



Worship Bulletin

GCF ORTIGAS • DECEMBER 2023

Carols of Light

A CHRISTMAS EVE HYMN SING

DECEMBER 23, 2023
Saturday • 5:30 PM

DECEMBER 24, 2023
Sunday • 10:00 AM • 5:00 PM
**No 3:00 pm Service*

CHRISTMAS SERMON 2023

Knowing the God of Christmas

LUKE 2:1-20





CHRISTMAS SERMON 2023

Knowing the God of Christmas LUKE 2:1–20

What does Christmas, the celebration of God being born of a woman – to become fully God and fully man – teach us about God? Take a look at three groups of people in the famous Christmas story, and learn about God and the way He deals with us:

1. CAESAR AUGUSTUS AND THE MIGHTY ROMAN EMPIRE: GOD WILL KEEP HIS WORD, DESPITE DESPOTS AND DYNASTIES (LUKE 2:1–3).

- God used a pagan Roman emperor to ensure Joseph and Mary ended up in Bethlehem to fulfill prophecy (Micah 5:2) and at the perfect time in history (Galatians 4:4–5).
- As a follower of Christ, you can rest your life on the faithfulness and sovereignty of God.

2. MARY AND JOSEPH: GOD HAS A PURPOSE AMID DISAPPOINTMENT AND DISGRACE (LUKE 2:4–7).

- How do you think Joseph felt after hearing his fiancée was pregnant? Disappointment might be an understatement. What do you think Mary faced when she got pregnant? Disgrace was part of it, but even death was possible.
- Whether you realize it or not, God has been, and still is, right there with you amid disappointment and disgrace.

3. THE SHEPHERDS: GOD SHOWS HIS FAVOR EVEN TO THE DESPISED AND DISCRIMINATED (LUKE 2:8–20).

- In other words, to those with whom we are *not* pleased. Shepherds felt like that. Society had pushed them down to the lowest rung on the social ladder. But they discovered that special night, that the One who counts the most cared. Of all people on earth, God's angel came to them!
- Maybe you've been despised or discriminated against. Or you feel unworthy of God because of things you've done. To all who think like that, God's word to the shepherds is also for you: "You have a Savior meant for you; He is Christ the Lord."

FINAL THOUGHTS

How do you view the God of Christmas? Another despot who demands to be followed? Or someone who keeps His word, has a loving plan behind all things, and shows his favor to the despised? Your concept of God will literally run or ruin your life. May you have a right and true picture of the God of Christmas who loved you enough to give you His Son to take your place on the Cross. ■

A joyful Christmas to all!



The Shepherd's Voice

by Dr. Larry Pabiona, Senior Pastor

CAROLS OF LIGHT

Welcome to "Carols of Light," our Christmas Hymn Sing to celebrate Christ, the Light of the World. If last December 9 and 10 you joined the GCF Festival Choir for "Light of the World: A Christmas Special," this time, the GCF Festival Choir is joining you, as the entire congregation for each worship service becomes the choir. So bring your best singing voice, and this is that one time each year when singing out of tune is okay, as long as you sing from the heart, not just the diaphragm.

PRAY FOR THOSE WHO PRAYED TO RECEIVE CHRIST

Speaking of "Light of the World: A Christmas Special," we praise God for 145 people who prayed to receive Christ during the event, who are now being followed up on by our Assimilation team. Please pray for the new believers as we do our utmost to follow them up and help them understand their new life in Christ. Pray for the Assimilation team to be able to handle this volume of people to follow up. Above all, praise our Sovereign God for calling them to Himself. To Him be all the glory and honor!

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY: MASK UP

As the incidence of COVID and other respiratory diseases is rising, it is prudent for all to exercise caution and start wearing masks again. Just to be clear, this is not required but highly recommended. I will also wear a mask and will remove it only when preaching. I know it's inconvenient, but as the saying goes, "Better safe than sorry."

A PERSONAL THANK YOU FROM OUR FAMILY

It's that time of the year again that we receive reminders of your love and thoughtfulness called "gifts." So many of you have done this for us; we are overwhelmed. Forgive us if we fail to appreciate every single one of you, and again, thank you so much for all this. We love you in the Lord. MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE! ■



Worship Through Giving

If you are led to give, you may do so through the following means:

Account Name: Greenhills Christian Fellowship, Inc.

BDO

BDO Corporate Center
Savings Account: 000661590216

METROBANK

Ortigas Sapphire
Savings Account: 629-3-62919733-9

CHINA BANK

Ortigas ADB
Savings Account: 1112-02006218

BPI

Ortigas Emerald
Peso Savings Account: 9823 0217 01

UNIONBANK

UB Plaza
Checking Account: 0005-9001-0426

ROBINSONS BANK

Main Office
Savings Account: 1000-3010-0017-355

PAYPAL

Please visit gcf.org.ph/give

Send transaction document
to finance@gcf.org.ph for receipt.

GCASH



PAYMAYA



Greenhills Christian Fellowship
Know Christ and Make Him Known

Ruby cor. Garnet Road,
Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 1605

☎ (02) 8632 1354 to 56
🌐 gcf.org.ph
✉ email@gcf.org.ph

come WORSHIP GOD WITH US!

Together, let's seek to know
Christ and make Him known

WORSHIP SERVICES

SUNDAYS

10:00 AM – English*
3:00 PM – Filipino
5:30 PM – English

SATURDAYS

5:00 PM – YouthLIVE Worship
5:30 PM – Traditional Worship

WEDNESDAYS

6:30 PM – Ortigas Community Worship

Join us in-person at GCF Ortigas

*KidsLIFE Sunday School every Sunday 10:00 AM

PRAYER GATHERING

THURSDAYS

8:00 PM

GCF Family's Hour of Prayer
Via Zoom
Meeting ID: 848 3227 7763
Passcode: 984990

BIBLE STUDY

SUNDAYS

9:00 AM

Sunday Bible School
Series: Basic Doctrines
Live at GCF Chapel

ON-SITE FELLOWSHIP

FRIDAYS

7:30 PM

Young Adults (YA) Fridays
Open to 20–40 year olds
Fellowship Hall

GROWTH GROUPS

Discipleship groups for all ages, all days of the week,
throughout Metro Manila and online

SIGN-UP AT gcf.org.ph/growth-groups

TRUTHS ABOUT LIFE & DEATH

THE CHARACTER OF GOD

God is holy, pure, and just. He rightfully and righteously judges and punishes all sin.

“Holy, holy, holy is the LORD of hosts; the whole earth is full of his glory! (Isaiah 6:3)

Who will not fear you, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. (Revelation 15:4)

THE CRISIS WE FACE

We all have failed God's standard and face God's righteous judgment.

“For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God... (Romans 3:23)

For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who by their unrighteousness suppress the truth. (Romans 1:18)

THE CALL OF JESUS

The Lord Jesus is God's only way for us to be forgiven and reconciled to God. He took the judgment for our sins on the Cross, and whoever comes to Christ for forgiveness, He gives new life and an eternal relationship with God.

“Jesus said “I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.” (John 14:6)

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:23)

The Lord Jesus is calling out to us: “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.” (Matthew 11:28–30)

WHAT MUST WE DO?

Come to the Lord Jesus for forgiveness and salvation:

“Lord Jesus, be merciful to me—a sinner. I believe that You are the Son of God who took the penalty for my sins on the Cross. I humbly ask You to be my Savior and submit to you as my LORD forever. Amen.”

Church **UPDATES** AND **UPCOMING EVENTS**

CHRISTMAS SEASON 2023

Invite your family and friends!

LIGHT OF A NEW DAWN: A New Year's Eve Service

- Dec 30 – 5:30 PM
- Dec 31 – 10:00 AM and 5:00 PM

*No 3:00 PM Service this weekend

REGULAR GATHERINGS SCHEDULE

Sunday Bible School (SBS)

Sundays, 9:00 AM, GCF Chapel
Resumes on January 7

Ortigas Community Worship (OCW)

Wednesdays, 6:30 PM, Fellowship Hall
Resumes on January 10

GCF Family's Hour of Prayer (FHoP)

Thursdays, 8:00 PM, via Zoom
Resumes on January 11

YA Fridays (Young Adults)

Fridays, 7:00 PM, Fellowship Hall
Resumes on January 12

**JAN
6**

SAT

PRAISE FACTORY AUDITIONS One day only!

9:00 AM – 12:00 NN
Room BM06, GCF Ortigas
For kids aged 6 to 11

Prepare a song and come early
with your accompaniment
track!

DO YOU NEED SOMEONE TO TALK TO?

If you need support or clarification on some
issues, we are here to help.

GCF ERCC Hotline: **0917 532 7794**

YouthLIVE and KidsLIFE

LIVEstream (YouthLIVE Worship) Resumes on February 3

Prayer Gatherings all Saturdays of January
Saturdays • 5:00 PM
Auditorium A, GCF Ortigas & online
Open to high school and college aged youth

All-New KidsLIFE Sunday School (except Special Sundays)

Resumes on January 14
Sundays • 10:00 AM
4th Floor, GCF Ortigas

- **KidsLIFE Play & Learn (ages 2–5)**
Pre-register at gcf.link/PlayNLearnReg
- **KidsLIFE Worship (ages 6–12)**
Pre-register at gcf.link/KidsLIFEonsite

ARE YOU HERE FOR THE FIRST TIME?

We would love to get to know you better!
Please fill out our Welcome Form via:

gcf.link/GCFWelcome

QUESTIONS ABOUT GCF ORTIGAS?

Want to join a Growth Group?
Looking to apply for church membership?
Curious about the various ministries?

Visit the new **INFO HUB** at the Lobby