

DECEMBER 21, 2025

# DON'T MISS CHRISTMAS

FIRST BAPTIST  
SHELBYVILLE IN

Call to Worship:

Let all the earth fear the Lord; let all the people of the world revere him.

**For he spoke, and it came to be; he commanded, and it stood firm.**

The Lord brings the plans of the world to nothing; he thwarts the intentions of its people.

**But the plans of the Lord stand firm forever, the purposes of his heart through all generations.**

Blessed are those whose God is the Lord, the people he chose for his inheritance.

**From heaven the Lord looks down and sees all mankind. From his dwelling place he watches all who live on earth— he who forms the hearts of all, He considers everything they do.**

No king is saved by the size of his army; no warrior escapes by his great strength. A horse is a vain hope for deliverance; despite all its great strength it cannot save.

**But the eyes of the Lord are on those who fear him, on those whose hope is in his unfailing love.**

He delivers them from death and sustains them in want.

**We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name.**

Hymn: #133 Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Prayer of Adoration

Prayer of Confession:

O Father, we confess that we love the world and its ways. We love pleasure, we love doing what we want.

**We love to be first, to be in charge, we love feeling superior.**

We love watching others get what they deserve, we love releasing anger. We love lying to control outcomes.

**We love thinking about what we don't have. We love talking about other people, we love hearing about bad things.**

We love to be flattered. We love being accepted by the world, we love to convince ourselves that we are guilt free, we love to suppress the truth.

**We love the secret things, the dark things, the things that are forbidden. We love the world and our lives here more than you.**

Father, you see our very hearts. How great is the mercy we need every day.

**Father, forgive us and cleanse us and heal us. Do not spare anything that is needed in making us yours completely.**

### Hymn: Beneath the Cross of Jesus

Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I fain would take my stand,  
The shadow of a mighty Rock  
Within a weary land;  
A home within the wilderness,  
A rest upon the way,  
From the burning of the noontide heat,  
And the burden of the day.

Upon that cross of Jesus  
Mine eye at times can see  
The very dying form of One  
Who suffered there for me  
And from my smitten heart with tears  
Two wonders I confess  
The wonders of redeeming love  
And my unworthiness

I take, O cross, thy Shadow  
For my abiding place  
I ask no other sunshine than  
The sunshine of His face  
Content to let the world go by  
To know no gain nor loss  
My sinful self my only shame  
My glory all the cross

My sinful self my only shame  
My glory all the cross

Assurance of Pardon in the Gospel:

Jesus, the lamb of God, sacrificed for us and raised again, comes to reveal and bring about the purposes of God. At his throne they are singing this new song:

**“You are worthy to take the scroll and to open its seals, because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased for God persons from every tribe and language and people and nation.**

You have made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God, and they will reign on the earth.”

**“Worthy is the Lamb, who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and praise!”**

“To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power, for ever and ever!”

Hymn: #145 O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful,  
Joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye, to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold Him,  
Born the King of angels;

Refrain:

O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him,  
Christ the Lord.

Sing, choirs of angels,  
Sing in exultation;  
O sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!  
Glory to God,  
Glory in the highest;

Refrain

Yea, Lord, we greet Thee,  
Born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be glory given;  
Word of the Father,  
Now in flesh appearing.

Refrain

Hymn: #147 Silent Night! Holy Night!

Pastoral Prayer

Scripture: **Luke 2: 1-20**

Sermon: Don't Miss Christmas

<sup>1</sup> And it came to pass in those days that a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This census first took place while Quirinius was governing Syria. <sup>3</sup> So all went to be registered, everyone to his own city.

<sup>4</sup> Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed wife, who was with child. <sup>6</sup> So it was, that while they were there, the days were completed for her to be delivered. <sup>7</sup> And she brought forth her firstborn Son, and wrapped Him in swaddling cloths, and laid Him in a manger, because there was no room for them in the inn.

<sup>8</sup> Now there were in the same country shepherds living out in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. <sup>9</sup> And behold, an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were greatly afraid. <sup>10</sup> Then the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. <sup>11</sup> For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. <sup>12</sup> And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a [d]manger.”

<sup>13</sup> And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying:

<sup>14</sup> “Glory to God in the highest,  
And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!”

<sup>15</sup> So it was, when the angels had gone away from them into heaven, that the shepherds said to one another, “Let us now go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has come to pass, which the Lord has made known to us.” <sup>16</sup> And they came with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the Babe lying in a manger. <sup>17</sup> Now when they had seen Him, they made widely known the saying which was told them concerning this Child. <sup>18</sup> And all those who heard it marveled at those things which were told them by the shepherds. <sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart. <sup>20</sup> Then the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told them.

## **1 Samuel 16:7**

<sup>7</sup> But the LORD said to Samuel, “Do not look at his appearance or at his physical stature, because I have refused him. For the LORD does not see as man sees; for man looks at the outward appearance, but the LORD looks at the heart.”

## **Hebrews 13:2**

<sup>2</sup> Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained angels.

## **Matthew 2: 1-8, 16**

<sup>1</sup> Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, <sup>2</sup> saying, “Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him.”

<sup>3</sup> When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

<sup>4</sup> And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

<sup>5</sup> So they said to him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

<sup>6</sup> ‘But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,  
Are not the least among the rulers of Judah;  
For out of you shall come a Ruler  
Who will shepherd My people Israel.’ ”

<sup>7</sup> Then Herod, when he had secretly called the wise men, determined from them what time the star appeared. <sup>8</sup> And he sent them to Bethlehem and said, “Go and search carefully for the young Child, and when you have found Him, bring back word to me, that I may come and worship Him also.”

<sup>16</sup> Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry; and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men.

## **Luke 2:19**

<sup>19</sup> But Mary kept all these things and pondered them in her heart.

**John 1:12**

<sup>12</sup> But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name:

Hymn: #125 Joy to the World

Benediction

## **Upcoming Events & Announcements**

Thank you to those that helped decorate the church for Christmas.

Our Christmas Eve Service will be Dec. 24th at 5 pm

Women's Bible Study is focusing on "Relying on the Holy Spirit" by Charles Stanley. Join us on Mondays at 10 am at the Christian Center.

Men's Bible Study at 9 am Monday at the church.

This year we have picked up and distributed 13,774 pounds of food from Midwest Food Bank. Keep in mind that does not include the food that was received from several food drives and other donations. God is great!!

Our monthly mission for December is RMMO (Retired Ministers and Missionaries Offering). For your convenience, envelopes are in each foyer. They can just be dropped in the offering plate located at the sound booth. Thank you.