

“Advent: God’s Promise to Bethlehem”

Micah 5:1-5a

I. The utter _____ of human leadership v1, Micah 4:9-11

II. The promise of God to send a _____ to lead His people v2

(1) He is insignificant in _____

1 Cor 1: 27-29

(2) He is ancient in His _____

1) This King will come forth from _____ v2 , Jn 6:38

2) His ancestry will be _____ 2 Sam 7:12-13

3) He will be older even that that! From days of _____

Ps 90:2 ; Lk 20: 41-44

III. The Majesty and _____ of the coming King vv3-5a

God will give them up ... until this child is born

Ps 89: 33-39 ; Isa 9:6-7

(1) He will _____ v4 , Lk 1:32-33

(2) He will _____ the family Heb 2:11-12 , Eph 2:19

(3) He will _____ His people v4

Eze 34:10, 15-16 ; John 10: 14-15

(4) He will _____ us in the strength of Almighty God v4

John 10: 27-28

(5) He will be _____ to the ends of the earth v4c , Hab 2:14

(6) He will be our _____ v5a

Eph 2:14 ; Lk 2:4 ; Rm 5:1 ; Eph 2:14-16

This Week’s Fighter Verse: Feed Your Soul by Memorizing Scripture! Each week’s ‘*Fighter Verse*’ is meant to help you “fight the good fight” of faith. Memorize it and use it for the good of your soul!

Micah 5:2 (ESV)

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose coming forth is from of old,
from ancient day



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TONIGHT, December 10 at 6:30 PM -
Report from Warren & Athena Kesselring's visit to our
RGBI missionaries (The Billy & Sarah Jackson family
and Savannah Weber) - with video call Q&A.

THIS WEEK AT ROCKPORT

SUNDAY - DECEMBER 10

Sunday Morning Bible Study	9:30 AM
Sunday Morning Worship	10:40 AM
Kesselrings report on visit to RGBI	6:30 PM

Today's Greeters - Phinney & Pfleegor

Today's Tellers - Tren Groat & Herman Meyer

Today's Nursery - Kimberly Fels & Grace Dittmann

Please note: Nursery care during worship is for children up through age 2

Prayerfully consider Rockport's Budget Needs

Rockport Weekly Budget Goal.....\$5,689.00

October Weekly average.....\$6,796.88

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **MONDAYS at 7:00 PM** - Exercise Class at Rockport .
Please contact Susan Jackson for more information
susanjj1966@gmail.com or (636) 375-1113
- **WEDNESDAY, December 13 at 7 PM** - Congregational Prayer Meeting
- **FRIDAY, December 15 at 6:30 PM** - Ladies Cookie Exchange
Please sign up!
- **SUNDAY, December 17 at 6:30 PM** - Rockport Christmas Celebration
- **SUNDAY, December 24 at 5 PM** - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
- **SATURDAY, January 6 at 9:30 AM** - Dittmann baby shower
- **SATURDAY, January 13 at 8 AM - Men's Breakfast** - study of Titus - Standing for Godliness Bring food to share!
- **Women's Workshop** is coming Friday and Saturday, January 19-20.
- **Founder's Conference Midwest** is Tuesday, Feb 27- Wednesday, Feb 28, 2024 at FBC Fenton, MO.
Sign up information is in the foyer.
- **Winter Clothing Drive** for the Salvation Army.
Please contact Paula Ottofy, Sherie Eagleburger or Marquette Govero if you have donations

This year's Christmas Missions Offering Options

HeartCry
MISSIONARY SOCIETY



* **Zizin, Romania Mission Church**

* **Missionary Volunteer Michael Hawkins to Japan**

Please designate the amount and destination for your gift for missions, along with your regular Rockport offering.



WOMEN'S WORKSHOP 2024

Friday, January 19 | 4:30 - 9 PM

Saturday, January 20 | 9 AM - 2 PM



Scan to Register

**The Abiding and Active
Word of God**

Hosted by the Rockport Women's Discipleship Council

December 10, 2023

■ **Welcome / Announcements / Call to Worship**

■ **“O Come O Come Emmanuel”**

O come O come Emmanuel And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear

Rejoice Rejoice Emmanuel Shall come to thee O Israel

O come thou Rod of Jesse free Thine own from Satan's tyranny
From depths of hell thy people save And give them vict'ry o'er the grave

O come thou Dayspring come and cheer Our spirits by Thine
advent here Disperse the gloomy clouds of night And death's dark
shadows put to flight

O come Desire of nations bind All peoples in one heart and mind
Bid envy strife and quarrels cease Fill the whole world with heaven's
peace

■ **Scripture Reading - Isaiah 9:1-7**

■ **Mission / Prayer / Offering**

■ **“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”**.....Hymn 124

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.

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.

■ **Confession / Lord's Supper - Advent Confession of Sin**

Lord, we have not kept watch for you.

We have been too busy with our busyness.

We have not sought your presence.

We have not noticed the needs of the poor and broken around us.

We have not been thankful for the daily grace that upholds us.

Forgive us, Lord, when we forget you.

Help us learn to seek your presence.

Help us be aware of the needs around us.

Help us live in light of your coming as we walk daily by your grace.

For it is in Jesus we pray Amen.

Pastor: Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

Your sins are pardoned. Your penalty has been paid.

Congregation: **Thanks be to God.**

■ **“He Who is Mighty”**

by Rebecca Elliott and Kate DeGraide © 2014 Sovereign Grace Praise CCLI #801260

Oh, the mercy our God has shown To those who sit in death's
shadow The sun on high pierced the night

Born was the Cornerstone

Unto us a Son is given, unto us a Child is born

**He Who is mighty has done a great thing Taken on flesh,
conquered death's sting Shattered the darkness and lifted our
shame Holy is His name**

Oh, the freedom our Savior won The yoke of sin has been broken
Once a slave, now by grace No more condemnation

**Now my soul magnifies the Lord I rejoice in the God Who
saves I will trust His unfailing love
I will sing His praises all my days**

■ **“Joy to the World!”**Hymn 125

Joy to the world! the Lord is come; Let earth receive her King; Let
ev'ry heart prepare Him room, And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n
and nature sing, And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns; Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow, Nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow Far as the curse is found, Far as
the curse is found, Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nations
prove The glories of His righteousness, And wonders of His love, And
wonders of His love, And wonders, wonders of His love.

■ **Message - “God's Promise to Bethlehem”** - Micah 5:1-5a - Pastor
Scott

■ **Closing Hymn**

■ **Benediction**

Please join us tonight at 6:30 PM to hear about Warren and Athena's
trip to visit Rockport Missionaries Billy & Sarah Jackson & family
and Savannah Weber serving at Rio Grande Bible Ministries in
Texas

How to Join Rockport Baptist Church

We as a church are committed to the biblical teaching that church membership is for believers in Christ who voluntarily band together under the leadership of the Holy Spirit for worship, fellowship and service. We therefore require the following:

- (1) A credible profession of faith in Christ for salvation
(Romans 10:9-10)
- (2) Obedience to Christ through water baptism
(Matthew 28:18-20)
- (3) A willing commitment to the basic beliefs and practices of this church as evidenced in our Confession of Faith and Church Covenant (available upon request)

Those who are interested in seeking membership are asked to make this known to Pastor Scott and/or an Elder who will provide a copy of our Petition for Membership and explain the process.

Why Should I Be Baptized?

Baptism is commanded by Christ (Matthew 28:18-20) for all those who would follow Him as disciples. It is a picture on the outside of what Christ does on the inside of all those who come to Him by faith. As Paul declares in Romans 6:4, “We are buried with Him through baptism into death, and raised to walk in newness of life.” Baptism, therefore symbolizes our new life in Christ as believers. It is a public declaration that my old life is dead and I now belong to him. As such, it is the first act of obedience for all who would profess their faith in Him for salvation. If you have placed your faith in Christ and need to follow through with believer’s baptism, please contact Pastor Scott.

Church Office (636) 464-1460
RockportBaptist@sbcglobal.net
www.rockportbaptist.org



Pastors/Elders

Scott Lee
Kyle Davis
Warren Kesselring

Worship Leaders

Stuart McMillian
Luke McAllister

Deacons

Don Arbogast	Scott Larson
Kanoa Benz	Herman Meyer
Kurt Boehm	Alex Starkey
Greg Chastain	Mark Stoner
Ray Gawlik	Brad Tompkins

A Word from Our Pastor: Sunday December 10, 2023

Lottie Moon was a brave young woman who left home as a missionary in 1873 to go to China in hopes of sharing Christ with the people there. But the need was so great and her resources so small, she knew she'd never get the job done alone. She began to write letters to every Baptist agency and church she could think of, begging them to raise support and send more missionaries.

There was little response at first. Resources were scarce. The American Civil War had just ended and most of her support came from the South, so recently devastated by the conflict. There was no money to be had.

But never one to give up, and though tired of fighting the men who led the mission agencies, Lottie turned her attention to the women of the churches, asking them to pray and do what they could to raise funds. *"Could they find a way to send just one more missionary next year?"* she asked?

The Women's Missionary Union (WMU) took up the challenge, raising over \$3000 by the end of 1888 – enough to send not just one, but three missionaries to join her in China. Lottie was encouraged, but not done! She picked up her pen to issue another challenge, *"Why not make every Christmas a time of sacrificial giving for the cause of the Christ? Why not pray and take an offering **every** year for the spread of Christ's Gospel to the whole world?"*

That was 1889. But the story of Lottie's faithfulness doesn't end there. Fully committed to the cause of Christ, she turned down a proposal of marriage from one of the rising theological stars of the day, Crawford H Toy, when she discovered that he had begun to embrace a theological liberalism that denied the inerrancy of Scripture. She later explained that *"God had first claim on my life, and since the two conflicted, there could be no question about the result."* Remaining single, she continued her missionary service until 1912. War raged in China by then, and with it came disease and famine. Lottie wrote home, urgently begging churches to send help. People were starving in the streets.

The response came....but it was too little, and the need was so great. During the fall and winter of that year, other missionaries began to notice that "Miss Lottie's" health was failing. She was growing thinner and weaker by the day. When her health finally broke, they found out why: Lottie had been giving what little money and food she had to feed the starving people around her. She was literally starving herself to death to minister Christ to them.

When it was clear she was too weak to go on, her missionary friends found a nurse for her and made hasty arrangements to send Lottie back to the States where it was hoped she would recover. But in God's providence, it was not to be. On *Christmas Eve*, 1912 Lottie awoke from a coma on board a ship in Kobe Harbor, Japan. She began to whisper the words to the song, *"Jesus loves me, this I know, for the Bible tells me so!"* And with those words, she passed out of this life into eternity with Jesus. Six years later in 1918, the Christmas Offering she inspired was re-named *The Lottie Moon Christmas Offering*. Since then Southern Baptists have understood that Christmas and Missions go hand in hand. Lottie's offering has come to symbolize that conviction, providing support for nearly 4000 full and part time missionaries all over the world.

What do Christmas and missions have to do with one another? In a word, ***everything!*** If you think about it, the Story of Christmas itself is a missionary story. Long before Lottie went to China, another was sent from heaven to give His life that we might be saved. His name was Jesus!

It is that same Spirit – the Spirit of Christ – that drove Lottie Moon. It's that same Spirit that drives us to go, to give and to pray that His Name might be known to all nations! This year's Rockport Christmas Missions Offering can be designated to *The Lottie Moon Offering (for the IMB)*, *HeartCry Missionary Society*, *Psalm 67*, *The Zizin Mission*, or *Michael Hawkins*. Will you pray and consider how you and your family might give generously that those who've never heard may hear and come to know Christ as Savior and Lord?

Praying to see His Name declared to all nations!

Pastor Scott

Kid's Listening Sheet (12/10/23)

Title: "God's _____ to Bethlehem"

Bible Passage: Micah _____



Key Words: Circle each word every time you hear it.

Christmas	King	Prophet	City
David	Child	Manger	Cheek
Ruth	Town	Days	Shepherd
Sheep	Brother	Hand	Peace

What are three important things you heard during the sermon?

1.

2.

3.

Draw two pictures that show what you heard today:

1.

2.

A Ruler Will Come From Bethlehem (Micah 5:1-5)

G Y C D L A B O R U P B S
I K L A N C I E N T H E N
V L A U L O R D F O R T H
E M N G P D T Y M R I H S
D U S H E P H E R D S L I
A S D T H E R E F O R E E
Y T P E P H R A T H A H G
S E E R W L I T T L E E E
B R O T H E R S R C L M J
C E P I E R G T O O E R U
I T L M N U I R O M L E D
J U E E A L V I P E A S A
B R H C H E E K S J I T H
F N E J O R N E J U D G E

ANCIENT	BETHLEHEM	BIRTH
BROTHERS	CHEEK	CLANS
COME	DAUGHTER	DAYS
EPHRATHAH	FORTH	GIVE
GIVEN	ISRAEL	JUDAH
JUDGE	LABOR	LAI
LITTLE	LORD	MUSTER
PEOPLE	REST	RETURN
RULER	SHEPHERD	SIEGE
STRIKE	THEN	THEREFORE
TIME	TROOPS	WHEN