

## BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road

Grand Island, New York

www.bfcgi.org

716-773-3748

### THE LORD'S DAY

December 17, 2017 8:30 & 10:15AM

### PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude Carol Dammann

Piano Wendy Baldwin

Announcements

Ron Mock

*Lighting of 3<sup>rd</sup> candle signifying the shepherd's abiding in the field* Luke 2:8-9, 15b

Carols 280, 281 vs.1 "One Small Child" "What Child Is This"

Scripture Reading Psalm 91 – responsively

Prayer

Carol 249

"Away in a Manger"

Pastoral Prayer

Choral Anthem

"Gloria" "That Night"

Message Obedience Leads to Faithful Service to the Lord

Luke 2:8-20 Pastor Cal VanderMey

Hymn 277

"Hark! the Herald Angels Sing"

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- 6:30 pm

No Tuesday Bible study at 7pm on Ephesians 1-3 Pastor Cal leading

Choir Rehearsal Wednesday at 7pm

No Precept Thursday at 9:15am on "Daniel"-Living Out a Biblical Worldview with Margaret Was teaching

Adult Bible study Friday at 7pm - John Woodell teaching

**Next Sunday! Dec. 24<sup>th</sup> Combined Worship Service at 9:30AM**

**Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service at 6PM**

**Buffalo Strings begin Prelude at 5:30PM**

### Messiah Comes to Proclaim Liberty

Isaiah 61:1-2

The Spirit of the Lord God *is* upon Me, Because the LORD has anointed Me To preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *those who are* bound;

**2** To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn

Jesus Himself declared these verses to be Messianic as He took the scroll in the Nazareth synagogue and said that these words were fulfilled that very day in their hearing. This is found in Luke 4:18-19. However, we need to note that Jesus stopped in His quotation of these verses with the words: "To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD." Why did He not finish the verse? First of all, there were no "verses" delineated in those days! Second, the next phrase: "And the day of vengeance of our God" is not quoted because Jesus knew that He would be cut off before completing all the Old Testament prophecies related to the coming of the LORD. While the writers of the Old Testament did not know that there were two appearances--one as the Suffering Servant who like the lamb provides redemption, and the other the conquering King who will subdue all nations under His feet--Jesus knew that and wanted to be 100% accurate in His statements. If He had quoted that part of the verse, people would have seen this as a political revolt, and the whole concept of redemption would have been lost.

Read again the first two lines of Isaiah 61:1. Did you note that all three Persons of the Trinity function together in this verse to achieve the results that are then stated. The Holy Spirit (Spirit of the Lord God) comes upon Christ (Me), and the reason for this is that God the Father (Because the LORD) has anointed the Messiah for specific tasks (has anointed Me). The word anoint is defined in my dictionary in this manner: "to ceremonially confer divine or holy office upon (a priest or monarch) by smearing or rubbing with oil." We would add that this sets apart that anointed person for a special service.

Jesus specifically in His ministry preached the good tidings to the poor, and He certainly healed the brokenhearted through bringing back loved ones from the grave (John 11). When it is said that the Messiah would "proclaim liberty to the captives," the reference may be to the fact that these are the Israelites that remain in the dispersion following the Babylonian Captivity.

Sunday messages are available online, CD or e-mail. See Bill Schultz  
Anyone interested in joining the choir please see Dawn Fraser  
The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

### **Church Family Prayer Page**

Pray for our church and families

Vi Anderson is doing great! Glory to God she turned 90

Clair Card – continued recovery and thanks for church family

Elaine Woodell – 4<sup>th</sup> chemo went well, pray for strength

Catherine Woodell – health

John and Melissa Hoegg for wisdom

Peggy Whitmire went home to Jesus-pray for Rick and Barb and family

Diane Scott – recovery from surgery

Rogers family with the passing of Larry

Peace in Jerusalem

Pray for our Veterans and our first responders

Pray for our Missions & Outreach

Pray for our leaders and military members and families

*“O God, You are my God, earnestly I seek You” Psalm 63:1*