

# We Strive to Be: A church devoted to making disciples of Jesus Christ, growing together in knowledge and relationship with God and each other.

## Order of Worship

## Today's Events:

Elders/Deacons/Ministers Meeting

Youth Group Christmas Party: Leave the church at 4 p.m. for the Webb's House. Bring a \$15 gift for your appointed person.

## **Upcoming Events:**

Dec. 10 – Golden Gals' Christmas Party Dec. 15 – Baby Blessing **Dec. 17** – Men's/Women's Tuesday Morning Bible Study 10-11 a.m. Dec. 21 – Christmas Play Practice: 4:00 p.m. Dec. 22 – Children's Christmas Play: 9:30 a.m. (No Class) Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: 6-7 p.m. Dec. 25 – Christmas (Office Closed) Dec. 26 - Office Closed Dec. 31 – New Year's Eve (Office Closed) Jan. 1 - New Year's Day (Office Closed)

Song Leader/Welcome	Robb Mills
Prayer	
Communion Talk Servers Brian Wrig Butch McComa	ht, Gordon Jantz, Michael Granberg s, Todd Anderson, Dylan Anderson
Sermon: The Power of Christmas to Stop War	Erik Granberg
Shepherd's Prayer	Dan Kent
Nursery Sound Booth/Slides	

## Sermon Scripture:

Luke 2:14

# Sermon Thought:

Greed, envy, and hatred have led to many a war for humanity. In contrast to that, the angels proclaimed peace and goodwill at the birth of Jesus. Jesus' birth, and subsequent defeat of sin and death, allowed peace between God and man. But not just between God and man, also between men.

# Sermon Questions:

1. How can the gospel bring peace between men?

2. Why is it so hard for people, even Christians, to get to that peace?

3. How can we set an example of peace between ourselves and those around us?

#### Next Week's (12/15/24) Servants:

Song Leader /Welcome:	Wesley Boyd
Communion Talk:	Dan Kent
Servers:	Wayne Williams Cory Moore Houston Moore Cooper Thornton John Granberg Brooks Wilson
Shepherd's Prayer:	Pat Meek
Sound Booth/ Slides:	Robb Mills
Nursery: Wed. Toddler/ Preschool Teacher 11th:	Wendy Taylor

#### This Week's Birthdays:

	Jerod Burford
	Curtis Diel
	Steve Long
	Terry Sherrill
12 <sup>th</sup>	David Burford

#### Revealing God – Disciples Fishers of Men

Fishing is an interesting endeavor. You have to have the right equipment, some bait, a place to fish, and a whole lot of patience. My first fishing experiences were with my dad and grandpa. They provided everything I needed and a place to fish, but they fell short on giving me patience. You put your line with the bait in the water, and then you wait for the fish to bite. Yes, sometimes you wait, and wait, and wait. As time went on, I realized that knowing where to fish was important too. It definitely is exciting when the fish take the bait and you actually catch one. Then comes another dreaded part of fishing – cleaning them. To avoid this piece, I would wander off as dad and grandpa starting cleaning the fish and would manage to come back just as they finished.

This is the same process Jesus engaged in as he set out to call his disciples. As Mark records, "And passing along by the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you become fishers of men.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him" (Mk. 1:16-18). Jesus then taught them all that was needed to become fishers of men and demonstrated effective ways of doing that. His disciples also discovered that having patience was indeed a necessary part of their work. Getting people to take in the love of God and be drawn to the gospel took some time. What they soon discovered was that as they did their part, Jesus was always right there beside them making sure the catch was complete. Later, Jesus even took care of the cleaning part by sacrificing his life and cleansing them of their sins. That means we have been caught, cleansed, and made whole by the disciples Jesus sent out to become fishers of men!

### **Baby Blessings**

North Garland has been blessed with several newborn children recently. Next Sunday, the elders will be blessing all the babies born this year.

## **Children's Christmas Play**

We will be having a children's Christmas play on Sunday December 22nd in place of Sunday school. The practice session will be on Saturday December 21st. Dee Plummer and Chris Taylor will have more details.

#### **Sunday School Teachers**

Sunday January 5th through Sunday March 30th is the next teaching quarter for the children education ministry. We want to express our gratitude to those who have taught this past year and encourage you to keep teaching. We also encourage men, women and youth who are interested in teaching the Word of God to children in the nursery thru elementary age, to let Robb or Chris know if you would like to teach this next quarter.

(Jolden (Jirls ()hristmas Party

Christmas Carol sing-a-long Dirty Santa

December 19th at 11:39 am

he Jong Home

3813 Oakwood Court

Sign up sheet on the

Welcome Center

Pol Juck bring a dish Dessert provided

Dirly Santa

Bring a wrapped gift \$10.00 - \$15.00