

# STAY *Connected* AT CCC

## HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH GROUP, DECEMBER 7

9th-12th graders, join us for fellowship and study tonight at the **Starts' from 5:30 to 7:30**. Be sure to bring your own dinner! See the Weekly Update to sign up to bring a dessert to share.

## HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE

The holidays are a time when food insecurity is high and this year's needs are particularly acute. In order to maximize our impact we will be **collecting funds through December 14th** in support of MUST Ministries. The deacons have graciously agreed to match any money given up to \$2,500! Funds can be given to **Christmas Ministries Giving**, just please note that it is for the food drive. If you have any questions, **please contact Kelsey Blackman or Anna Eubanks**

## YOUNG ADULT CHRISTMAS PARTY, DECEMBER 21

College students and young adults are invited to a Christmas party at the **O'Sullivan's at 7:00 PM**. Please see the Sign Up Genius in the Weekly Update to bring a treat to share and **RSVP to Matt by 12/17** to learn about the game we will play together.

## NO YOUTH GROUP OR SUNDAY SCHOOL

There will be no Youth Group or Sunday School classes **December 21st and & 28th** due to Christmas break. Plan to join us in January!

## NO CHILDREN'S MINISTRY SUNDAY SCHOOL OR CHOIR AND BELLS

We will not have Children's Ministry Choir and Bells or 9:30 Sunday School classes **December 21st & 28th** due to Christmas break. Classes will **resume January 4th**.

## HOLIDAY OFFICE HOURS

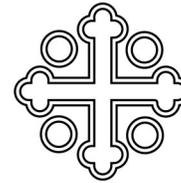
The church office will be closed **December 22nd through January 2nd** for Christmas and New Year. We will resume normal office hours on **Monday, January 5th**

## REFORMED SINGLES SUMMIT, JANUARY 16-18

Christ OPC is hosting the annual Reformed Singles Summit the weekend of **January 16th-18th**. This year's theme is Wisdom and the **cost is \$65**. Matt will serve as one of the speakers. **You can go to [reformedingles.org](http://reformedingles.org) to learn more and to register!**

## CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TO VOTE ON DEACON CANDIDATES

We will hold a congregational meeting on **Sunday, 1/18**, after worship to vote on our current deacon candidates Kenny Joseph, Jared McLeroy, and Scott Searcy. We will send an email out with more information in the next week.



CHRIST COMMUNITY  
CHURCH



# OUR *Worship* CELEBRATION

December 14, 2025

## **Prelude**

~The instrumental cue to gather and prepare for worship

## **Welcome**

### **\*Call to Worship - Isaiah 26:1-19**

~God's invitation for us to engage in worship in the Holy Spirit

### **\*Weekly Congregational Response**

~Our humble response to God's call to worship

### **\*Prayer of Invocation**

~The giving of thanks for God's promised presence and work among us

### **\*Song of Preparation and Praise - *God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen***

~Our celebration of God as our good and faithful Abba Father

### **\*Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon - Mark 10:23-27**

~Our admission of our failures and need for Christ as Savior

### **\*Congregational Response: Amen!**

### **\*Song of Comfort - *Come Thou Long Expected Jesus***

~Our praise of Jesus as our Savior

### **Pastoral Prayer - Mwamba & Nyema Johnson, Vision Collegiate Ministries and Kings Chapel Presbyterian Church, Carrolton**

~Our prayer for the church gathered near and far

### **Sermon - Jesus, the Lord of the Resurrection**

Mark 16:1-8

### **Preparation of the Table**

### **Partaking of the Table**

~Practiced on a regular basis to make the Word visible.

### **\*Doxology**

### **\*Song of Response - *What Child is This?***

~Our commitment to apply God's Word in and through our lives

### **\*Announcements**

~Weekly opportunities to live out the Word read, confessed, prayed, sung, and preached

### **\*Benediction - 2 Peter 3:14, 18**

~God's parting blessing as we are sent out on His redemptive mission

### **\*Congregational Response: Amen!**

### **\*Stand**

## ***What Child Is This?***

What child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this is Christ the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,  
Where ox and lamb are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear; for sinners here  
The silent Word is pleading.  
Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;  
The cross be borne for me, for you:  
Hail, hail the Word made flesh,  
The babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh;  
Come, peasant, king to own him.  
The King of kings salvation brings,  
Let loving hearts enthrone him.  
Raise, raise the song on high,  
The virgin sings her lullaby:  
Joy, joy for Christ is born,  
The babe, the son of Mary!

*Response*  
SONG OF

# “JESUS, THE LORD OF THE RESURRECTION”

MARK 16:1-8

MATT O’SULLIVAN

**Key Truth:** Jesus calls us out of our fears and failures and into the power and promise of His resurrection so we can follow Him in the way of the cross.

## Introduction:

**Q:** *How do your fears and failures shape the way you think of your life’s story?*

## Mark 16:1-8: The Power and Promise of Jesus’s Resurrection

“In Mark’s Gospel, this fear is always man’s response to the breaking in of the power of God. It is the fear the disciples experience when Jesus stilled the storm; the fear of the Gerasenes when Jesus delivered Legion; the fear of the disciples as they saw Jesus setting his face to Jerusalem to die on the cross. This fear is the response of men and women to Jesus as he shows his power and majesty as the Son of God.

Mark began his Gospel by telling us who Jesus is. He wrote his Gospel to make us ask the question: Who is Jesus? and answer it accurately. Now he shows us the nature of a true response to Jesus. It is to be moved with a sense of awe and wonder that the Son of God came among men, and lived and died and rose again for our salvation.

That sense of awe is the beginning of a new life of fellowship with a risen Lord.

Has Mark’s Gospel brought us to know that, yet?”

**Sinclair B. Ferguson, *Let’s Study Mark***

## Application Questions:

1. *How can meditating on Jesus’s resurrection change the way you respond to your fears and failures?*
2. *How has the Gospel of Mark helped you grow in the grace and knowledge of Jesus?*

## Application:

**Mark 16:1-8** teaches us that Jesus calls us out of our fears and failures and into the power and promise of His resurrection so we can follow Him in the way of the cross.

**Benediction:** *2 Peter 3:14, 18*

<sup>1</sup>We have a strong city; He sets up salvation as walls and bulwarks. <sup>2</sup>Open the gates, that the righteous nation that keeps faith may enter in. <sup>3</sup>You keep him in perfect peace whose mind is stayed on you, because he trusts in you. <sup>4</sup>Trust in the Lord forever, for the Lord God is an everlasting rock. <sup>5</sup>For he has humbled the inhabitants of the height, the lofty city. He lays it low, lays it low to the ground, casts it to the dust. <sup>6</sup>The foot tramples it, the feet of the poor, the steps of the needy. <sup>7</sup>The path of the righteous is level; You make level the way of the righteous. <sup>8</sup>In the path of your judgments, O Lord, we wait for you; Your name and remembrance are the desire of our soul. <sup>9</sup>My soul yearns for you in the night; my spirit within me earnestly seeks you. For when your judgments are in the earth, the inhabitants of the world learn righteousness. <sup>10</sup>If favor is shown to the wicked, He does not learn righteousness; in the land of uprightness he deals corruptly and does not see the majesty of the Lord. <sup>11</sup>O Lord, your hand is lifted up, but they do not see it. Let them see your zeal for your people, and be ashamed. Let the fire for your adversaries consume them. <sup>12</sup>O Lord, you will ordain peace for us, for you have indeed done for us all our works. <sup>13</sup>O Lord our God, other lords besides You have ruled over us, but your name alone we bring to remembrance. <sup>14</sup>They are dead, they will not live; they are shades, they will not arise; to that end you have visited them with destruction and wiped out all remembrance of them. <sup>15</sup>But you have increased the nation, O Lord, you have increased the nation; you are glorified; you have enlarged all the borders of the land. <sup>16</sup>O Lord, in distress they sought you; they poured out a whispered prayer when your discipline was upon them. <sup>17</sup>Like a pregnant woman who writhes and cries out in her pangs when she is near to giving birth, so were we because of you, O Lord; <sup>18</sup>we were pregnant, we writhed, but we have given birth to wind. We have accomplished no deliverance in the earth, and the inhabitants of the world have not fallen. <sup>19</sup>Your dead shall live; their bodies shall rise. You who dwell in the dust, awake and sing for joy! For your dew is a dew of light, and the earth will give birth to the dead.

CALL TO Worship

## The Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;

Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven, and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried; and on the third day He rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the quick and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; And I look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL  
Response

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost

Amen

## *Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

Come Thou long-expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Come to earth to taste our sadness,  
He whose glories knew no end;  
By His life He brings us gladness,  
Our Redeemer, Shepherd, Friend.  
Leaving riches without number,  
Born within a cattle stall;  
This the everlasting wonder,  
Christ was born the Lord of all.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.  
By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

Come Thou long-expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.

SONG OF  
*Comfort*

## *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen*

God rest ye merry, gentlemen;  
Let nothing you dismay.  
Remember Christ, our Savior,  
Was born on Christmas Day,  
To save us all from Satan's pow'r  
When we were gone astray.

*O tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy;  
O tidings of comfort and joy.*

From God our heavenly Father  
A blessed angel came,  
And unto certain shepherds  
Brought tidings of the same,  
How that in Bethlehem was born  
The Son of God by name.

"Fear not, then," said the angel;  
"Let nothing you affright.  
This day is born a Savior  
Of a pure virgin bright,  
To free all those who trust in Him  
From Satan's pow'r and might."

The message of the angel  
One day would be fulfilled,  
When on the cross of Calvary  
The sinless Christ was killed,  
And in three days He rose just as  
The Father's love had willed.

SONG OF  
*Praise*

Gracious and Merciful Father,

We come before you to confess our sin as Your redeemed and beloved children. May Your Spirit alone convict us of our sin and remind us of our pardon in Christ through repentance.

*(Take a moment to silently confess.)*

We confess that we often dwell in our fears and failures rather than walk in the power and promise of the resurrection as we follow You in the way of the cross. **(Mark 16:1-8)**

We confess these things before You because You are faithful to forgive us in Christ.

Bless us with the assurance of our pardon by Your Holy Spirit in Christ alone, by faith alone, through Your grace alone, from Your Word.

Amen.

Confession OF SIN

Assurance OF PARDON

<sup>23</sup> And Jesus looked around and said to his disciples, "How difficult it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God!" <sup>24</sup> And the disciples were amazed at his words. But Jesus said to them again, "Children, how difficult it is to enter the kingdom of God! <sup>25</sup> It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God." <sup>26</sup> And they were exceedingly astonished, and said to him, "Then who can be saved? <sup>27</sup> Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."

**Mark 10:23-27**

(Leader) - And based on the gift of this assurance of pardon to us, God's people, we all can't help but say,

**(Congregation) - Amen!**