

## WELCOME

GOOD MORNING AND WELCOME TO CITY LIFE CHURCH CITY LIFE EXISTS TO RENEW CITIES SOCIALLY, SPIRITUALLY, & CULTURALLY WITH THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST.

PLEASE STAND AND TAKE A MOMENT TO MOVE THE CENTER OF YOUR ROW TO MAKE ROOM FOR THOSE STILL COMING IN AND REMAIN STANDING AS WE BEGIN WITH OUR CALL TO WORSHIP..

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Advent wreath contains four candles representing:  
love, peace, hope, and joy.  
All four are found in Christ.  
Today, we celebrate hope.

Those who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

Those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

Come, let us worship the God

Whose light brings hope and grace to a weary world.

We light this candle in hope, hope of our Savior who has come and will come  
again.

(Light the first advent candle)

## PRE SERMON PRAYER

Holy Father, we thank you for the humility you displayed in Jesus coming down to serve us. Your kindness knows no end. You are the light in the darkness, let us set our gaze to you in this time. Help us see your power and strength in this text, and let us respond with praise and thanksgiving.

## SCRIPTURE READING

YOU MAY BE SEATED

ELEMENTARY STUDENTS MAY NOW MEET THEIR TEACHERS IN THE HALLWAY TO BE ESCORTED TO CLASS. [PAUSE UNTIL KIDS ARE GONE]  
TODAYS SCRIPTURE READING IS FROM LUKE 1:26-38

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?" And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

This is God's word for us.

**Thanks be to God!**

## RESPONSIVE PRAYER TIME

During this time, we want to create some space to respond by going to God in prayer.

Take time to confess areas where you have not responded to God's commands in obedience or have not placed confidence in the strength of God

Pray for this advent season that his glory would be lifted up in your households

Take time to thank him for his kingdom that has no end and pray for co workers friends and more to see the sweetness of freedom in Jesus.

## CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

CHURCH, JOIN ME IN OUR CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE

MOST MERCIFUL GOD,

WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED, BY WHAT WE HAVE DONE, AND BY WHAT WE HAVE LEFT UNDONE.

WE HAVE NOT CHERISHED THE GRACE YOU HAVE GIVEN US;

WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED YOUR COMMANDS WITH JOY AND OBEDIENCE.

WE ARE TRULY SORRY AND WE HUMBLY REPENT.

BECAUSE OF YOUR SON JESUS CHRIST, HAVE MERCY ON US AND FORGIVE US;

THAT WE MAY DELIGHT IN YOUR WILL, AND WALK IN YOUR WAYS, TO THE GLORY OF YOUR NAME.

### PAUSE FOR REFLECTION

CHURCH,

WHILE IT IS TRUE THAT WE HAVE SINNED,  
IT IS A GREATER TRUTH THAT WE ARE FORGIVEN,  
THROUGH GOD'S MIGHTY GRACE IN CHRIST JESUS.

TO ALL WHO HUMBLY SEEK THE MERCY OF GOD I SAY,  
IN JESUS CHRIST YOUR SIN IS FORGIVEN!

THANKS BE TO GOD!

## SENDING

Pray as band ends last song (What a Beautiful Name)

Prayer and Connect  
Global Missions Spotlight

Now church remain standing for our Sending

Walk in the grace of Jesus that is so freely given

Hope in the eternal Word

Trust in the God of promise

And reflect the light of hope this week.

Have a great Sunday