

**Those To Serve**

**Sunday, December 22, 2024**

A.M. Prayers

Opening: Bill Cline

Closing: Dwayne Millikin

P.M. Prayers

Opening: Robert Foster

Closing: Randy Harris

Singing: Bobby Smithee

**Wednesday, December 25, 2024**

Singing: Bill Cline

Devotional: Dwayne Millikin

**The Record:**

**Attendance:**

**Sunday, December 15, 2024**

AM 55 PM 32

*[Average for the Year]*

AM [56] PM [35]

**Wednesday, December 18, 2024**

36 *[Average for the Year]* [38]

**Contribution:**

**Sunday, December 15, 2024**

Actual \$ 2,022.00; Budget \$ 2,500.00

*[Year-to-Date]* \$ 119,239.00

*[Average]* \$ 2,384.00

*[+/- Budget]* \$ (478.00)

*[YTD +/- Budget]* \$ (6733.00)

**Elders**

Randy Harris

(870) 251-6723

Johnny Knabe

(501) 345-2627

Dwayne Millikin

(870) 613-3910



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**December 22, 2024**

**Deacon**

Bobby Smithee

(870) 612-2892

**Minister:** Billy Cline

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*Thoughts from Bill:*

*John Introduces Jesus as . . .*

*Jn. 1:1-5, 9-14, 29*

While Matthew and Luke record the birth of Christ, Mark’s gospel begins with the ministry of Jesus, and John’s gospel begins before time begins. In this lesson we want to consider the “introduction” that John gives Christ in his gospel as found in John 1.

John in verses one and two introduces the preexistence of Christ. John writes: “In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God.” This shows that Christ was divine, eternal, and existed before He was born of Mary. The preexistence of Christ and equality with God is also taught by Paul in Colossians 1:17 and Philipians 2:5-8.

*(Continued on page 2)*

**Plan of Salvation**

*Hear*

Mark 12:29; Romans 10:17; Acts 2:22

*Believe*

Hebrews 11:6

*Repent*

Luke 13:3, 5; Acts 2:38

*Confession*

Matthew 10:32, 33

*Baptism*

Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38; 1 Peter 3:21

**Sermons for December 22, 2024**

**A.M.— John Introduces**

**Jesus as . . .**

**P.M.—The Sovereignty of**

**God**

**Scripture: John 1:1-5, 9-14, 29**

**Schedule of Services**

**Sunday Bible Class: 9:00 AM**

**Sunday AM Worship: 10:00**

**Sunday PM Worship: 5:00**

**Wed. Bible Study: 6:00 PM**

**Website: [www.southsidechurchofchrist.info](http://www.southsidechurchofchrist.info)**

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John then introduces us to the preincarnate work of Christ in creation in John 1:3. This verse points out that through or by Him nothing was made that was made. The word "God" in Genesis 1:1 in the Hebrew language "Elohim" is plural and speaks of the three members of the Godhead, God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit and their work in creation. Verse one says that Jesus is the "Word" and as the "Word" Christ spoke the creation into existence (Ps. 33:6). Paul also points out the creative power of Christ in Ephesians 3:9; Colossians 1:16-17; Hebrews 1:2, 11:3.

John introduces Jesus as the life. Jesus is life because by His life and complete obedience He brought the chance of eternal life into the world (1 Jn. 5:11-12). Christ is called the life in John 5:26, 11:25, 14:6.

John also introduced Christ as the light of men (v. 4). Since Christ is divine, He shares the same quality as God. John said that God is light and in Him is no darkness at all (1 Jn. 1:5). Christ is the light, but those living in darkness could not see it (Jn. 1:5). Those who walk in the light cannot live in darkness (Jn. 8:12, 9:5, 12:46).

Finally, John introduces Christ as the Lamb of God (Jn. 1:29). John the Baptist, who served as a forerunner of Jesus, first called Jesus by this title, but it certainly fit Christ. Christ would go to the cross as a lamb to the slaughter and a sheep before its shearers remaining silent (Isa. 53:7). This was the piece of scripture the Ethiopian eunuch was reading when Philip joined him (Acts 8:32-33). Peter would describe Christ as the lamb without spot or blemish (1 Peter 1:19). Christ the Lamb of God was slain according to God's plans and was raised again. The book of Revelation reveals Christ as the

Lamb that was slain who was worthy because He was slain and had redeemed humanity to God by His blood (Rev 5:6, 9).

Now that we have been "introduced" to Jesus, how will we let the things known about Him influence our lives?

### *News and Notes*

**Those We Need to Remember in Prayer:** **Bill Coles** still needs our prayers. **Eunice Mize, Gary Goodman, and E Ann Minyard** are recovering from surgery. Lea Barber's mother, **Nadine McNulty** fell this past week and broke a vertebrae in her back and she also has Covid. She has been placed in hospice care. **Glenda Mitchell** is having stomach problems and had tests run on Friday. **Bobby Smithee** is doing well after his procedure.

**Others We Need to Remember in Prayer:** Bonita Bangs, Victoria Covington, Carol Duncan, Nancy Duncan, Joann Foushee (Chris Ball's mother), Ed Hager, Diana Hudson, Melvin Hudson, Jean Hurte (brain tumors), Bryan Keller (Parkinson's disease), Robbie Kemp, Pat McGough, Lavon Rogers, Noah Rogers, Jay Slayden, and Pat Smith

**Children's Home Shopping List:** Paper Towels

**Romanian Children:** If you are helping with the support of the children of Romania, please give your donation to Tammy Harris.

**Fifth Sunday Potluck:** There will be a potluck next Sunday, December 29th after the morning services.

