



# Happy New Year

Therefore if any man  
be in Christ, he is a new  
creature: old things are  
passed away; behold, all  
things are become new.

—2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

# **WORSHIP CELEBRATION**

**December 27, 2015**

**“I will honor Christmas in my heart, and try to keep it  
all the year.” Charles Dickens**

## **GATHERING BEFORE GOD**

*We are invited into the presence of God!*

*\*Please turn your cell phones off\* Please sign the register book & pass it on.*

### **PRELUDE**

**HYMNS OF PRAISE** Greg Burney Worship Facilitator  
**Hymn #147** “O Come, All Ye Faithful”  
**Hymn #172** “Silent Night, Holy Night”

### **GREETING ONE ANOTHER**

## **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!

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mike Hermann

### **MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH**

“You will keep in perfect peace those whose minds are steadfast, because they trust in you.” (Isaiah 26:3)

### **CHILDREN’S SERMON**

*(Children dismissed for Children’s Church, please for ages 3 thru 5<sup>th</sup> grade only).*

### **WORDS FROM GOD**

Luke 2:25-35

*Scripture Reader, Amanda Dang*  
(Pages 1015 or 1072 in the red Bibles)

## **MESSAGE**

**“Did You Get What You Wanted for Christmas?”**

**Pastor Steve Peterson**

## **RESPONDING TO GOD**

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

### **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.

### **HYMN #171**

*“What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest”*

### **BENEDICTION**

#### ***Scripture Readings for the Week***

*Sunday*

*1 Peter 5:10*

*Monday*

*1 Thessalonians 5:17*

*Tuesday*

*Luke 18:1, 7*

*Wednesday*

*Ephesians 6:18*

*Thursday*

*Colossians 1:9-10a*

*Friday*

*Colossians 1:12*

*Saturday*

*Hebrews 4:16*

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### **TODAY’S GREETERS**

Maxine Barnes & Tasha Munger

### **HEAD USHER**

Gary Wells

### **USHERS**

Felipe Cantu, Tom Dang & Sandy Parrott

### **SOUND SYSTEM**

Josh Parrott

# “Did You Get What You Wanted for Christmas?”

## Luke 2:25-35

**Key Text:** “He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him” (John 1:11)

**Key Thought:** The baby born in Jerusalem was NOT what many people wanted in a Messiah. So it is that we must also wrestle with whether or not to accept this “gift of God.”

- 1) Intro & Context
- 2) Jesus, the disappointment to many (cf. Isa. 53:3; Mt. 13:54-57; Jn. 6:66; Jn. 19:14-16)
- 3) Following Jesus can lead to disappointments
  - a. Living in God’s “upside down Kingdom” is HARD! (cf. Mt. 5:1-12; Mt. 10:34-39; Mt. 20:24-28; Jn. 12:25)
  - b. Called to a life of sacrifice and suffering (cf. Mt. 16:24-25; Acts 14:22; 1 Pt. 2:19-25; 4:12-19)
- 4) The danger of a “lukewarm” faith (Zeph. 1:12; Mt. 7:13-14, 21-23; Rev. 3:16)
- 5) A Cost-Benefit Analysis (cf. Deut. 30:15-20; Josh. 24:15; Lk. 14:25-35; Php. 3:7-11)
- 6) Conclusion

### Questions for Reflection

- Is God’s gift worth the cost? What do you stand to lose by accepting it? What do you stand to lose by rejecting it?
- Paul said, “I preached that they should repent and turn to God and prove their repentance by their deeds” (Acts 26:20). What “deeds” does Paul expect of Christ-followers?
- As a Christian, have you denied yourself and taken up your cross? What would that look like in our context today? Are you willing to do that?

### Hymns

- “What Child Is This, Who, Laid to Rest” (#171)

## PRAISES and PRAYER CONCERNS

**Praises: Praise & thank you to all the many Elim volunteers!**

**Prayer Concerns: 2016!!**

**Pastor Flor and family upon the passing of her husband.  
Families who have recently lost loved ones. Our shut-ins.**

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### **Those in Need of God's Strength and Healing:**

Juna Wortz, Arlene Miller, Adolph Laurick, June Riley, Margaret Hasty, Anna Swanson, Vivian Smith, Marj Nelson, Gene & Ellie Wildermuth, Mindy Allison, Jay & Judie Stanley, John & Linda Hutchison, Lyle & Maurine Beresford, Ann Seyller, Joy Wright, Pennie Knary, families that have lost loved ones, military families, and unspoken concerns.

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### **Prayer Notes:**

#### **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, & 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.

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Happy New Year  
**2016**



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**Pizza, PJ's and Play!**  
Bring the family for games, a movie, and some food,  
and if you want, get comfy and wear your PJ's!  
**Wednesday, December 30th**  
**5:30-7:30 - FREE!**  
Please note this is a "family" event, adults must accompany children

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# **VOLUNTEER SIGN-UP SHEET FOR 2016**

**The volunteer sign-up sheet is on the table  
in the gathering area. Please sign-up  
early so schedules can be made out  
in a timely manner.**



## LOOKING AHEAD

Sun.	Dec. 27	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
Mon.	Dec. 28	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Team Gathering
Tues.	Dec. 29		<u>NO</u> Choir Practice
Wed.	Dec. 30	5:30-7:30 p.m.	Youth Family Pizza, PJ'S and Play Night
Thurs.	Dec. 31		<u>NO</u> New Year's Eve Afternoon Party Canceled
Fri.	Jan. 1	10:00a.m.	CIU – Set up for Martha Peterson's Wedding
Sat.	Jan. 2	10:00a-7:00p.	CIU – Peterson/Collins Wedding
Sun.	Jan. 3	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
Mon.	Jan. 4	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Team Gathering
Tue.	Jan. 5	6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Wed.	Jan. 6	5:30 p.m.	Dollar Dinner
		5:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
		6:00-7:30 p.m.	SPARK & AXIS
		7:30-9:00 p.m.	Fusion
Thurs.	Jan. 7	9:00 a.m.	Keenagers Coffee Time/Bible Study
Sun.	Jan. 10	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
Mon.	Jan. 11	5:30 p.m.	Prayer Team Gathering
Tues.	Jan. 12	5:30 p.m.	MLT Meeting
		6:30 p.m.	Choir Practice
Wed.	Jan. 13	5:30 p.m.	Dollar Dinner
		5:30 p.m.	Women's Bible Study
		6:00-7:30 p.m.	SPARK & AXIS
		7:30-9:00 p.m.	Fusion
Thurs.	Jan. 14	9:00 a.m.	Keenagers Coffee Time/Bible Study
Sat.	Jan. 16	9:00 a.m.	Pre-Bake for Chocolate Fantasy
Sun.	Jan. 17	9:15 a.m.	Sunday School
		10:30 a.m.	Worship Celebration Service
		11:45 a.m.	Collection for CF/Youth Hope

### December Birthdays

27 – Dave Parrott  
30 – Belva Van Norman  
31 – Kristen Burns  
January Birthdays  
7 – Victoria Fowler  
9 – Sandy Parrott  
10 – Anna Christy  
15 – Rebecca Christy  
16 – Natalie Hermann  
17 – Judie Stanley  
19 – Karter Thompson

### January Anniversaries

28 – Donald & Kathy Boggs

CIU – means Church In Use

Church office [office@elimqc.org](mailto:office@elimqc.org)  
(309) 764-6920

Church website [elimqc.org](http://elimqc.org)

Pastor's e-mail [pastor@elimqc.org](mailto:pastor@elimqc.org)

Greg's e-mail [youth@elimqc.org](mailto:youth@elimqc.org)

Attendance Last Week – Sunday School = 47

Worship = 164

CHILD CARE TODAY Dec. 27

Nursery Judy M. Meagan B. (Abby P.)

Jr. Church Rachel C. (Megan & Mariah DeA.)

NEXT WEEK Jan. 3

Lori Smith, Diana Wood (Elizabeth S.)

Dora Beth (Mallory B. & Michelle DeA.)