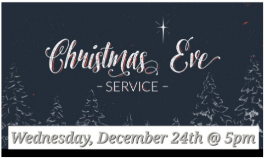
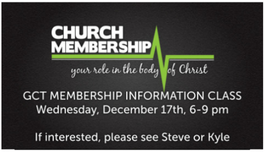
Grace Community Church of Topsail

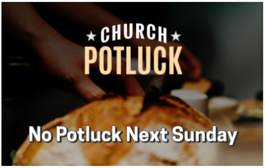
December 7, 2025: Christmas is the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus

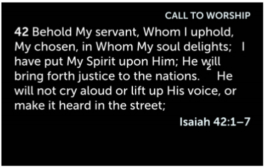



CHURCH MEMBERSHIP
your role in the body of Christ

GCT MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION CLASS
Wednesday, December 17th, 6-9 pm

If interested, please see Steve or Kyle

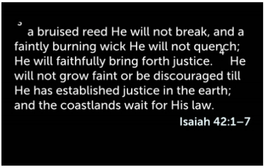




CALL TO WORSHIP

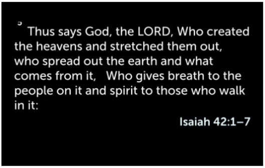
42 Behold My servant, Whom I uphold, My chosen, in Whom My soul delights; I have put My Spirit upon Him; He will bring forth justice to the nations. [2] He will not cry aloud or lift up His voice, or make it heard in the street;

Isaiah 42:1–7



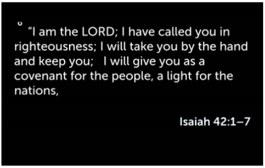
[3] a bruised reed He will not break, and a faintly burning wick He will not quench; He will faithfully bring forth justice. [4] He will not grow faint or be discouraged till He has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for His law.

Isaiah 42:1–7



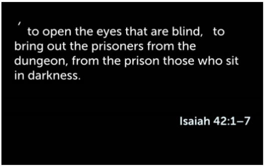
[5] Thus says God, the LORD, Who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, Who gives breath to the people on it and spirit to those who walk in it:

Isaiah 42:1–7



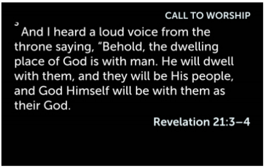
[6] “I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I will take you by the hand and keep you; I will give you as a covenant for the people, a light for the nations,

Isaiah 42:1–7



[7] to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.

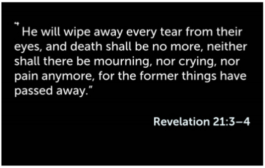
Isaiah 42:1–7



CALL TO WORSHIP

[3] And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be His people, and God Himself will be with them as their God.

Revelation 21:3–4

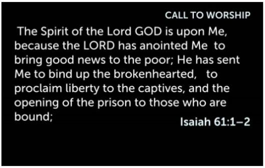


[4] He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Revelation 21:3–4

O Come O Come Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel)

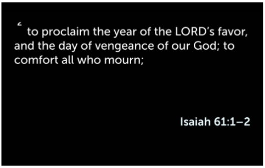
Angels From The Realms Of Glory (Emmanuel)



CALL TO WORSHIP

The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon Me, because the LORD has anointed Me to bring good news to the poor; He has sent Me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

Isaiah 61:1–2

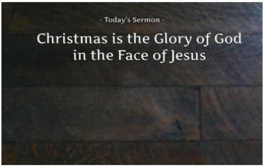


“ to proclaim the year of the LORD’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

Isaiah 61:1–2

O Come All Ye Faithful (Adeste Fideles)

Midnight Clear (Love Song)



- Today's Sermon -

Christmas is the Glory of God in the Face of Jesus

Matthew 1:18–23 ESV

Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. And her husband Joseph, being a just man and unwilling to put her...

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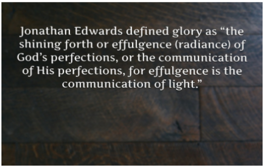
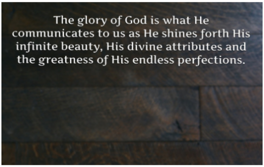
2 Corinthians 4:6 ESV

For God, who said, “Let light shine out of darkness,” has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

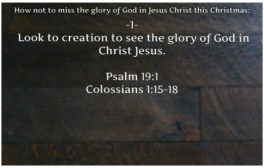
Continue reading »



Jonathan Edwards defined glory as “the shining forth or effulgence (radiance) of God’s perfections, or the communication of His perfections, for effulgence is the communication of light.”



The glory of God is what He communicates to us as He shines forth His infinite beauty, His divine attributes and the greatness of His endless perfections.



How not to miss the glory of God in Jesus Christ this Christmas:

-1-

Look to creation to see the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

Psalm 19:1
Colossians 1:15-18

Psalm 19:1 ESV

> The heavens declare the glory of God,
>   and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

Continue reading »

Colossians 1:15–18 ESV

> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for...

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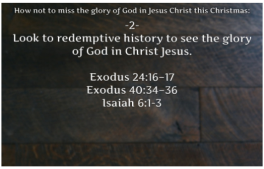

How not to miss the glory of God in Jesus Christ this Christmas:

-2-

Look to redemptive history to see the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

Exodus 24:16–17
Exodus 40:34–36
Isaiah 6:1-3

Exodus 24:16–17 ESV

> The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain...

Continue reading »

Exodus 40:34–36 ESV

> Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. Throughout all their...

Continue reading »

Isaiah 6:1–3 ESV

> In the year that King Uzziah died I saw the Lord sitting upon a throne, high and lifted up; and the train of his robe filled the temple. Above him stood the seraphim. Each had six wings: with two he covered his face, and with two he covered his feet,...

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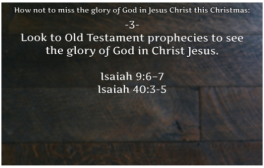

How not to miss the glory of God in Jesus Christ this Christmas:

-3-

Look to Old Testament prophecies to see the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

Isaiah 9:6–7
Isaiah 40:3-5

Isaiah 9:6–7 ESV

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given;
and the government shall be upon his shoulder,
and his name shall be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace....

Continue reading »

Isaiah 40:3–5 ESV

A voice cries:
“In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.
Every valley shall be lifted up,
and every mountain and hill be made low;
the uneven ground...

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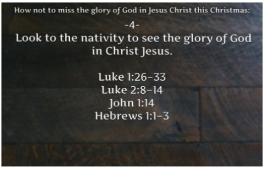

How not to miss the glory of God in Jesus Christ this Christmas:

-4-

Look to the nativity to see the glory of God in Christ Jesus.

Luke 1:26–33
Luke 2:8–14
John 1:14
Hebrews 1:1–3

Luke 1:26–33 ESV

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin’s name was Mary. And he came to her and said, “Greetings, O...

Continue reading »

Luke 2:8–14 ESV

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to...

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John 1:14 ESV

And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

Continue reading »

Hebrews 1:1–3 ESV

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the...

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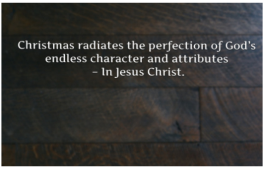
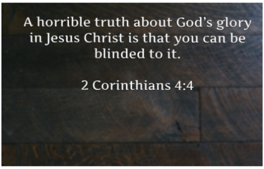


Christmas radiates the perfection of God's endless character and attributes
– In Jesus Christ.



A horrible truth about God's glory in Jesus Christ is that you can be blinded to it.

2 Corinthians 4:4

2 Corinthians 4:4 ESV

In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

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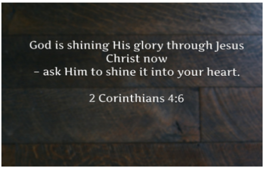

God is shining His glory through Jesus Christ now
– ask Him to shine it into your heart.

2 Corinthians 4:6

2 Corinthians 4:6 ESV

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

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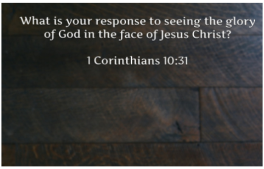

What is your response to seeing the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ?

1 Corinthians 10:31

1 Corinthians 10:31 ESV

So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.

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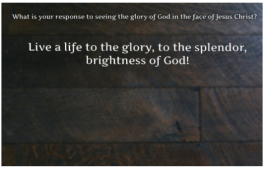
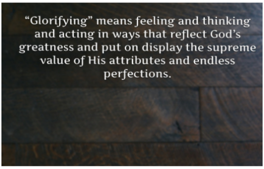
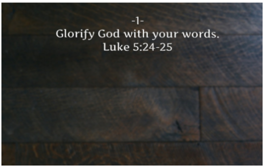


What is your response to seeing the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ?

Live a life to the glory, to the splendor, brightness of God!



“Glorifying” means feeling and thinking and acting in ways that reflect God’s greatness and put on display the supreme value of His attributes and endless perfections.



-1-
Glorify God with your words.
Luke 5:24-25

Luke 5:24–25 ESV

But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”—he said to the man who was paralyzed—“I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.” And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on...

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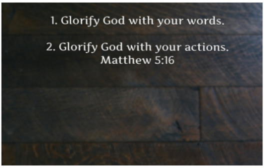


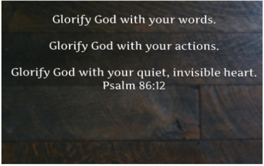
1. Glorify God with your words.

2. Glorify God with your actions.
Matthew 5:16

Matthew 5:16 ESV

In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Continue reading »



Glorify God with your words.

Glorify God with your actions.

Glorify God with your quiet, invisible heart.
Psalm 86:12

Psalm 86:12 ESV

> I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
> and I will glorify your name forever.

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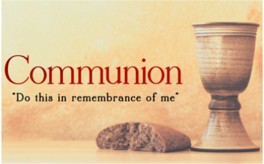
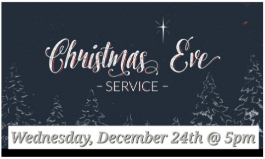
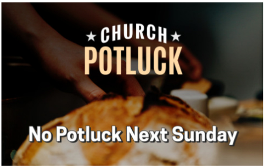
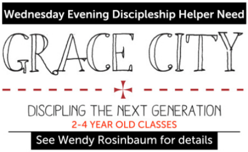

Communion
"Do this in remembrance of me"

♫ **Jesus Thank You**



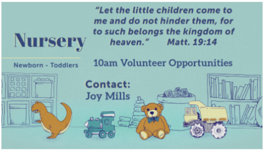




Wednesday Evening Discipleship Helper Need

GRACE CITY

DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION
2-4 YEAR OLD CLASSES
See Wendy Rosinbaum for details



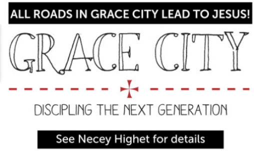
Nursery

Newborn - Toddlers

"Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." Matt. 19:14

10am Volunteer Opportunities

Contact:
Joy Mills



ALL ROADS IN GRACE CITY LEAD TO JESUS!

GRACE CITY

DISCIPLING THE NEXT GENERATION

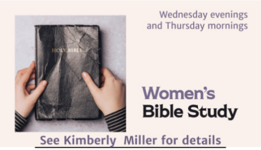
See Necey Highet for details

Accountability & Discipleship

Men's Group

Tuesday Morning @ 6am
A Taste of Sunrise Coffeehouse

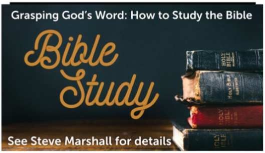
Discussions on Biblical Manhood



Wednesday evenings
and Thursday mornings

Women's Bible Study

See Kimberly Miller for details



Grasping God's Word: How to Study the Bible

Bible Study

See Steve Marshall for details

GCT Business Directory

Looking for a handyman?
Need your house power washed?
Need a babysitter?
Need an Uber?

Send your business info to Stacy Leicht to be added to a list of services provided by GCT members

Yellow Pages
☐ New! Easier to use
☐ Great days out
☐ Local maps

Elliott Roberts
Date of Birth: 12/28/83
Living donor team: 919-613-7777
Website: duke.donorscreen.org
www.livingdonorassistance.org

ORGAN DONOR

INT'L MISSIONS

Steve & Rissa Curtis
Judson, Timothy
Director of Timothy Two Project, Intl.
and Regional Director in S.E. Asia
steve@timothytwo.org

Tajikistan
Largest religion: Islam
Population: 10,094,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.7%

Martin & Vanya McCrory
Evangeline, Guinevere
Serving with Timothy Two Project, Intl.
in South Africa
martin@timothytwo.org

Brett & Taylor Rayl
Paton, Lily, Ry
Serving with Christ Bible Institute in
Nagoya, Japan
brett.rayl@gmail.com

Japan
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 123,218,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 0.57%

Laurel Brunsink
Serving with YWAM Mercy Ships in
Papua New Guinea
Lgbrunsink@gmail.com

Job Lal Nei Sum &
Eunice San San Lin
Bethany, Jeremy, Timothy
National Pastor serving in Myanmar
Connect on facebook

Myanmar
Largest religion: Buddhism
Population: 54,370,000 people
% evangelical Christian: 4%

Lauren Jaski
Serving with Pioneers
in the Basque region of Spain
lcjaski29@gmail.com

Spain
Largest religion: Irreligious Catholic
Population: 47,434,000 people
% Evangelical Christian: 1.6%

Missionaries that GCT Supports

LOCAL MISSIONS

Ratio Christi UNCW
John & Kim Zino
johnfzino@gmail.com

RATIO CHRISTI
Ratio Christi (Latin for 'The Reason of Christ') is a global movement that equips university students and faculty to give historical, philosophical, and scientific reasons for following Jesus Christ.

GCT Baby Pantry
Mary Copeland
GCTBabyPantry@gmail.com

BELOVED

Lifeline Pregnancy Center
Sandra Holdstein
info@lifelinewilmington.org

LIFE LINE

Center For Christian Thought
Bill & Jenny Morrison
bill@cfctwilmington.org

CENTER FOR
CHRISTIAN THOUGHT
WILMINGTON

KidzAtHeart
Becca Hess
bhess@kidzatheart.org

KidZ at Heart

"Equipping indigenous churches across the world to evangelize and disciple children."

Arbor Landing Tuesday Bible Study
Denise Graddon, Gina Brohaugh,
Cheri Standish, Lynn Norwood,
Cynthia Manion
dgraddon@gmail.com

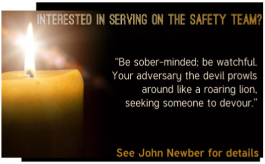
ARBOR LANDING at HAMPSTEAD

Journey to Heal Ministries
Emily Parker
emily@journeytohealministries.org

Journey to Heal Ministries

Prayer Before Sunday Morning Worship, meets at 9AM in Media classroom. Open to all!

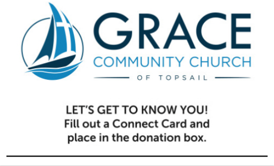
"Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances." — 1 Thessalonians 5:16-18



INTERESTED IN SERVING ON THE SAFETY TEAM?

"Be sober-minded; be watchful. Your adversary the devil prowls around like a roaring lion, seeking someone to devour."

See John Newber for details



GRACE
COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF TOPSAIL

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Grace Community Church of Topsail

98 members • 24 followers