

# The Vine

I am the vine; you are the branches...John 15:5

A publication of Valley Falls Christian Church

December 2025

We know that Jesus was born so he could die. Right? We know that. All of the joy, peace, hope and love that flow from the Christmas season can only be realized because Jesus died on the cross and rose again, to pay for our sins and defeat death.

His love is manifested in his sacrifice. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends (John 15:13). Our hope, peace, and joy would only be superficial and temporary if not for Jesus' sacrifice.

Many of our cherished Christmas hymns that speak of the beauty of the season are able to do so only because the salvation we see in Christ's birth would not be realized until he gave himself for us on the cross. Read these lyrics:

*Come Thou Long Expected Jesus:*

Come Thou long expected Jesus,  
Born to set Thy people free.  
From our fears and sins release us;  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art.  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every living heart.

*God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen:*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen,  
Let nothing you dismay;  
Remember Christ our Savior  
Was born on Christmas Day;  
To save us all from Satan's power  
When we were gone astray.  
O tidings of comfort and joy...

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing (v3):*

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace!  
Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings,  
Risen with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by,  
Born that man no more may die,  
Born to raise the sons of earth,  
Born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing,  
"Glory to the new born King!"

Finally, from the modern Christmas song *Born in Bethlehem*: Baby Jesus, do You know you'll die for all our sins? Don't be afraid for in three days You will rise again! Hallelujah, the King is here given for all men, for today the holy son of God is born in Bethlehem.

He is risen because he was crucified. How can we not be thankful? Merry Christmas! May God bless you as you read about the prophecies and birth of our Lord Jesus Christ this month.

Mike

## Christmas

- Dec 1: Genesis 3:14-15
- Dec 2: Genesis 12:1-3
- Dec 3: Genesis 22:15-19
- Dec 4: Genesis 26:1-5
- Dec 5: Numbers 24:15-19
- Dec 6: Isaiah 7:10-17
- Dec 7: Isaiah 9:1-7
- Dec 8: Isaiah 11:1-5
- Dec 9: Isaiah 40:1-5
- Dec 10: Isaiah 42:1-9
- Dec 11: Micah 5:2-5a
- Dec 12: Philippians 2:5-11
- Dec 13: 1 Peter 1:18-25
- Dec 14: 1 John 4:7-15
- Dec 15: Galatians 4:1-7
- Dec 16: John 1:1-18
- Dec 17: Luke 1:5-25
- Dec 18: Luke 1:26-38
- Dec 19: Luke 1:39-45
- Dec 20: Luke 1:46-56
- Dec 21: Luke 1: 57-66
- Dec 22: Luke 1:67-80
- Dec 23: Matthew 1:18-25
- Dec 24: Luke 2:1-20
- Dec 25: Luke 2:1-20
- Dec 26: Luke 2:21-38
- Dec 27: Matthew 2:1-12
- Dec 28: Matthew 2:13-18
- Dec 29: Matthew 2:19-23
- Dec 30: Luke 2:39-52
- Dec 31: John 3:1-21

**Christmas Decorating** - Sunday, Nov. 30th after church. The more folks we have to help, the faster it all goes up. Please plan to stay and enjoy the extra fellowship time. We will take down decorations after church on Dec. 28th so plan to stay then and help.

**CHRISTMAS SHOE BOXES** - Dec. 7th after church we are filling and delivering about 30 food boxes with goodies for the elderly during the Christmas holiday. Goodies needed are teas, fresh fruit, little fruit containers, hot chocolate, fresh baked cookies, bread, and snacks. All items should be individually wrapped. If you know someone who would enjoy a box, let Debbie Gerstner know.

**CHRISTMAS CAROLING** - Dec. 7th at 5 p.m. Jay Welborn is bringing his tractor and hay wagon for a ride around town. Bring a snack and meet in the fellowship hall. Wagon pulls out at 5 p.m. Upon returning to the church we will have a Christmas Party. Dress warm and come help spread Christmas Joy!

**WE HAVE ADOPTED A FAMILY** through God's Storehouse again this year. The list and instructions are in the foyer. The deadline to have your wrapped gifts to the church is **Wednesday, December 10th**. Please pray about being generous as we help a needy family in Jefferson County.

**Ladies Christmas Party** - Dec 14th at 2 p.m. Nancy is hosting again this year, along with Cheyenne. Last year was so much fun and they promise even more fun and fellowship this year. Plan to attend.

**Children's Christmas Program** - Sunday, Dec. 21st at 10 a.m. We still need someone to help put it all together.

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service** - 7 p.m. on December 24th.

**Men's Breakfast:** December 13th, 8 a.m. Mike is cooking.

**Pocket Change for Progress:** Every 3rd Sunday, we take a special offering of the pocket change you have been saving. The money is divided between VFCC outreach and youth.

**Online sermon opportunity:** For those who need to watch at home, church service is live streamed on YouTube (and Facebook). Previous services are also available on YouTube. Subscribe to Valley Falls Christian Church YouTube Channel.

**Past sermons are available online at [www.valleyfallscc.org](http://www.valleyfallscc.org).**

### Sermons

Dec 7                      Destruction  
Luke 21:10-19

Dec 14                    Be Ready  
Luke 21:25-28

### **Christmas Sunday**

Dec 21                    The Full Circle of Joy  
Philippians 2:5-11

Dec 28                    The Lord's Supper  
Luke 22:17-23

**THANK YOU!** Mike and Gina wish to thank everyone for the gifts, meals and encouragement during Pastor Appreciation Month. We are so blessed to be able to serve with such a wonderful church family.

**HELP!** Donetta is asking for someone to take over the sale of the church shirts. Talk to her if you are available.

Dec	Greeters	Scripture	Communion Devotion	Servers	Nursery
7	Wistuba	Leane	Brian	Jay/Stn/ <b>Clinton</b> /Kyle	Debbie/Wade
14	Boyce	R Mitchell	Brian	Jay/Stn/ <b>Steve</b> /Jackson	Brittany/Malia
21	Gatzemeyer	Nancy	Brian	Jay/Stn/ <b>Brian</b> /Nick	Tiffany/Junior
28	Farr	Donetta	Brian	Jay/Stn/ <b>Jarret</b> /Charles	Aisha/Becky

### December Communion Devotion and Prayer: Brian

Camera Monitor	Dec 7	Dec 14	Dec 21	Dec 28	
Sunday School	Jay	Charles	Jarret	Kevin	
Worship	Cecelia	Ray	Chad	Lori	

**Prayer Requests:** Connie Lillich - healing, Pat Petesch - further testing, Louie Mitchell, Jill Boyce, Leah Brown, Elaine Worner, Christy & Becky Arnold, Dodie Bolz

**OUR SOLDIERS:** Allison Thomas, Curtis Mitchell, Aaron Cook, Jacob Mitchell, Matthew Branam, Noe Garza, All of our troops and leaders. Our President, our nation and our government. (1 Tim 2:1-2) Decisions being made in our nation's leadership.

**If you would like** to be included on the text prayer chain, notify Donetta by text at 785-224-3497.

#### Church Offerings:

Oct 19        \$ 744  
Oct 26        \$1296  
Nov 2         \$1478  
Nov 9         \$2740



**Gyve on line:** Scan the QR code to download the Gyve app.

#### December Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 3    Matthew Boyce
- 4    Allison Thomas
- 12   Israel Canul-Caballero
- 15   Mike & Gina Kirby (1984)
- 18   Ray & Rhonda Mitchell (1982)
- Jeff Starkey
- 23   Connie Lillich
- 21   Dan & Janet Strang
- 28   Chad Spencer
- 30   Jacob & Kari Mitchell (2005)
- 31   Jarret & Aisha Mitchell (2014)

**Jr. - Sr. High Youth Group** - We want to invite all students from 6th - 12th grades to join us Sunday evenings, 5-7 p.m. in the church basement.



**Return Service  
Requested**

Phone: 785-945-6757  
Email: [office@valleyfallsc.org](mailto:office@valleyfallsc.org)  
On the web: [www.valleyfallsc.org](http://www.valleyfallsc.org)  
Find us on Facebook!

Mike Kirby, Pastor

***You are welcome to join us!***

**Sunday Service times:**

Bible Study (all ages) 9:00 AM

Worship - 10:00 AM

Youth Group (grades 6 -12) 5-7 PM

**Wednesday:** Bible Study - 7:00 PM

## December

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur/Fri	Sat
<b>Nov 30th - after church service, decorate for Christmas</b>  5 p.m. Youth group	1	2	3  7 p.m. Bible Study	4/5	6
7  5 p.m. Caroling	8  1:30 p.m. Crafters	9	10  7 p.m. Bible Study	11/12	13  8 a.m. Men's Breakfast
14  2 p.m. Ladies Christmas party 5 p.m. Youth group	15  1:30 p.m. Crafters	16	17  Newsletter Items Due  No Bible Study	18/19	20
21 8:30 Biscuits/Gravy  10:00 a.m. Children's Christmas program 7 p.m. Youth group	22  1:30 p.m. Crafters	23	24  7 p.m. Christmas Eve Service	25/26	27
28  Take down Christmas decorations	29  1:30 p.m. Crafters	30	31  No Bible Study		