

BIBLE FELLOWSHIP CENTER

1136 Baseline Road
Grand Island, New York
www.bfcgi.org or bfcgi.info

716-773-3748

THE LORD'S DAY

December 8, 2019 8:30 & 10:15 AM

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

Organ Prelude David Schmidt
Piano Carol Dammann

Lighting of 2nd candle to signify the city of Christ's birth Micah 5:2

Carol 254, 260 'Isn't He' 'Worthy, You Are Worthy'

Prayer

Scripture – Psalm 99, 100 (*Congregation reads bold print*) John VanderMey

Announcements

Carol 249 'O Come, All Ye Faithful'

Intercessory Prayer

Mike Duff

Message Colossians 2:1-7 Rev. Cal VanderMey

Benediction Carol 245 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel'

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Monday - Youth Group 6:30 pm

No Tuesday 6:30 Precept Study on 'Mark'- Wendy Baldwin teaching

Wednesday at 6:30 pm. choir rehearsal

Thursday Precept at 9:15 on 'Revelation' with Margaret Was

Friday - Adult Bible study 7pm - John Woodell teaching

Saturday at 12:30 Ladies Christmas Luncheon

The offering box is located in the back of the sanctuary

UPCOMING EVENTS

Children's Advent Program, **Sunday Dec. 8th at 4 pm**

Ladies' Christmas Luncheon Saturday Dec. 14th at 12:30 pm

Christmas Caroling Monday Dec. 16th at 6:00pm

Christmas Eve Candlelight and Carol Service at 6:00pm

SCRIPTURE READING

Praise to the LORD for His Holiness

99 The LORD reigns; Let the peoples tremble!

He dwells *between* the cherubim; Let the earth be moved!

² **The LORD is great in Zion, and He is high above all the peoples.**

³ Let them praise Your great and awesome name—He *is* holy.

⁴ **The King's strength also loves justice; You have established equity;**

You have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob.

⁵ Exalt the LORD our God,

And worship at His footstool— He *is* holy.

⁶ **Moses and Aaron were among His priests,**

And Samuel was among those who called upon His name;

They called upon the LORD, and He answered them.

⁷ He spoke to them in the cloudy pillar;

They kept His testimonies and the ordinance He gave them.

⁸ **You answered them, O LORD our God;**

You were to them God-Who-Forgives,

Though You took vengeance on their deeds.

⁹ Exalt the LORD our God, and worship at His holy hill;

For the LORD our God *is* holy.

A Song of Praise for the LORD's Faithfulness to His People

A Psalm of Thanksgiving.

100 Make a joyful shout to the LORD, all you lands!

² Serve the LORD with gladness; Come before His presence with singing.

³ **Know that the LORD, He is God;**

It is He who has made us, and not we ourselves;

We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.

⁴ Enter into His gates with thanksgiving,

And into His courts with praise.

Be thankful to Him, *and* bless His name.

⁵ For the LORD *is* good; His mercy *is* everlasting,

And His truth *endures* to all generations.

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.

"Our Virgin Born Immanuel--God with us!"

Isaiah 7:14

Therefore the Lord Himself will give you a sign: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a Son, and shall call His name Immanuel.

The mystery stated in Genesis 3:15--seed of a woman--is now explained for us in Isaiah 7:14. The virgin shall conceive and bear a Son. Humanity alone cannot achieve that fact, but God can do that which is impossible. What a comfort that should have been to King Ahaz at a time of trouble in the history of the Kingdom of Judah. God can do anything, and He will do the impossible. And God can still do that today in your life and mine. Ahaz rejected the sign as having any import, and Isaiah's greatest prediction went unheeded for 700 years.

In a dream a man in Nazareth was given this same verse, and it was the explanation that he needed to decide what to do with the woman to whom he was engaged. Joseph was told that Mary was the virgin, and the child to be born was indeed Immanuel (Matthew 1:23).

Immanuel is literally God with us, a reminder to Joseph that the child that she would bear would be God Himself coming down to live among men. Scholars tell us that when the Bible speaks of God dwelling among men it literally means "He pitched His tent among us" (John 1:1-14). Did Joseph realize that his wife was chosen to be the vehicle through which God would enter the human race--yes! New Testament writers explained for us the significance of the Virgin Birth. I John 4:9 views it from the aspect of God's love: By this the love of God was manifested in us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world so that we might live through Him. Paul views the Virgin Birth as essential in order for God to handle our sin problem: But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons (Galatians 4:4-5).

When you go into a doctor's office, and the doctor scrambles to find your name, you do not feel very important. Yet you have God who cares about you personally. So much so, that He gave you this sign--the Virgin Birth--to comfort you that your sin problem is not going to be handled by you, but rather that God Himself pitched a tent here on earth 2000 years ago, and took care of the whole mess that our sins had created. How thankful we should be for the Virgin Birth of Christ--God with us!