

**Welcome & Greeting** 

**Prelude** 

\*Prayer of Invocation

\*Hymn In the Bleak Midwinter #122

**Advent Wreath** *The Bethlehem Candle* Luke 2:1-7

\*Hymn God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen #116

**Prayer of Confession** 

\*Hymn O Little Town of Bethlehem #95

**Pastoral Prayer** 

\*Presentation of Offerings, Doxology & Prayer

\*Scripture (p. 1165)

Philippians 2:19-30

Sermon

The Christmas Spirit

\*Hymn

Oh to Be Like Thee!

#470

\*Benediction (God's Promised Blessing)

\* Please Stand

Piano: Steve Wick; Diane Littlehale

## **Prayer for the Week**

Lord, we thank you for coming into this dark world to live and die and rise again to rescue us from our darkness.

## Luke 2:1-7

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. <sup>2</sup> This was the first registration when Quirinius was governor of Syria. <sup>3</sup> And all went to be registered, each to his own town. <sup>4</sup> And Joseph also went up from Galilee, from the town of Nazareth, to Judea, to the city of David, which is called Bethlehem, because he was of the house and lineage of David, <sup>5</sup> to be registered with Mary, his betrothed, who was with child. <sup>6</sup> And while they were there, the time came for her to give birth. <sup>7</sup> And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in swaddling cloths and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

## Prayerfully prepare for next Sunday: Phil. 3:1–11

- I. Read **Phil. 3:1–11** several times this week. What is the structure of this text? (e.g. who is the subject? What is the main action? What is the flow of his logic?) What is Paul emphasizing to the Philippians? How did you determine this?
- II. How does this passage relate to the passage we covered last Sunday? How does it relate to the passage that follows?
- III. In one short sentence, what is Paul's argument to the Philippian Christians in **Phil. 3:1–11**?
- IV. What aspect of the gospel of Jesus Christ is in view in this text? How does/do the gospel connection(s) help us to better understand this week's text?
- V. **In one short sentence**, what argument do you think the Holy Spirit is making for us here at RBC from **Phil. 3:1–11?** How is this same and/or different from question III above?
- VI. Turn the points of application into a prayer for change. What specific goals for growth/change should you prayerfully pursue? Please also pray for Pastor Kitchen in his preparation to preach this text.

## **Stewardship Report for 2024 (49)**

Actual: \$176,988 Budget: \$188,833 **Surplus/Deficit: [-11,844]**  **Notes and Announcements** 

**Sunday, 6 PM.** Join us tonight for singing, prayer, testimonies and Ron will teach from Daniel.

Tuesday, 7 PM. Missions Committee meeting online.

**Wednesday, 7 PM.** Prayer from Scripture, prayer for our missionaries and the church, and the needs of others.

**Saturday, 7 AM, Men's Bible Study.** The men are studying 1 Peter.

Sunday School, 9–9:45 AM. Continued study in 2 Chronicles.

Please sign the **Christmas cards to our missionaries**; they are in the foyer.

**Christmas Soup and Sandwich Luncheon**, Sunday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>, following the morning service and members' meeting. Please sign up. No evening service.

**Members' Meeting** to follow the worship service next Sunday, to vote on the goals and budget for 2025. (Before the Luncheon)

Please see Cindy Williams about your entry in the directory. Please send pictures to rbcsec@RehobothBaptistChurch as well.

Christmas Eve Service, Dec. 24<sup>th</sup>, 6 PM Christmas Morning Family Service, 8:30 AM.

In our advent services this year we will use the following readings:

The Prophets' Candle
The Bethlehem Candle
The Angels' Candle
The Shepherds' Candle
The Christ Candle
Luke 1:76–79
Luke 2:1–7
Luke 2:1–7
Luke 2:15–20
John 1:1–5, 14