

# Grace Fellowship Baptist Church

The Church

With a Heart 

Sunday, December 1, 2024

Devotional Thought From the Pastor...

## THIS WEEK AT GRACE

December 1—7, 2024	
Sunday School	9:45 am
Worship Service	11:00 am
Church Council	12:15 pm
Int. Harvest Church	1:30 pm
Evangelism	6:00 pm
<b>Mid-Week</b>	
FB/YouTube Bible Study	
<b>Wednesday</b>	
Bible Study	6:00 pm
Praise Team	7:00 pm
<b>Friday</b>	
Praise Team Dress Rehearsal	6:00 pm

## Stewardship Thought...

**Revelation 7:9**—*After this I looked, and there before me was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language, standing before the throne and before the Lamb.*

**Consider how you can support this movement. What can you personally do to help see the gospel advance into every corner of the world?**

## Contact Us At:

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## Worship Service

### TIME OF QUIET MEDITATION

### TIME TO GATHER

Opening: I Have Seen the Light

### Lighting of the 1st Advent Candle

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Hymn 76

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCRIPTURE: Matthew 1:21

Oh, How I Love Jesus Hymn 217

### Time of Giving

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering\*  
& Movie

His Name Will Be Called

### TIME IN GOD'S WORD

Message: Rediscover Hope

Luke 2:22-35 Bro. Oscar

### Closing Prayer

\*Please place offerings in the wooden box in back of the church.

## December Birthday

Misty Hayes	12/07
Bill Jackson	12/18
Christy Leonard	12/07
Tony Pohl	12/08
Nicole Ramirez	12/29
Donna Teneyuque	12/09

## Ministry Gifts

Offerings for Budget	\$ 340.00
Designated Offerings	\$ 2.25
TOTAL OFFERINGS	\$ 342.25
10% Taken out for Missions	\$ 34.00

**Needed This Week for Budget \$ 1408.09**

## Walls Torn Down, Unity Found

Ephesians 2:14, “[Jesus] broke down the wall of hostility that separated us.”

Since 1961, families and friends had been separated by the Berlin Wall. Erected that year by the East German government, the barrier kept its citizens from fleeing to West Germany. In fact, from 1949 to the day the structure was built, it's estimated that more than 2.5 million East Germans had bolted to the West. US President Ronald Reagan stood at the wall in 1987 and famously said, “Tear down this wall.” His words reflected a groundswell of change that culminated with the wall being torn down in 1989—leading to Germany's joyous reunification.

Paul wrote of a “wall of hostility” torn down by Jesus (Ephesians 2:14). The wall had existed between Jews (God's chosen people) and gentiles (all other people). And it was symbolized by the dividing wall (the *soreg*) in the ancient temple erected by Herod the Great in Jerusalem. It kept gentiles from entering beyond the outer courts of the temple, though they could see the inner courts. But Jesus brought “peace” and reconciliation between the Jews and gentiles and between God and all people. He did so by “[breaking] down the wall . . . that separated us” by “his death on the cross” (vv. 14, 16 NLT). The “Good News of peace” made it possible for all to be united by faith in Christ (vv. 17–18 NLT).

Today, many things can divide us. As God provides what we need, let's strive to live out the peace and unity found in Jesus (vv. 19–22).

# Announcements...

•**Bible Study**—EVERYONE is invited to join us for mid-week Bible studies on YouTube prior to Wednesday and at church on Wednesdays at 6:00 pm. This week we will continue our study in 1 Thessalonians, at chapter 4.

•**Pastor Siing's Graduation**—Pastor Mang Siing, the pastor of Harvest International Church and Ministries will receive his Ph.D. in Missions & Evangelism from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary. We are ALL invited to attend the graduation this Friday, December 6th at 10:00am.

•**Praise Team Practices**—The Praise Team, media and narrators are asked to meet at the church at 6:00 pm this Friday, 12/6 to practice. Our last practice with everyone will be on Saturday, 12/21 at 10:00 am.

•**Christmas Fellowships**—

◇Adult Class: 12/13 7:00 pm

◇Dale Robertson's Open House:  
12/14 3—11pm

◇Youth & Kids' Celebrate:  
12/20 6:00 pm

•**Four Praise Team Members Branch Out**—Bro. Bill, Alice, Kristie and Susen will sing with the Richland Hills Baptist Church this season along with Pam and Mike Green. Everyone is invited to attend. The program will begin at 6:00 pm on December 15th at Richland Hills Baptist Church, located at 6852 Baker Blvd, Richland Hills, TX 76118.

•**Come, Let Us Worship the King**—Our Christmas Cantata performance will be on Sunday, Decem-

ber 22, during our 11:00am Worship Service.

•**Donations Toward Our Church and Various Ministries**—Please consider donating toward our church budget, which is our most crucial need. Some of our ministry needs are the A/C fund, Together We Build, Benevolent Ministries, Music Ministry, missionaries Jonny and Taylor, Texans on Mission, Samaritan's Purse, 2025 VBS, and Sharing the Load, etc. You may place your donations in an offering envelope and write the name of the ministry/organization on a "Special Offering" line (the amount goes on the right). Remember to place your regular tithe on the short line after the words, "Budget Offering." Then place all donations in the offering box in back of the church. Or—you may also send your donations through Zelle (ask Becky how to do it). Please do not make donations through PayPal.

•**Church Website**—If you have internet you can go to our website—go to <https://www.gfbc-fw.org>—to find lots of information such as sermon notes, pastor's weekly YouTube messages, Bro. Frank's YouTube Bible studies, giving opportunities, leave prayer requests and much more.

•**Instagram**—Also, please remember to follow our church on Instagram at @gfbcfw where you can receive inspiration and information!

•**Toiletry Items for the Homeless**—Since the homeless are always in need, please continue to collect travel-size toiletry items, and bring them to the church.

•**Budget Needs**—Please, prayerfully consider your part in support of our church missions, ministries, utilities, and upkeep. This week, we need to pay our electric, water, SBA loan and dumpster bills. Please trust God and be faithful.



In their newsletter this month, International Missionaries, J & T encourage all of their supporters to participate in the:

Lottie Moon Christmas Offering (LMCO)  
Week of Prayer for International Missions

We are invited to participate in the 2024 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering and Week of Prayer for International Missions.

This year's Week of Prayer will be observed Dec. 1-8. Between the command of Jesus in the Great Commission and the vision of the Great Multitude in Revelation 7:9, our great pursuit is to present God's message among the lost so they can hear the gospel and be represented around the throne of Jesus Christ for eternity. Throughout the years missionaries continue to count the cost. Finding Christ worthy, they willingly go to the farthest corners of the earth — the cities, the hard-to-reach places, among the dispersed and displaced. But they do not serve alone. We support them through our prayers and through our prayers and giving. Let us join together in prayer for the missionaries represented in our prayer guide this week.

100% of gifts given to the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering® supports missionary presence in the world.



## Today's Scripture

**Matthew 1:21**—"She will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because he will save his people from their sins."

**Rediscover Hope****Luke 2:22-35****Simeon**

- Mary and Joseph returned to the \_\_\_\_\_ to offer the purification offering.
- There was nothing outward to distinguish them from any other \_\_\_\_\_ young \_\_\_\_\_ coming with their newborn son.
- Simeon was a good and godly man eagerly waiting for the Messiah to come and \_\_\_\_\_.
- The \_\_\_\_\_ revealed to him that he would not die until he had seen the Messiah.
- The word “\_\_\_\_\_” always means something that has to be shown to us supernaturally.
- Simeon could not have recognized Jesus as the \_\_\_\_\_ apart from the revelation of the Holy Spirit.

**Rediscover Revelation**

- When Simeon sees Mary, Joseph and baby Jesus, he asks for probably the 10,000th time,

“\_\_\_\_\_?” and the Holy Spirit said, “Yes.”

- Today, we need the \_\_\_\_\_ in us to see Christ in Christmas.
- Simeon said that Jesus was a “\_\_\_\_\_” for revelation to the \_\_\_\_\_ as Jesus came for all people, not just the Jews.
- Jesus came for people that do not \_\_\_\_\_ in Him yet.
- This Christmas, \_\_\_\_\_ revelation.

**Rediscover Redemption**

- Simeon saw more than a baby:
  - ⇒ He saw soft little hands that were made so that \_\_\_\_\_ might be driven through them.
  - ⇒ He saw the baby feet that would one day walk up a dusty hill to be \_\_\_\_\_ to a cross.
  - ⇒ He saw an infant's head on which men would someday force a \_\_\_\_\_ of thorns.
  - ⇒ He saw a tender body that would one day



be ripped open by a \_\_\_\_\_, then wrapped in \_\_\_\_\_ clothes.

- When Simeon looked at Jesus, he saw a Savior who would someday \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ for his sins and ours.
- This Christmas rediscover \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_.

**Jesus Came to Redeem**

- Jesus came to earth for many reasons, but ultimately, He came to redeem a lost humanity— He came to be our \_\_\_\_\_.
- The name Jesus is a Greek transliteration of the Hebrew name Joshua which means “\_\_\_\_\_!”
- Most Jews in Simeon’s day were expecting a Savior for Jewish people, but not a Savior for \_\_\_\_\_.
- Christmas means that you can be forgiven, because Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jesus’ birth was just the first step in God’s glorious plan of \_\_\_\_\_.

**Conclusion**

- After Simeon had seen Jesus, he could finally \_\_\_\_\_.
- Christianity is spelled with four letters— \_\_\_\_\_.
- Jesus did not come to get you to do more or work harder, He came to give you \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_.
- Christmas brings revelation because Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_ of the \_\_\_\_\_.
- Salvation is a \_\_\_\_\_ you do not have to wait until Christmas to open.



# Remember in Prayer . . .



†**Let's Update the Prayer Requests**—Please continue to read through and update these prayer requests. Let us know if we need to keep praying for something or if the prayer has been answered.

†**Please pray for strength and healing** for Annette; for Dale's continued recovery; for Frank's hip; Kevin from pancreatitis; for



Richard's healing from cancer and his struggle with chemo; for Baby Dakota's type 1 diabetes; for Lenny as he goes through radiation; health issues for Bill and Alice; for healing for possible growth on Ashlyn's brain; for Gracie's hernia pain; healing for Carmon; for Armida's heart and lungs and for her loneliness to heal; for Virgie; Rose E; for Herbert, Barbara and Kitty; for Oscar A; for Robert and Annie; for Nora and Doyle; for John's head and memory; for Nancy from heart attack; for Donna's health; for Susen (left eye, left ankle, thyroid and stomach); for Laura's vision & brain; for Paige and Kristie's health issues; and for Amy's mother-in-law's upcoming transplant.

†**Pray for the health** of the residents and workers at the Estates Healthcare and Rehab and for Bro. Frank, Bro. Dale and others as they minister there.

†**Pray for the Children**—Continue praying for the children, youth and teachers throughout the year.

†**Miscellaneous praises and prayer needs**—Pray for an unspoken request for Becky; for David to find a job and other unspoken requests; for an unspo-



ken need for Nic; for Tremincia in the death of her mother; and for comfort for Tina and her family in the death of her mother; for comfort for Rachel's family in the death of her mother; for an unspoken prayer for Donna; and for Jim and his business.

†**International Harvest Church and Ministries**—Please continue to pray for the International Harvest Church and Ministries as they worship and praise God in the GFBC facilities.

†**Pray for family needs** and family challenges for Daisy; for the Polk/Flores family, their needs for God's guidance, and for Andrew's daughter; for Paige and Brian as they learn how to care for baby Dakota; for Jourdeah's best interest; for unity in the Maroney family; for Chris and his little girl—Amiyah; for Genna, Nick and RJ's family needs; for Jonny and Taylor as they minister to Afghan refugees in Europe and adjust to being a family of three.



†**Pray for our young adults**—for Paige and Jacob as they begin their family; for Teresa to find peace in her Coast Guard assignment; safety for Austin as he works this season; for Chris and his needs, and for Ryan and his needs.

†**Pray for our church**—for REVIVAL for our members, ministries, financial needs, and for a miracle involving the demolition of the south building.

†**Pray for peace and protection in our nation**—for NAMB and state missionaries; for first responders and those who have suffered loss from weather related disasters; for

the homeless, refugees and those suffering from hunger; for large and small churches that are strug-



gling; for wisdom for our present and upcoming political leaders: our president, VP, governors, senators and congressmen; for our government officials to pass wise laws.

†**Pray for the nations**—for Samaritan's Purse as they minister to hurting people around the world; for Texans on Mission and their ministries around the world; for International missionaries; for Jonny and Taylor as they minister to Afghan refugees; for peace for the Israelites and Palestinians; for relief and peace for those in Ukraine; for the Burmese families of the International Harvest Church who remain in Myanmar; for Taiwan and other countries threatened by war; for N. Korea & Christians there; for people of Haiti; and for other Christians, missionaries and refugees who are suffering from persecution in Myanmar, Ukraine, India, Africa, Viet Nam, China, Russia, Turkey and other countries.



## Prayer Works!

### Prayer Requests & Announcements

You may email new prayer needs, announcements, edits and deletions to [gfbc-fw@sbcglobal.net](mailto:gfbc-fw@sbcglobal.net) or enter them on the website by Tuesday at noon, 12:00 pm. You may also text your prayer requests to 817-937-5974.