



Sunday, December 19, 2021



Walk with God • Connect as Family • Love People in Jesus' Name

WELCOME GUESTS!

Thank you for joining us today. We'd love to get to know you and help you get connected to our community. If this is your first time with us either in person or virtually, if you are looking to take your next step of connection, or you are simply wanting to find out how to participate please [click here to fill out our Connect Card](#) and a staff member will be in touch!

THIS MORNING

Free Covid-19 Testing	beginning 8:30 a.m.
Prayer	8:30 a.m.
Journey (Adult Sunday School)	9:30 a.m.
Wonderland, ECHO, Ascent	10:00 a.m.
Worship Service	10:00 a.m.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Optional Covid-19 Tests - This Morning

If you are interested in getting tested for Covid-19, visit the lower level this morning. Results are available in 15 minutes and you will receive an email with the official results in 24 - 48 hours.

Sunday January 2: A Break from Regular Programming

In a season that is often full of activity, we want to intentionally take a day off as a way to care for the many volunteers and staff who faithfully serve to make Sunday mornings happen week after week. There will be no church service or ministry programming on Sunday, January 2nd. However, we encourage you to continue seeking meaningful ways to walk with God, connect as family, and love people in Jesus' name. Join us on January 9 as we begin the series "A Vision for Christlikeness."

Gingerbread Nativity Home Kits

Pick up on Today, Sunday, December 19, 11 a.m.

Celebrate the joy of Jesus' birth from home with our at home gingerbread nativity kits! Kits are still available for purchase today and are \$15 each. Pick up your kit by the main entrance after church service. [Click here to purchase your kit\(s\).](#)

Youth Ministry Winter Camp

[Middle School - Jan 21 - 23; High School - Feb 25 - 27](#)

Thats Right! We are finally going back to Timber-Lee for Winter Camp 2022! Without a doubt, winter camp ends up being one of the most fun, memorable, and transformative experiences we have as a community each year! Click on the dates above to sign up for the early-bird rate! Scholarships are available upon request! If you would like to contribute to our scholarship fund to send a kid to camp this year, email nick@southparkchurch.org

Pictures for New Church Directory

Sunday, January 9, Before and After Church

Let's ring in the new year with a new church directory! On Sunday, January 9 between 8:30 - 10 and 11:15 - 12:30 professional photographer will be on site to capture individual and family photos. We're asking everyone to have their picture taken and fill out a form to be included in the church directory. There is no obligation to purchase prints but prints will be available to take home that day at a reasonable price! [Please sign up for a 5-minute slot here.](#)

LOST AND FOUND

Today, Sunday, December 19 and Sunday, December 26

Are you missing reading glasses or a sweatshirt? How about a book or your Bible? It might be in our lost and found! Visit the table at the bottom of the ramp the today or next Sunday to claim your items. Any items not claimed by December 26 will be donated. Not able to attend but looking for something you are missing? Email info@southparkchurch.org before December 23.

Women's Ministry "What's Your Focus"

Saturday, January 15, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m.

[Register here for "What's Your Focus?"](#) on Saturday, January 15th from 9:00 AM - noon as we spend time in reflection over the past year and anticipation of the new year seeking God's direction and focus. There will be time alone with God and then time debriefing in discussion groups followed by a canvas craft with a specific Scripture verse or a word to focus on in the upcoming year.

Sunday Morning Prayer

Sundays, 8:30 a.m., Zoom & Fellowship Hall

Join us in person or online as we praise God and seek His presence and favor. Visit www.zoom.us/join and use Meeting: 87402266783, Password: 807766

Journey Adult Sunday School Hybrid!

Sundays, 9:10 a.m., Zoom & Fellowship Hall

There will be no Journey class on Sunday, December 26 or Sunday, January 2. Check out recordings of past Journey classes anytime [here on our website.](#)

WEEKLY GIVING REPORT

Week ending December 5, 2021

YTD 2021	\$	957,434
YTD BUDGET	\$	1,349,385
YTD Surplus(Shortfall)	\$	(391,951)

*As we approach the end of the year, please note,
in order to count toward 2021 giving,
your contributions must be postmarked on or
before December 31, 2021.*

CARING FOR EACH OTHER

If you or someone in our church family are experiencing hardship and have a need for resources, financial help, or prayer, please reach out to Kristin Sorensen, Care Director. Kristin can be reached via email at kristin@southparkchurch.org or give her a call at 847 825-5507 and press 125

PRAYING FOR EACH OTHER

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

Pray that we each will capture the true joy and peace that can only be found in Christ this Christmas season.

Please pray for **Bob Janke** who has been hospitalized again. Please pray that Ev will receive clear direction and discernment about next steps for Bob's needs and the care he requires. And, please pray that both Bob and Ev feel strengthened, through the power of the Holy Spirit, to endure tough decisions that will need to be made during the Christmas season.

Please continue to pray for **the Schimmel family** as they mourn the loss of Greg while they, at the same time, experience joy and peace knowing with certainty that Greg is face to face with his Savior.

Please pray a blessing over **those in our congregation who are struggling** whether it's from the loss of a loved one, walking through a struggling marriage, experiencing division amongst family members, enduring treatment for cancer, feeling overwhelmed and anxious with how to navigate Covid 19, and from other sources of stress. Pray that our Wonderful Counselor will be near in a very tangible way.

Pray for **South Park Church** as we faithfully seek God's will for the next pastor of our church. Pray that the Search Team will coalesce into a unified group working together to seek the person God desires to be the next Senior Pastor. Pray that God would give wisdom in developing guidelines for the search and in determining appropriate sources for soliciting potential candidates. Pray also that God would begin preparing the hearts of the congregation for whomever He would lead to be the next Senior Pastor.

Pray for our **local and national government leaders and judicial system** as they have many complicated issues before them. Please pray that they seek God's wisdom, seek common ground, seek justice, and seek to unify our nation. And, please pray for those being persecuted for their faith around the world. Let's pray that each of us bring the hope of Jesus to our areas of influence.

Continue to pray for: Art Engle (Scott's dad), Dawn Phillips, Kathy Palansky

SERMON NOTES

Celebrating His Birth Luke 2:8 – 20

Introduction: The glory of Jesus is evident in His birth.

cf. Micah 5:2

One: The Angelic Message

vs. 9 – 14

Two: The Shepherd's Response

vs. 15 – 20

Conclusion: The good news of Jesus transforms lives!

cf. 2 Corinthians 3:18

DIGGING DEEPER

1. Why do you think God chose mundane circumstances and people to surround the birth of Christ?
2. What is the most spectacular demonstration of God's glory you have ever seen?
3. How do we see the shepherds demonstrating their faith?
4. How do you react to the reality that our testimonies for Christ join in the angelic witness to His glory?
5. How does Jesus' glory in your life affect your adoration of Him?