." **Ephesians 2:17**

### **3. Jesus is our JOY.**

"And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, **47** and my spirit rejoices in God my  
Savior, **48** for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant. For behold, from now  
on all generations will call me blessed; **49** for he who is mighty has done great things  
for me, and holy is his name. **50** And his mercy is for those who fear him from  
generation to generation. **51** He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the  
proud in the thoughts of their hearts; **52** he has brought down the mighty from their  
thrones and exalted those of humble estate; **53** he has filled the hungry with good  
things, and the rich he has sent away empty. **54** He has helped his servant Israel, in  
remembrance of his mercy, **55** as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his  
offspring forever." **56** And Mary remained with her about three months and returned to  
her home." **Luke 1:46-56**

"And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over  
their flock by night. **9** And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of  
the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. **10** And the angel  
said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for  
all the people. **11** For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is  
Christ the Lord. **12** And this will be a sign for you: you will find a baby wrapped in  
swaddling cloths and lying in a manger." **13** And suddenly there was with the angel a  
multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying, **14** "Glory to God in the  
highest, and on earth peace among those with whom he is pleased!" **15** When the  
angels went away from them into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us  
go over to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has made  
known to us." **16** And they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby  
lying in a manger. **17** And when they saw it, they made known the saying that had  
been told them concerning this child. **18** And all who heard it wondered at what the  
shepherds told them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things, pondering them in her  
heart. **20** And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had  
heard and seen, as it had been told them." **Luke 2:8-20**

- Jesus is our source of TRUE JOY.

*"Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, **2** looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God."*

**Hebrews 12:1-2**

#### **4. Jesus is our LOVE.**

- Jesus loved us as a HUMBLE SERVANT.

*"In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. **2** This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. **3** And all went to be registered, each to his own town. **4** And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, **5** to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. **6** And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. **7** And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn."*

**Luke 2:1-7**

The significance of God taking on human form as a vulnerable baby, emphasizes His humility and sacrificial love. Jesus' birth foreshadows His ultimate sacrifice on the cross.

*"In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him." **1 John 4:9***

#### **5. Jesus is The CHRIST.**

*"But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, **13** who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. **14** And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth." ... **18** No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father's side, he has made him known." **John 1:12-14, 18***

May we be filled with thankfulness for the love that God has shown us through His Son, Jesus. Jesus is the reason we celebrate Christmas.

#### **Salvation through Jesus Christ**

*The single most important decision a person could ever make in their lifetime is to receive Jesus Christ as your Savior and Lord. God has continued to reveal Himself throughout history for people to know Him and worship Him. However, the Bible says, "all have sinned and fall short of God's glory" and we don't deserve eternal life because the wages of sin is death". Yet through God's love, only "Jesus gives us eternal life by His grace through offering us faith"... faith is a gift of God to fully trust in him. God's word says, That if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is LORD and believe in your heart God raised Him from the dead **YOU WILL BE SAVED**. The Bible says to turn away from doing things your way, to **REPENT** of your sins and **BELIEVE** in Jesus who gives forgiveness and eternal life.*