

THE MESSAGE

In The Dark Streets Shineth

P3

1. Christmas invites you to _____, no matter _____.
2. Christmas invites you to trust God's _____ for _____, no matter _____.
3. Christmas invites you to _____ to God's _____.

Matthew 1:18-2:12 (NRSV) - ¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' ²²All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' ²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

2 ¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, 'Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.' ³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵They told him, 'In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶"And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, 'Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.' ⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over

MESSAGE NOTES

the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure-chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

John 3:16-17 (NRSV) - ¹⁶For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. ¹⁷Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

Romans 5:8 (NRSV) - But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

1 John 4:8b-11 (NRSV) - ^{8b}"...for God is love. ⁹God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

Luke 9:54 (NRSV) - When his disciples James and John saw it, they said, 'Lord, do you want us to command fire to come down from heaven and consume them?'

Romans 8:38-39 (NRSV) - ³⁸For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

John 1:10-14 (NRSV) - ¹⁰(Jesus) was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. ¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

John 3:3 (NRSV) - Jesus answered him, 'Very truly, I tell you, no one can see the kingdom of God without being born from above.'

John 3:13-15 (NRSV) - ¹³No one has ascended into heaven except the one who descended from heaven, the Son of Man. ¹⁴And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, ¹⁵that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.

MOBILE APP

Scan Below & Download the CA App for upcoming events, to give, and past sermons!



WAYS TO GIVE



ONLINE



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CASH



APP



KINGDOM

Go to CAchurch.com or use the envelope in the seatbacks at our services.

Financial Update

2022 General Budget: **\$8,300,000.00**

YTD 11.30.22 - Requirement: **\$7,661,538.46**

YTD 11.30.22 - Offering: **\$7,579,155.93**

November Kingdom Offering: **\$48,122.22**
YTD Kingdom Offering: **\$606,601.47**



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Service Times:

- Saturdays | 6pm (south)
- Sundays | 9am & 11:15am (south)
- Sunday [Fusion, 18-35] | 6pm (north)

2424 Colorado Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90041
Phone: 323.255.1421
cachurch.com

A CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLY
CHRISTMAS



FRI., DEC. 23



SAT., DEC. 24



WELCOME!

Merry Christmas!

We're so glad you've chosen to join us!

Christian Assembly (CA) is a community started in response to God's grace shown to us through Jesus Christ. **That grace compels us to lead spiritually convinced and unconvinced people to complete commitment to Jesus Christ.**

We don't profess to have all the answers, but we do believe there is a God who is worth knowing and following. Whether you are simply curious about Jesus or have been a long-time follower of Christ, we welcome you and are excited you are with us today.

Enjoy the service!

Tom Hughes & Mark Pickerill
Co-Lead Pastors

NEW?

- We'd love to meet you! Stop by our **New People's Table** in the lobby where we have a welcome gift for you.
- There is a **Connection Card** in the seatbacks that you can use to ask questions, submit a prayer request or just let us know you're visiting. Fill it out and drop it in the dropbox at the New People's Table.
- If you have an infant or you'd like your child to be with you during service, there is a **family room** that is equipped with a live feed of the service as well as a private **nursing room** for mothers. The courtyard is also available with a live feed. Just ask an usher!

INFORMATION



Join us for our **New Year's Eve Services** on **Saturday, Dec. 31 (9am & 11:15am) at 2424 Colorado Blvd. (south)** as we close out 2022 and hear an encouraging message **"Endurance to Finish our Race"**! Come and hear how it is possible, no matter the circumstances, for you as a Christ-follower to remain resilient and able to finish "the race God has marked out for you" in 2023! **We will not have services on Sunday, Jan. 1.**



Men, join us as we kick off 2023 at our next Men's Gathering on **Wednesday, Jan. 11 at 7pm** in our South Sanctuary! Come be strengthened through worship, encouragement and prayer. For more info and to register, please visit: cachurch.com/men



Our Kids Church Program is offered during all services for children from birth to 5th grade. For more information stop by the Kids Church tent or visit: cakidschurch.com

We offer programs for both middle and high schoolers. For grades 6th-8th, we meet on Saturdays (6pm-7:15pm) and for grades 9th-12th, we meet on Wednesdays (7pm-8:30pm). For more info, please visit: castudents678.com



Fusion is one of our weekend services and is specifically geared toward 18-35 year olds. We meet on Sunday nights 6pm at 2435 Colorado Blvd. (north). Join us! For more info, visit: cafusion.com

OPPORTUNITIES

3-WEEK SERIES

How to Have A Great Year

Strengthening What Matters Most

We often come into a new year with high motivation and expectations. That's a good thing! It's a fresh start. It's a chance to ask God and ourselves these questions: What would it take for you to have a great year? What is standing in your way? On December 31, 2023, where do you hope to be in your relationship with God? With others? What efforts or accomplishments is God leading you to undertake this year?

Invite a friend and join us for our brand new 3-week series as we look at what the Bible has to say about "How to Have a Great Year."

SERIES BEGINS JAN. 7/8

UPCOMING EVENTS

Baptism Class

If you've decided to trust Jesus with your life and to follow Him, we encourage you to proclaim your decision through baptism. Our next baptism class will be on **Sunday, Jan. 22 at 1pm in Rm. 100 (south sanctuary hallway)**. Our next baptisms will be on **Feb. 11/12**. For more info and to register, please visit: cachurch.com/baptisms

Kingdom Weekend: Dec. 31

Next week is a Kingdom Weekend. We will hear a 2022 recap of our Kingdom partnerships and efforts. We will also give a second offering for our Kingdom partners and efforts. **Services will be on Saturday, Dec. 31 at 9am & 11:15am (south). We will not have services on Sunday, Jan. 1.**

Year End Contributions

All contributions must be received or postmarked by Saturday, Dec. 31 (if you give online, please submit no later than 10pm PST) to receive tax credit for 2022. Also, keep us informed with your correct address and email with the connection card. You can find the connection cards in the seatbacks or online at cachurch.com/connectioncard

Baby Dedications

Our next baby dedications will be held on **Jan. 21/22**. If your baby is under one year old or you have recently adopted, fill out and turn in a request form in person or online. **Forms are due by Monday, Jan. 9** and are available in the lobby or online at cachurch.com/babydedications

CA Students - No Program

CA Students will **not** be meeting for programs on **Wednesday, Dec. 28** for High School (grades 9-12) and **Saturday, Dec. 31** for Junior High (grades 6-8). Programs will resume on **Wednesday, Jan. 4 & Saturday, Jan. 7.**