



He Shall Be Called

ISAIAH 9:6

A Special Christmas Service

16/17 December 2017

Vol. 39, No. 51



A Special Christmas Service

featuring *He Shall Be Called: Celebrate His Name This Christmas*

Church Election Proper

Announcements

Call to Worship (WE LIFT YOUR NAME)

Tapestry

HE SHALL BE CALLED

Festival Choir

WONDERFUL COUNSELOR

*Chancel & Youth Choirs and
4Word*

MIGHTY GOD

Chancel & Youth Choirs

Worship through Giving

Worship in Music (SENT FROM ABOVE)

Praise Factory

EVERLASTING FATHER

Harvest

PRINCE OF PEACE

Harvest & 6:33

EMMANUEL

Chancel Choir & 4Word

Worship in the Word

Pastor Larry Pabiona

Worship through Fellowship

Worship in Music (PAMASKONG PAANYAYA)

Tapestry

BLESS THE NAME OF JESUS

*Chancel, Youth &
Seniors' Choirs*

SAVIOR

Festival Choir

Benediction

Pastor Larry Pabiona

'Hallelujah' Chorus

Festival Choir

(from George Handel's MESSIAH)

'HE SHALL BE CALLED: CELEBRATE HIS NAME THIS CHRISTMAS' Created by Geron Davis, Dave Clark and Tony Wood • Arranged and Orchestrated by David Sloan **PRESENTED WITH THE PARTICIPATION OF** The Festival Choir (All Choirs and Singing Groups) • Chancel Choir led by Music Director Josh Capule • Youth Choir led by Des Batalla • Seniors' Choir led by Betty Rendal • Praise Factory led by Kathy Alvarado and choreographed by Richelle Ligot • Harvest led by Zeb Zuñiga • 6:33 led by Lani Ligot • 4Word led by Boots Dizon • The Tagalog Worship Team **TOGETHER WITH** The GCF Praise and Worship Band led by Levi Fabellar • The GCF Chamber Orchestra led by Benj Caaway • Tapestry led by Nikoy de Guzman • Production Team led by Joey Aracama **AND NARRATED BY** Elder Dylan Halili (December 16 service) • Elder Willy Inong (December 17, 10 a.m. service) • Sean Cura, Janny Dizon, Raniel Santos, Jourd Lee, JB Villareal, Pastor Migs Orleans, and Ernest Acar (December 17, 5 p.m. service) ■



We Needed a Savior, God Gave Himself

Today's Message (16/17 December 2017) /
Selected Bible Verses

WE ARE NOT
SAVED BY SAYING
CERTAIN WORDS,
LIKE A MAGIC
FORMULA, BUT
BY THE ATTITUDE
OF OUR HEARTS,
WHICH GOD
ALONE CAN SEE.

The last song that the choir just sang for us so beautifully kept repeating the same phrase, over and over: "We needed a Savior; God gave Himself." But what does that really mean?

1. WE NEEDED A SAVIOR, THAT'S WHY GOD PROMISED HE WOULD COME.

"For to us a Child is born, to us a Son is given, and the government will be on His shoulders. And He will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace." — **Isaiah 9:6**

2. WE NEEDED A SAVIOR, THAT'S WHY GOD GAVE UP HIS PRIVILEGES AS GOD-KING TO BECOME LIKE ONE OF US.

"[Jesus], being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness." — **Philippians 2:6-7**

3. WE NEEDED A SAVIOR, THAT'S WHY GOD GAVE HIMSELF TO DIE FOR US ON THE CROSS.

"Very rarely will anyone die for a righteous man, though for a good man someone

SCHEDULE OF REMAINING WORSHIP SERVICES FOR DECEMBER

December 23 & 30 (Sat.)
Saturdays, 5 to 6:30 p.m.

December 24 & 31 (Sun.)
Christmas & New Year's Eve

Two services only:
10 to 11:30 a.m. *and*
5 to 6:30 p.m.



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might possibly dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us." — **Romans 5:7-8**

But why did Jesus have to die? Because we all have sinned, and are supposed to die for our sins: **"For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,"** (*Romans 3:23*) and **"The wages of sin is death"** (*Romans 6:23*)...

But Jesus died in our place instead: **"But God demonstrates His own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us"** (*Romans 5:8*).

SO WHAT MUST I DO TO BE FORGIVEN OF MY SINS AND HAVE ETERNAL LIFE?

Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. "The time has come," He said. "The kingdom of God is near. **Repent and believe the good news!**" — **Mark 1:14-15**

We are not saved by saying certain words, like a magic formula, but by the attitude of our hearts, which God alone can see. But to help explain what "repent and believe" means, here is a sample prayer, which you can make your very own if you pray it with a sincere heart:

Lord Jesus, Son of God, have mercy on me, a sinner. I believe you died for me on the cross, and I accept your sacrificial death for me, as my Savior. I surrender my life to you and ask that you be my Lord forever, Amen.

If you prayed something similar to the thoughts in this prayer and you meant every word, God heard it! And He now calls you His precious, forgiven, accepted child from this day on. Please let us know about this so we can help you ■

John announced: "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth" (*John 1:14*).

For thousands of years, mankind have tried to relate to a God who is basically invisible, unseen in our physical world. But on that first Christmas eve we had God manifested as flesh for the first time—a baby, born of a virgin in a manger, in a little town called Bethlehem (in Israel). His name is Jesus, the Christ: "He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation" (*Colossians 1:15*).

God wants to be known to mankind. The infinite God, the almighty Creator of all, "came down" to dwell among finite humans. We today have this privilege of looking back in time and see how Jesus, Emmanuel ('God with us') had accomplished His mission on earth. Now we can celebrate the Gospel and enjoy its benefits—a right relationship with God and a position to grown in close fellowship with Him here and even beyond.

Those of us who have trusted Christ as God and Savior have all the more reason to celebrate this time of the year. Regardless of our circumstance, God is with us. Our present life journey is secure and may be marked by peace and deep joy despite the varying challenges

we are in. His presence indeed is enough.

As you celebrate this year, make sure that aside from personally celebrating, do it with your small group in church or even outside of the GCF community. Make that light in your collective lives shine as Good News to those who have yet to discover it. Spend time with friends and the community to spread the gospel of Christmas.

I have been noticing that the Christmas season, even in our country, is getting shorter and shorter. We as Christians ought to keep the spirit of Christmas and the celebration alive. Perhaps beyond the traditional practices that often times keep people extra busy and financially weighed down, we can come up with alternative ways to preserve the celebration of the true significance of this season of the year.

In the remainder of the Christmas season this year, be sure to spend time with loved ones, friends, and the community, and celebrate the true essence of the season: Emmanuel, God with us, in the person of Christ. Jesus, when He came down as a man, has made God's perfect love understandable to finite creatures like us. Share Him and His good news with others this Christmas! ■



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

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FOR TO US

a child is born

TO US

a son is given

AND THE GOVERNMENT

SHALL BE UPON HIS SHOULDER,

AND HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED

Wonderful Counselor

Mighty God

Everlasting Father

Prince of Peace.

ISAIAH 9:6