

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York www.bfcgi.org 716-773-3748

THE LORD'S DAY

December 25, 2016 10:15AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann
Piano Wendy Baldwin

MEDITATION

“Overview of Chapter 2 of Jonah continued” - Jonah 2 opposite page

Prayer and Scripture Reading	Psalm 96
Hymn 270	“Joy to the World!”
Choir Anthems	“God Exalted Him” “How Great Our Joy”
Piano Solo	Carol Dammann
Pastoral Prayer	
Carols 284, 258	“The Birthday of a King”
Message	A Christian's Christmas List -Pastor Cal VanderMey
Hymn 254	“Isn't He?” Benediction

THE MINISTRY OF MISSION

For the glory of God, Bible Fellowship Center is committed to spreading the Good News of salvation, equipping the believers, that they might become more Christ-like, worship God and enjoy Him forever.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Youth Group Monday at 6:30pm

No Tuesday Bible study: The book of Jude at 7pm - Pastor Cal teaching

Wednesday Men's Bible study at 9:00am – Jim O'Rourke teaching

Ladies fellowship and prayer time Thursday at 10am-Elsa Peters

Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell teaching

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz

Special thanks to Tracy Schultz and all the teachers and helpers for the beautiful Children's Advent program this year!!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY BIRTHDAY JESUS OUR KING

New Year's Day Sunday One Service Only at 10:15am followed
immediately by a Bring a Dish to Pass Luncheon

Chapter 2 is set forth in Hebrew poetry style indicating that it is not a narrative, but rather a piece of literature that should be meditated upon and even memorized. Jonah's prayer is the only piece of information that we have recorded in the book from the time that Jonah is swallowed up in 1:17, to the time that Jonah is vomited out in 2:10.

What do we not find in this prayer? We do not find the prayer as a plea for deliverance from the great fish. It is not the typical “get me out of jail” prayer that we so often offer daily when we have a problem or obstacle. Jonah had a big problem and a big obstacle to his future, and yet his prayer is one of praise for God and a proclamation that “salvation is of the LORD.” The prayer is filled with sincere repentance, and yet even that is overwhelmed by a desire to praise and thank the Lord for His mercy and goodness. This chapter brings a conviction of soul to me that when a problem comes, my prayer should be properly framed with praise, thanksgiving, and a desire to further the Kingdom of God. When we all do that, our problems recede and God takes center stage in our life. As it says in the Lord's Prayer: “Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done.”

CAROL: “Joy to the World”

Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth receive her King.

Let every heart prepare Him room, and heav'n and nature sing,

And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n 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.

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.