



December 18, 2022
Bill Sherrard



Announcements

Welcome to Center Point Church! We are glad you are here and would love to get to know you better. We hope you find the hope in Jesus that has changed so many of us.



Our Christmas Eve service this year will be this Friday December 23 at 7pm. Plan to join us for a great evening of worship and fellowship.

If you have any questions about today's sermon or to learn more about Center Point Church, please reach out to Pastor Tyler at Tyler.Wittmer@cpcnky.com

Worship Songs

Hark the Herald Angels Sing
Away in a Manger
We Wish You a Merry Christmas
Joy To the World
The Love of God
All Glory Be to Christ

Sermon Notes

God's Love for All

1. God's love for all provides "Common Grace"

Psalm 145:9

The Lord is good to all,
and his mercy is over all that he has made.

Mathew 5:45

so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust.

2. God's love for all provides warning

2 Peter 2:5 (Noah warns)

if he did not spare the ancient world, but preserved Noah, a herald of righteousness, with seven others, when he brought a flood upon the world of the ungodly

Luke 13:3

No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all likewise perish.

Romans 3:23

for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Romans 6:23

For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

3. God's love for all provides a Savior

John 3:16-18

¹⁶ "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. ¹⁸ Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

God's Love for His Own

Luke 15:11-24

¹¹ And he said, "There was a man who had two sons. ¹² And the younger of them said to his father, 'Father, give me the share of property that is coming to me.' And he divided his property between them. ¹³ Not many days later, the younger son gathered all he had and took a journey into a far country, and there he squandered his property in reckless living. ¹⁴ And when he had spent everything, a severe famine arose in that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him into his fields to feed pigs. ¹⁶ And he was longing to be fed with the pods that the pigs ate, and no one gave him anything.

¹⁷ “But when he came to himself, he said, ‘How many of my father's hired servants have more than enough bread, but I perish here with hunger! ¹⁸ I will arise and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son. Treat me as one of your hired servants.’” ²⁰ And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him. ²¹ And the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you. I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

1. God’s love for His own (those who place their faith in Christ) is greater than His love for all the world

John 13:1 (He loved them to the end – eis telos)
Now before the Feast of the Passover, when Jesus knew that his hour had come to depart out of this world to the Father, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end.

2. God’s love for His own is secure/permanent

Luke 15:20

And he arose and came to his father. But while he was still a long way off, his father saw him and felt compassion, and ran and embraced him and kissed him.

Romans 8:38-39

³⁸ For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, ³⁹ nor 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.

3. God’s love for His own forgives and restores

Luke 15:22-24

²² But the father said to his servants, ‘Bring quickly the best robe, and put it on him, and put a ring on his hand, and shoes on his feet. ²³ And bring the fattened calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate. ²⁴ For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.’ And they began to celebrate.

Colossians 1:13-14

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

4. God's love for His own makes us Heirs

Luke 15:24

For this my son was dead, and is alive again; he was lost, and is found.' And they began to celebrate.

Romans 8:14-17

¹⁴ For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

Gospel Application

Celebrate Christmas by celebrating the LOVE of God given in the gift of Jesus.

Gospel Challenge

1. If you are God's own...share the Love of God in the gift of Jesus
2. If you are not God's own...accept the Love of God in the gift of Jesus

ADVENT

Advent is a reminder, a time of preparation and anticipation of the coming of Christ. The Bible speaks of the long foretold life, death, resurrection and coming judgement of Christ. Christmas is the season of celebrating what has come, is and will be because of the person of Christ. The traditional themes are Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love. This guide expands on these themes using the patriarchs, prophets, persons and means of preparation, and acts of love fulfilled perfectly in Christ.

LOVE

God's great love is displayed through Christ. Consider all that Christ has done for us. Colossians 1:9-14

"See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him." 1 John 3:1

Dec 19 | Seeking: Isaiah 62:12, Isaiah 65:1-2, Luke 2:8-20, 4:24-27, Matthew 11:25

Dec 20 | Serving: Deuteronomy 10:12-16, Isaiah 58,

Mark 9:35, John 13

Dec 21 | Patient: Deuteronomy 9:5-29, 2 Peter 3

Dec 22 | Compassion: Isaiah 54:8-10, Matthew 9:36,
Mark 8:2-3

Dec 23 | Bearing With: Deuteronomy 30, John 11:1-44,
Hebrews 4:15

Dec 24 | Sacrifice = Forgiveness: Psalm 51, John 15:13,
1 John 4:7-21

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