

## December 27, 2020

Live Streamed at 11:10 a.m.

SharingTheHeart.org/Wellspring

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It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Whether the holiday season has you feeling excited, nostalgic, stressed, sad, or broke, we are glad that you have joined us for our Advent series, Shine Bright!

The word Advent comes from the Latin word adventus meaning "coming" or "visit." Our Advent season begins four Sundays before Christmas and ends on Christmas Eve. During Advent we prepare for the birth of Jesus. As we anticipate Christmas, the Shine Bright series will enlighten and brighten unique aspects of the birth of Christ that will light up our season and lives.

Amid all that is happening in the world it can feel a bit dark. We know, however, that light shines in the darkness, and the darkness does not extinguish the light. Jesus is the light of the world and when we live for Christ, we shine bright!

If you are new, please feel free to ask questions, be yourself, get connected, and let us know if there is anything that we can do to make your experience most memorable. Merry Christmas!

First United Methodist Church 315 N. Church St., McKinney, TX 75069 972-562-8556


## Shine Bright: Let Your Light Shine

## Today's scripture: Matthew 5:14-16 <br> Sermon Notes

It is still Christmas! The gifts have been opened and you may be looking forward to the New Year, however, it is still Christmas. The 12 Days of Christmas begin on Christmas Day and end on January 5. Although Christmas is a season, celebrating and living for Jesus is a constant. It is an everlasting gift that is to be shared. When we daily shine bright for Jesus others come to know the love of Christ.
There are many great reasons to shine bright and invite others to experience life in Christ. What are some of the reasons you are thankful for the birth of Jesus? Two wonderful reasons mentioned in Scripture for sharing Christ with others are "hope realized" and "increased joy."

## HOPE REALIZED

Although God is always loving us and wooing us into a relationship (prevenient grace), we have to accept God's love. Unfortunately, too many people are lost and are searching for love, hope, and purpose in the fleeting things of this world. As Paul states in Ephesians, "At that time you were without Christ...you had no hope and no God" (Ephesians 2:12).
Sharing Christ provides an opportunity for others to accept the love of God, to be forgiven of sin (Romans 5:8), to become a new creation (2 Corinthians 5:17), and boast in the hope of God's glory (Romans 5:2). Only in a relationship with Christ does one experience hope in this life and life eternal. Who do you know that needs the hope that Jesus offers?

## INCREASED JOY

When we delight in something, we share it with others. In a way, our joy is made complete when others experience our same elation for something. The author of 1 John starts his letter by sharing the good news of Christ and says, "We are writing these things so that our joy can be complete" ( John 1:4). Perhaps the greatest thing we can do to increase our own joy in the Lord is to be engaged in sharing this joy with others. Who do you know that needs the joy that Jesus offers?

In sharing Christ, God is glorified, hope is realized, and joy is increased. Lives are changed, the world is changed, and the Kingdom of God grows! Take the time today to pray for those who need Jesus and take one specific action to shine the light of Christ in someone's life.
"Like" our Facebook page and be sure to check-in online! For every new "like" and "check-in" we receive, we will provide three meals to hungry kids!

That's right! Your simple check-in helps spread the word about Wellspring and feeds kids. This is a simple click of the button that can have a big impact. Scan the QR code with your smart phone camera to be taken to our Facebook page.

## KEEP IN TOUCH

For the latest news and events, view or subscribe to the weekly church email newsletter, "The Echo," at
SharingtheHeart.org/Newsletter.


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## IN OUR PRAYERS

- BJ Correu
- Bruce Cochrane
- Carl and Margaret Edwards
- Carroll Maxwell
- Chad Williamson
- Charles (Charlie) F. Smith and Mary Beth Smith
- Charles Matheny (Carol Grimes' cousin)
- Craig Edwards
- Darin Johnson
- David Franck
- Debra Duffy
- Eric Reynolds
- Gaither Day
- Geoffrey Ammeter
- Gina Luna
- Greg Seabaugh
- Harold and Jan Richardson
- Jac Schuster
- Jack Walsh
- Jackie Payne
- Jan O'Reilly
- Jean Carter
- Jeremy Michaels
- Joe Moats
- Jouett Gardner
- John Lyle
- John Nicks
- Jon Day
- Judy Cox
- Kathy Keith
- Karen Fitzgerald
- Kim Sinclair
- Krista Pollard, Gary and Jan Pollard
- Lauren Eubanks
- Lawrence Lowe
- Lee Elam
- Lorraine Brown
- Marion Morgan
- Mary Purtle
- Mary Tuggle
- Mike Quinn
- Noah Foster
- Norman Dotson
- Peggy Francis
- Ron Wiese
- Rosie Manus
- Sharon Aubuchon
- Shirley Gilmore
- Stachia Hicks
- Stephanie Kircher
- Tim Craig
- Tina Cristino
- Tom Farmer
- Tom Murph
- Vi Rentz
- Wyatt Skaines
- Wynona Carman
- Rev. David and Cindy Ceballos, Missionaries in Panama
- Chad \& Nancy Bradley, Missionaries in Ethiopia
- All our members in care facilities
- Everyone affected by the Coronavirus
- Families experiencing job loss
- Those experiencing homelessness
- Grace Children's Hospital in Haiti
- Melissa United Methodist Church
- Caldwell Elementary School

Military service members including: Capt Scott Adler, Capt Libby Adler, Sofia Lerma Alarcon, 1st Lt Joe Beeby, Marc Belo, CPL Matthew Broker, CTI2 Abigail Burns, CPT Aaron Bush, CPL Bradley Bush, AFC Drew Causey, 2nd Lt Vincent Chavez, Capt Ryan Clark, PFC Paul Confalone, Sgt Martin Damian DeLeon, GY Sgt Jim Ellsworth, Kevin English, Patrick English, James Evans, Lt
Col David Faulk, PFC Cody Furstenberg, Charlie Gilbert, LC CPL Robert Gray, ETN2 Cory Halberstadt, CPT Josh Hewett, Pvt John Wesley Holder Jr., LT Mark Jbeily, Lt Col Jim Johnston, Ryan Kidd, Avery Montana Krast, Lt Ryan Lubin, Alec Mack, Lt Logan McQuerry, Maj. Richard Milam, Chap MAJ Tim Shepherd, Maj Chuck Miller, AFC Kevin G. Persons, Jr., MSGT, SFC Tyler Renshaw, 2nd Lt. Austin Rine, Bobby Sanders, SR4 Nick Schofield, Colby Seamster II, Jonathan Spiegal, CW2 Ryan Thurgood, Mark Townson, Specialist Zach Vernier, CPL Mike Wilkes, Jose Almaguer, SPC Blake Robertson.

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