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Live Service Audio: 940-322-1100

## First Sunday after Christmas – December 26, 2021

### THE GATHERING

Prelude      *Tidings of Joy* – arr. Larson      Debbie Watson, organ; Jeanette Showalter, piano

Welcome and Call to Worship      Claire Baer  
*Please let us know you're here by texting FCC to 77411.*

Opening Hymn      *Good Christians Friends, Rejoice*      No. 164

***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!  
Listen now to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today.  
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!***

***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!  
Now you hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!***

***Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!  
Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one and calls you all, to gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!***

Opening Prayer      Jeanette Showalter

### THE PROCLAMATION

Scripture Reading      Matthew 1:18-25      Claire Baer

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer      Dr. Mark Bender

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

Sermon      *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*      Dr. Mark Bender

## THE RESPONSE

Communion Hymn

*Away in a Manger*

No. 147

***Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.***

***The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
but little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus, look down from the sky,  
and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.***

***Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.***

## THE LORD'S SUPPER

Invitation to the Table and Words of Institution

Dwight Ross III

Prayers for the Bread & Cup

Sandra Ross & Chris Showalter

Music during Communion

Debbie Watson & Jeanette Showalter, piano

*Pastorale* – arr. Shackley

Partaking of the Bread and Cup

*All believers are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

**I believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the Living God.**

## THE SENDING

Sent from the Table & Invitation to Discipleship

Dr. Mark Bender

Closing Hymn

*Joy to the World*

No. 143

***Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.***

***Joy to the world, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.***

***He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.***

Benediction

Claire Baer

Postlude

Debbie Watson & Jeanette Showalter, piano

*He Is Born, the Divine Christ Child* – arr. Ijames

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## MEMORIALS AND HONORS

In honor of Dave Hartman given by Richard & Phyllis Hiraki.

CCLI License #504653

## Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart, and soul, and voice!  
Listen now to what we say:  
News! News! Jesus Christ is born today.  
Ox and ass before him bow,  
And he is in the manger now.  
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice,  
With heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now you hear of endless bliss:  
Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this!  
He has opened heaven's door,  
And we are blessed forevermore.  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
3. Good Christian friends, rejoice  
With heart, and soul, and voice!  
Now you need not fear the grave:  
Peace! Peace! Jesus Christ was born to save!  
Calls you one, and calls you all,  
To gain the everlasting hall.  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

Original German/Latin by Heinrich Suso, (d. 1366)

English translation from German/Latin by Robert Lucas Pearsall (1834)

1. *In dulci jubilo*  
Now sing with hearts aglow!  
Our delight and pleasure lies  
*in praesepeio*;  
Like sunshine is our treasure  
*matris in gremio*;  
*Alpha es et O!*  
*Alpha es et O!*
2. *O Jesu, parvule*,  
For thee I sing alway;  
Comfort my heart's blindness,

*O puer optime*,  
with all thy loving kindness,  
*O princeps gloriae*;  
*Trahe me post te!*  
*Trahe me post te!*

3. *O Patris caritas!*  
*O Nati lenitas!*  
Deeply were we stained  
*per nostra crimina*;  
But thou for us hast gained  
*Coelorum gaudia*:  
Oh, that we were there!  
Oh, that we were there!
4. *Ubi sunt gaudia*  
in any place but there?  
There are angels singing  
*nova cantica*  
And there the bells are ringing  
*in Regis curia*.  
Oh, that we were there!  
Oh, that we were there!

*in dulci jubilo* = in sweet jubilation

*in praesepeio* = in a manger

*matris in gremio* = in his mother's lap

*Alpha es et O!* = Thou art Alpha and Omega! (beginning and end)

*O Jesu, parvule* = O tiny Jesus

*O puer optime* = O best of boys

*O princeps gloriae* = O Prince of Glory

*Trahe me post te* = Draw me after thee (make me follow you)

*O patris caritas* = O love of the Father

*O nati lenitas* = O gentleness of the Son

*per nostra crimina* = through our crimes

*coelorum gaudia/caelorum gaudia* = the joys of heaven

*Ubi sunt gaudia* = Where are joys?

*nova cantica* = new songs

*in Regis curia* = in the courts of the King

**Sermon Notes**

1. "I like the Christmas Jesus best"

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2. And you will name him...

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3. A macaronic hymn

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4. Three stages of Christ's birth

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5. The power of the last line

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## CALENDAR

Sunday, December 26		
NO	Chapel Worship Service	
NO	Sunday School / Journey Through Scripture	
10:00 am	Worship Service	Sanctuary/ Livestream
NO SUNDAY EVENING ACTIVITIES		
Monday, December 27		
Church Offices Closed		
Children Come First Closed Until January 3		
Young Ages Preschool Closed Until January 5		
7:30 pm	Boy Scouts Troop 15	Fellowship Hall
Tuesday, December 28		
Church Offices Closed		
NO	Common Ground Recovery Ministries Support Groups Anger Management, Parenting, Rebuilding Your Life, Domestic Violence Prevention	
Wednesday, December 29		
Church Offices Closed		
NO Elders' Breakfast		
NO Wednesday Evening Activities		
Thursday, December 30		
Church Offices Closed		
Friday, December 31		
Church Offices Closed		
Saturday, January 1 NEW YEAR'S DAY		
HAPPY NEW YEAR!		

### Manners Matter Etiquette Class

Manners Matter is an etiquette program for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders taught by the fun and energetic Dee King. During this program students will learn simple etiquette like handshakes, introductions, small talk, table manners, and cell phone/technology etiquette.

**What to know:** Dates: Thursdays, January 20-February 17.

Times: 6:30-8:00pm except February 17th which is 6:00-8:00pm.

Location: First Christian Church. Cost: \$75. Registration is open to all.

Register online at [www.firstchristianwf.com](http://www.firstchristianwf.com).

#### **Pantry Sunday – Jan. 2**

**The December collected items will be: pineapple, peanut butter, macaroni & cheese.**

You can continue to help keep the pantry shelves filled by: Donating the monthly items or any type of food items directly anytime into the large box on the porch by the Chapel entrance. To support Interfaith with a financial gift, you may mail your donation to Interfaith (1101 11th St., Wichita Falls, TX 76301), or donate on their [website](#).

#### **First Friday at First**

The January edition of First Friday at First Christian Church will be on Friday, January 7<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm. You are invited to the Fellowship Hall for a movie and snacks!

#### **Men's Breakfast & Bible Study!**

Bring a friend and attend the FCC Men's Breakfast & Bible Study this Friday morning, January 14<sup>th</sup>, from 7:00-8:00 am, at the Hwy Café, 2808 Jacksboro Hwy.