

PRAY

1. Leaders in worship: Pastor Rickey Primrose, Brandon Ramey & the Worship Ministry.
2. God will meet with us through His word and by His Spirit, lead us to worship Christ and grow in Christ-likeness.
3. God will help us to be a church of zeal and hope, passionate about ministry and confident in His promises.
4. God will make us more passionate about and obedient to His mission of leading people to trust and follow Christ.

MUSIC

PRELUDE

Jesus Is His Name

by Ray and Andrea Jones and Brian Duncan

CORPORATE SINGING

Joy to the World

by George Handel, Isaac Watts, David Shipps

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

by Charles Wesley and Felix Mendelssohn

Now Behold The Lamb

by Kirk Franklin

RESPONSE SONG

What A Beautiful Name

by Ben Fielding and Brooke Ligertwood

PREPARE FOR THE MESSAGE

John 1:14-18 | Pastor Rickey Primrose

Christmas is the celebration of the glorious mystery of the incarnation—God becoming man. This Sunday we will be reflecting on the incarnation of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Prepare for Sunday by meditating on John 1:14-18. Read it in the context of verse 1-13.

John presents Christ as the revelation and self-disclosure (“Word”) of God. What implications does the incarnation have regarding what we know about God and how God can be known? If we see God by looking at Jesus, what does Jesus tell us about the nature of God? In verse 17, John sets up a contrast between Moses and Jesus. What is the difference between what Moses revealed and what Jesus has revealed?

LYRICS

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

VERSE 1

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild
God and sinners reconciled!”

Joyful all ye nations rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With angelic host proclaim,
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

VERSE 2

Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace!
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all He brings,
Risen with healing in His wings.

Mild He lays His glory by,
Born the men no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the newborn King!”

BRIDGE

Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us
Let the glory of the Lord, rise among us
Let the praises of the King, rise among us,
Let it rise!

Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us
Let the songs of the Lord, rise among us
Let the joy of the King, rise among us,
Let it rise!

Oh, let it rise!

What A Beautiful Name

VERSE 1

You were the Word at the beginning
One With God the Lord Most High
Your hidden glory in creation
Now revealed in You our Christ

CHORUS

What a beautiful Name it is
What a beautiful Name it is
The Name of Jesus Christ my King
What a beautiful Name it is
Nothing compares to this
What a beautiful Name it is.
The Name of Jesus

VERSE 2

You could have had heaven without us
But Jesus, You brought heaven down
My sin was great, Your love was greater
What could separate us now

BRIDGE

Death could not hold You
The veil tore before You
You silence the boast of sin and grave
The heavens are roaring
The praise of Your glory
For You are raised to life again
You have no rival
You have no equal
Now and forever God You reign
Yours is the kingdom
Yours is the glory
Yours is the Name above all name

RESPOND TO THE SERMON

“Resist The Devil” | 1 Peter 5:8-11**Pastor Rickey Primrose**

Truth: Know your enemy. We tend to shy away from talking about Satan, demons and spiritual warfare. Peter tells us not to be blind to this reality. Peter describes Satan as a personal being with specific personal characteristics. The enemy wants to work through the trials of life to provoke fear in our hearts and he is looking for certain types of people to devour. Our enemy is real, personal, and intentional as he looks to devour us.

Response: Are you vulnerable to the enemy in any way? Are you harboring bitterness and anger that is giving Satan an opportunity for a foothold in your life? Are you not dealing with the hurt of suffering well? Have you grown isolated? Resolve this week, by God’s help and Christian community, to wage war in any area of your life in which you are vulnerable.

Truth: Pursue intimacy. Peter tells us how to resist the devil. We resist by being firm and strong in our faith. Our best protection against demons is less preoccupation with demons and more preoccupation with God. You grow stronger in trusting God by pursuing deeper intimacy with God. Peter says your suffering isn’t unique and that these same things are happening to others. There is power in the mutual empathy and support that Christian community provides.

Response: Are you defending yourself against Satan by pursuing intimacy with God? Are you surrounding yourself with Christian brothers and sisters who can be a source of strength and encouragement when the devil seeks to devour you? Or, are you isolating yourself from Christian community? Resolve this week to join one of the Community Groups available at our church.

Truth: Walk in victory. Those who have been genuinely called by grace into faith will never have their faith devoured by the enemy. Your eternal victory is secured because it doesn’t depend on your power but the God of grace and Christ’s victory over the enemy. Satan is a lion on a leash. He has been defeated.

Response: How does a reminder about the length of suffering versus the length of glory strengthen a Christian battling Satan during suffering? How does knowing that the world may take everything from you, but it cannot take your imperishable future help battle Satan? Praise God this week for the victory Christ has secured for us.

FAMILY RESPONSE

“Resist The Devil” | 1 Peter 5:8-11 | Pastor Rickey Primrose

Truth: The devil is real, but he is not often presented realistically. The Bible never describes him as a red-skinned, two-horned, pointy-eared monster attacking people with a pitchfork. The Bible does warn us to take him seriously though because he is a dangerous villain.

Truth: The “God of all grace” is our victorious hero. He has already secured the defeat of our enemy, the devil, even though the fight is still going. God says we defend ourselves until the fight is over by staying as close to Him as possible and by sticking together with our brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus.

Response: It’s not helpful for us to “hide” the devil from our kids by ignoring his real and active presence. On the flipside, it’s not helpful for us to turn him into their greatest nightmare. Also, he is not the scapegoat for their sin. People sin because people want to sin. Contrary to popular belief, the devil did not make you do it. He can be crafty and persuasive, but his main goal is not to get people to commit sins; it is to get people to believe untruths about God and about themselves. Spend more time and effort helping your children know and experience God, but don’t neglect the truth of our enemy.