

**ELIM COVENANT CHURCH
DECEMBER 14, 2014**



JOY

WORSHIP CELEBRATION
ELIM COVENANT CHURCH December 14, 2014

*"Joy is prayer – Joy is strength – Joy is love –
Joy is a net of love by which you can catch souls.."*
~ Mother Teresa ~

GATHERING BEFORE GOD

We are invited into the presence of God!
Please turn your cell phones off*

PRELUDE

SONGS OF PRAISE

Worship Facilitator

Greg Burney
"How Many Kings"
"Joy To the World"
"Desert Song"
CCLI #2005052

HEARING FROM GOD

We give our attention to God by opening our lives to His Word!
We invite God's Spirit to take this Word into our lives that we
might be formed into the image and likeness of Jesus!

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

*"There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear."
(1 John 4:18)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

Rodney & Judy Ouderkirk

ELIM CHILDREN

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"

CHILDREN'S SERMON

(Children dismissed for Children's Church, please for ages 3 thru 5th grade only).

WORDS FROM GOD

Isaiah 61:1-4; 8-11

Scripture Reader, Tasha Munger

RESPONDING TO GOD

Now that God has spoken to us, it is time for us to speak to Him!

MESSAGE

**“Joy for Tears”
Pastor Steve Peterson**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERTORY

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

BEING SENT BY GOD

God sends us out into the world that he desperately loves.
His presence goes with us. We leave as God’s agents of grace and mercy.

SONG

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

BENEDICTION

Scripture Reading for the Week

<i>Sunday</i>	<i>Hebrews 10:23</i>
<i>Monday</i>	<i>Micah 7:19</i>
<i>Tuesday</i>	<i>Revelation 2:26-27</i>
<i>Wednesday</i>	<i>Matthew 6:14</i>
<i>Thursday</i>	<i>Romans 5:9</i>
<i>Friday</i>	<i>Revelation 3:5</i>
<i>Saturday</i>	<i>Psalms 1:3</i>

TODAY’S GREETERS

Rolland & Joann Potts

HEAD USHER

Don Peterson

USHERS

Martin Bear, Tom Dang & Gary Wells

SOUND SYSTEM

Don Yoeckel

“Joy for Tears”

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Key Verse: “Those who sow in tears will reap with songs of joy” (Ps. 126:5)

Key Thought: Just as Jesus came to bind up the brokenhearted, we are called to do the same.

1) Intro & Context

2) Isaiah 61:1-4 – The Messiah’s ministry (and ours!):

- a. Anoint with the Spirit (cf. Mt. 3:11; Jn. 20:22; Acts 2:38)
- b. Preach GOOD NEWS to the Poor (cf. Mt. 5:3; Ja. 1:27)
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.”
- c. Bind up the Brokenhearted (cf. Ps. 34:18; Lk. 7:11-15; Acts 9:36-41)
- d. Proclaim FREEDOM for the Captives (cf. Mk. 5:1-20; Acts 16:16-18)
- e. Release from darkness the Prisoners (cf. Acts 5:17-21; 12:6-11; 16:22-40; 26:18) “[We’re sent] to open the eyes and turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, so that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in [Jesus].”
- f. Proclaim JUBILEE [“the year of the Lord’s favor”] (cf. Lev. 25:8ff; Isa. 49:8; 63:4) and the Day of Vengeance (cf. Mt. 24:30; Rev. 19:1-2, 11-21)
- g. Comfort all who Mourn (cf. Mt. 5:4; 2 Cor. 1:3-4) “Praise be to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of compassion and the God of all comfort, who comforts us in all our troubles, so that we can comfort those in any trouble with the comfort we ourselves receive from God.”
- h. Provide for those who Grieve (cf. Jn. 16:20; 1 Thes. 4:13-18)
- i. Bestowing...
 - i. a Crown of BEAUTY instead of Ashes (cf. Jn. 4:1-42; 8:1-11; Acts 16:16-18)
 - ii. Oil of GLADNESS instead of Mourning (cf. Lk. 6:21; Acts 9:36-41)
 - iii. A garment of PRAISE instead of Despair (cf. Mt. 15:29-31; Acts 3:1-10)

3) The result in us: Oaks of Righteousness

- a. Rebuild the ancient ruins (cf. Isa. 58:12; Am. 9:14)
- b. Restore places long devastated (cf. Isa. 44:26; 49:8)
- c. Renew ruined cities, devastated for generations (cf. Ezek. 36:33)

4) The result for God: The display of His splendor (Ps. 96:6; 104:1; 145:12)

5) Putting it into practice (cf. Mt. 25:31-46)

Who can I bless during Advent/Christmas? _____

6) Conclusion

PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

Praises: God's promise that we're never alone.
He carries our burdens.

Prayer Concerns: Those that are hurting during the Christmas Season - facing illness, financial struggles, missing loved ones.

Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:

Unspoken needs of our brothers & sisters: Dorothy & Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Betty Lindberg, Marj Nelson, Jay Stanley, John Hutchison, Travis Ferry, Tabatha Estes, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, families who have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

Prayer Notes:

Sunday Prayer Following Worship



Please feel free to take your burden or praise to one of the Elim Prayer Team members available to pray with you. Team members include: Julie, Linda, Carolyn, Juanita, Dee & Tasha and can be easily found at the back of the sanctuary in the northeast classroom.

Monday Evening Prayer Gathering



Each Monday evening at 5:30 p.m. there is a prayer gathering held at Elim. You are encouraged to come and pray with the team members and share your requests/praises.

Prayer Chain

The prayer network is used when special needs arise during the week. Call Judy at the church 764-6920 Monday thru Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. otherwise call or text Tasha Munger @ (309) 281-8784 with your request. If no answer, you may leave your concern on the answer machine and it will be relayed ASAP.

CHILDREN'S CHURCH LEADER MEETING

There will be a short children's church leaders meeting following worship TODAY, December 14th.

Please see Rachel Cunningham with any questions.

CELEBRATE TODAY Phillip Estes DAY!!!!



**Please join us for cake and refreshments as we celebrate Phillip beginning a new chapter in his life.....
TODAY, December 14th after Sunday worship.**



VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEETS

The volunteer sign-up sheets for 2015 is on the table in the gathering area. Please consider volunteering for this coming year. We really need people to help out in every area. You need to sign up even if you already volunteer in that particular area.

Thank you.

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

**The next men's fellowship breakfast will be
Saturday, January 3rd @ 8:00 a.m.**

Sign-up sheets are on the table in the gathering area.





**WEDNESDAY DOLLAR DINNER
NEEDS BAKERS**

There is a sign-up sheet in the gathering area for bakers to pick a Wednesday to furnish the Wednesday night Dollar Dinner group with desserts. Please sign-up if you can help out. See Tom Bivens or Greg Burney.



**“NOON”
NEW YEAR’S EVE
AT ELIM**

There will be a “Noon” New Year’s Eve party for the Elim families here at Elim from 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31st.

Family Fun Events include:

Clown Daizy Dee’s presentation “Worry or Worship,”

balloon sculptures, carnival type games, cookies and punch.

We’ll have the games and cookies in the fellowship hall and Daisy’s presentation in the sanctuary.

Hope to see everyone young and the young at heart there. See Dora Beth Christy or Pam Thompson with any questions. Thanks.

PLEASE NOTE:

There will be NO children’s church or Nursery coverage Dec. 21st so volunteers can enjoy the Christmas Cantata.

LOOKING AHEAD

Sun	Dec. 14	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service 11:45 a.m. Children's Church Leader Meeting Noon Refreshments for Phillip Estes, Air Force Recruit
Mon	Dec. 15	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 16	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 17	5:30 p.m. Dollar Dinner 6:00-7:30p.m. SPARK 6:30 -9:00pm AXIS/Fusion Christmas Party @ the Burney's
Fri	Dec. 19	9:30a-1:00pm CIU – QCSAHP 7:00p-7:00am AXIS Lock-In
Sat	Dec. 20	9:00-11:30am Choir Cantata Rehearsal
Sun	Dec. 21	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service/Cantata Sunday 11:45 a.m. Collection for Christian Friendliness
Mon	Dec. 22	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 23	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 24	5:00 p.m. Christmas Eve Worship Service
Thur	Dec. 25	Office Closed – Christmas Day
Sun	Dec. 28	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon	Dec. 29	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Dec. 30	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice
Wed	Dec. 31	10:30a-12:30p "Noon" New Year's Eve @ Elim
Thur	Jan. 1	Office Closed – New Year's Day
Sat	Jan. 3	8:00 a.m. Men's Fellowship Breakfast
Sun	Jan. 4	9:15 a.m. Sunday School/Confirmation 10:30 a.m. Worship Celebration Service
Mon	Jan. 5	5:30 p.m. Prayer Team Gathering
Tue	Jan. 6	6:45 p.m. Choir Practice

December Birthdays

19 – Elizabeth Smith
19 – Julie Wells
20 – John Wulff
22 – John Thompson
30 – Belva Van Norman
31 – Kristen Burns

December Anniversaries

31 – Adolph & Dorothy Laurick

CIU – means Church In Use
(309) 764-6920

Church office office@elimqc.org

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 50

Worship = 130

CHILD CARE THIS WEEK

NEXT WEEK

Nursery Cheryl Bear & Juanita Arrelanos (Dec. 21 – No Nursery coverage)
Children's Church 3-6 yrs Mary Bivens & M. DeArmond (Dec. 21 No Children's Church)
Children's Church 2nd-5th grades M. Burney & Meagan DeA. (Dec. 21 No Children's Church)

Pastor's e-mail pastor@elimqc.org

Greg's e-mail youth@elimqc.org

Church office e-mail office@elimqc.org

Website elimqc.org