

Clark Fork Seventh-day Adventist Church

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<https://www.clarkforkadventist.org/>

Pastor Jason Worf

Manfred Bauer, Head Elder

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For Today: Should We Celebrate Christmas?

We do not know why God, in His providence, chose not to preserve for us a record of the day of Jesus' birth. No need exists to speculate about this. The fact is that the Christian world celebrates the birth of Jesus on December 25. We cannot change this, and there is no reason to try to change it. Attempts to reject the feast are based on the absence of biblical evidence and its possible connection with a pagan feast. Therefore, we should leave this matter to the conscience of each individual.

There is absolutely nothing wrong with selecting any particular time to meditate and reflect on the incarnation of our Savior. I would suggest that during Christmas we could spend time thinking about the mystery of the Incarnation. It is a mystery in that it testifies to the fact that the Son of God became "flesh" (John 1:14). The Creator became a creature to save us from the power of sin and death.

The Nativity also can be understood as God's gift to the human race; in His Son, God gave us the most precious gift He could bestow on us. He was the bread of heaven freely given to us by our heavenly Father (John 6:48-51).

But the Nativity is also a time of proclamation. That night angels proclaimed to shepherds the good news: "Do not be afraid.... Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you" (Luke 2:10-11). We should join our voices with that of the angels and proclaim once more throughout the planet the glorious news of peace and freedom from fear and through Christ, the Lord. Christmas provides an excellent opportunity to remind the human race that the Child born in Bethlehem is coming soon.

*Written by Ángel Manuel Rodríguez, former director of the Biblical Research Institute,
General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*



Happy Sabbath!



Then the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord."

Luke 2:10-11



Clark Fork Seventh-day Adventist Church
Sabbath, December 21, 2019

Sabbath Worship

Rejoicing in God's Presence, 9:30 a.m.

Welcome
Opening Song

Manfred Bauer

Adults Sabbath School, Sanctuary, 9:50–10:40 a.m.

Robert Steele

Welcome and Announcements, 10:45 a.m.

Hymn of the Month

Manfred Bauer

Sheri Bauer

God's Family in Worship, 11 a.m.

Preparing our hearts for worship. Leaders and congregation kneel in prayer.

Opening Hymn, "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" Hymn 140

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 9:6-7 (see below)

Prayer and Praise

Congregation Hymn *Hear Our Prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord;
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace. Amen.*

Call for Morning Offering Local Church Budget

Doxology, "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" Hymn 694

Children's Story Joy Davis

Special Music

Sermon "A Christian's Christmas" Wally Remitz

Closing Hymn, "Tell Me the Story of Jesus" Hymn 152

Benediction

Postlude

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given; and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Of the increase of His government and peace, there will be no end, upon the throne of David and over His kingdom, to order it and establish it with judgment and justice from that time forward, even forever. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will perform this.

Isaiah 9:6-7 (NKJV)

Welcome

We are glad that you came to worship Jesus with us today! Our prayer is that through Bible study, prayer, and song, you will experience God's presence and blessing. Please stay and fellowship with us at the potluck meal following church service. Everyone is invited!

Announcements

Upcoming: December 28, Wally Remitz
January 4, Pastor Jason Worf

Sandpoint SDA Church Annual Christmas Concert will be this afternoon at 3 p.m. Come enjoy wonderful Christmas music and fill your heart with traditional carols, selected classical music, vocal and instrumental, and sing-along carols. Refreshments to follow.

New Year's Resolutions! Please keep in mind our Clark Fork Strategies for Good Neighboring (start a training program), Discipleship (possibly start a thrift store in the community involving youth), and Sharing the Gospel (find creative ways to share literature).

Bible Study will resume on Tuesday, January 7, from 6 p.m. at Beth Duffey's house.

This month's Stewpot Newsletter is available by e-mail or hard copy on request to Beth. Retirement plans, wills, and our responsibility to God are addressed in this month's issue.

Adventist Child Protection Screening Compliance: Required for all Church Board Members and those volunteering for Sabbath School and other activities with children. Deadline is **December 31**.

Prayer Requests: Call Janet Remitz. 406-847-5526.

Bulletin information deadline Wednesday noon to Beth.



Clark Fork, Sunset tonight: 3:53 p.m.

Next Friday night: 3:57 p.m.