

We Have Seen His Star

Dec 17

The Personal Meanings of Christmas

- For The Poor a Salvation Army Basket.
- For The Extremely Rich a Fantastic Array of Gifts
 - Matching Planes for His and Hers.
 - Ermine Robe for \$6,975.
- In My Own Life
 - Beyond The Big Meal and Gifts, the fire building at the Church and the Service.
 - Then The Growing Sense of Beauty and Sentiment.
 - Now The Vast Mystery of the Incarnation.
- In The Gospels

① The Shepherds - Poor, old and ragged on the hills.
- The Song of Angels and a Baby in the Manger.

② The Wise Men - Rich, Intellectual and Distant.
- Hopefully scanning the Sky and waiting.
- Then the Star

Will You See His Star?

(2)

This Was The Sign

- Like The Laughter and Joy of a Girl in Love.
- Like The Psalm Which Announces Spring.

① God is Trying to Lead Us To Bethlehem - The Sign.

- Quiet for some of us -
Guilt and Bankruptcy.
- The Burden of sorrow -
Which drives us back on God.
- The Wonder and Glory of Love or Friendship

The Account of Lew Wallace

- Author of "Ben Hur"
- Story of Christ but never finished.
- Then the Encounter with Col. John Magness.
- Then the Anger and Concern and the
Great Conclusion - Ben Hur

② We Can Miss All This

- We are too dull and lost
- The Woman Making Cookies.

Martin. - Describes us "Miracle on the 35th Floor"

(3)

The Meaning of This Star

① Look Upward - Lift Up Your Eyes

- Our Vision in the National Glacier Park - The Stars
- We Need This Life of The Stars
 - Our Literature and Art - Cathartic Self-Analysis
 - Our Morals - Social Services
 - The Mood of Our World - Nessimism and Failure

② A Home of Faithfulness - Guidance

- Like a ship at sea guided by the stars.
- There are a hundred cries
- We pass from crisis to crisis
- We are tossed about in a separate world.

We Need God's Great Guidance.

③ A Sign of Hope - What is This Star Leading to?

- There is the fulfillment of Man's deepest longings
- There is deliverance for every man.

Her Experience With The Junior Chorus.

Her Father's Testimony of his Daughter.

(4)

They Worshipped Him

- Balthasar - King of France & Power.
- Caspar - Lord of Great Wealth and Riches
- Melchior - Knowledge and Creative Genius.

- ① We have been made to worship, but
so many of us worship what is wrong.
- ② Do we have enough courage and power
to gather up our lives in an offering to
the Christ?
- ③ Can we give up pride and selfishness
and claim the Christ?

They Went Home Another Way

- This is the Miracle of Christmas.

THE MORNING WORSHIP SERVICES

Eight-Thirty and Eleven O'Clock

WE HAVE COME TO WORSHIP HIM

The Chimes

Invocation

* * *

FOR WE HAVE SEEN HIS STAR

Choral Call to Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Choral Response

* * *

Anthem—"The Christmas Story".....Goldsworthy

Sanctuary and Junior Choirs

Silent night, Holy night.

And there were in the same country

Shepherds abiding in the field,

Keeping their watch by night.

And lo! the angel of the Lord came upon them,

and the glory of the Lord shone round about them,

and they were sore afraid.

And the angel said unto them.

Fear not, for behold I bring good tidings of great joy,

which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day, in the City of David

a Saviour, which is Christ, the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you.

Ye shall find the Babe wrapped in swaddling clothes

and lying in a manger.

And suddenly there was in the angel a multitude

of the heav'nly host saying.

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will to men.

Hark! the herald angels sing, glory to the newborn king.

And it came to pass as the angels were gone away from them into

heaven the shepherds said, one to another:

Let us now go, even unto Bethlehem.

and see this thing which is come to pass.

and see the thing which is come to pass,
which the Lord hath made known unto us.

O come all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant.

THEY REJOICED EXCEEDINGLY WITH GREAT JOY

Christian Greetings

Lighting the Candle of Love

Receiving Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Solo— *"Gentle Mary" McFeelers

Jeri Tasker, soprano

** "The Holy Day" ----- Sacco

Clarice Henning, soprano

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

HIS NAME SHALL BE CALLED EMMANUEL

Sermon by Pastor Fredrikson—"We Have Seen His Star"

HE WILL SAVE HIS PEOPLE FROM THEIR SINS

Hymn of Dedication and Decision—"O Come All Ye Faithful"205

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

First Service Only **Second Service Only *Ushers may seat latecomers*

The broadcast of the service this morning over Radio Station KELO is sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Earl Lemonds.

This morning Pastor Fredrikson will greet folks at the side door and Pastor Rowe at the main door.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAM — 7:00 P.M.

Call to Worship

Invocation

Hymn—"Joy To The World"190

Welcome and Fellowship Time

Children's Christmas Program—Part I

Offering

Children's Christmas Program—Part II

Benediction

Hymn—"Silent Night, Holy Night"

Coordinator: Mrs. Maurice Paulsen; **Photography:** Robert Renshaw, Leonard Tripp;

Recording: Maurice Paulsen, Harold Wortman, Claude Hamilton; **Sound:** Harold Renner

THIS WEEK

SUNDAY, 2:00 p.m.—Group IX, Women's Mission Society

4:45 p.m.—Junior High Choir Rehearsal

5:15 p.m.—Youth Supper in Fellowship Hall

6:15-6:50 p.m.—Open House in Children's Division Rooms

6:00 p.m.—Youth Groups

6:00 p.m.—Membership Class

8:45 p.m.—Hi Fi

8:45 p.m.—Afterglow

MONDAY, 7:00 p.m.—Explorers

TUESDAY, 6:00 p.m.—Study Club in Golden Circle Room

WEDNESDAY, 4:30 p.m.—Junior Choir Rehearsal

6:30 p.m.—Fellowship Supper

7:00 p.m.—Senior High Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m.—Prayer Meeting

THURSDAY, Women's Mission Society Groups

Group I—Mrs. Robert Scott, 2400 E. 10th

Group II—Mrs. H. S. Messinger, 2704 Poplar Drive

Group III—Mrs. Jennie Hurd, 2600 W. 28th

Group IV—Church Parlor

Group V—Mrs. J. W. Kroske, 1503 S. 5th

Group VI—Church Parlor

Group VII—Mrs. Lloyd Angle, 2401 S. West

Group VIII—Mrs. Gene Loken, 3209 E. 12th

Group X—Church Parlor

FRIDAY, 2:30 p.m.—Faith at Work Tea

CHURCH STAFF

Ministers:

Dr. Roger L. Fredrikson.....Pastor

Rev. Albert H. Babcock.....Christian

Education

Rev. James E. Rowe.....New Life

Secretaries:

Miss Winifred Jones.....Financial

Miss Margaret Clark.....Pastor's

Assistant

Mrs. Clarence Anderson.....Church

Musicians:

Dr. Lee Bright.....Director

Dr. Maynard Berk.....Organist

Mr. Harold Wortman.....Youth

Miss Lois Harchanko.....Children

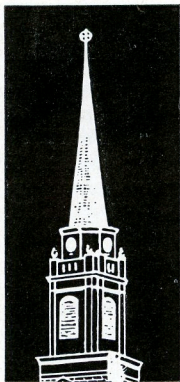
Hostess:

Mrs. Vera Fredrikson

Sextons:

Mr. and Mrs. Elmer Ysbrand

Mr. Lamont Reichelt



FIRST BAPTIST TIMES

ROGER L. FREDRIKSON, D.D., Pastor

"ENGAGED IN THE MINISTRY OF RECONCILIATION"
This church supports the World Mission of American Baptists

VOL. XXVII

Sioux Falls, South Dakota, December 14, 1961

No. 18

THIS SUNDAY

9:45 a.m.—Church School
(Classes for all ages)

8:30 - 11 a.m.—Morning Worship
"We Have Seen His Star"

Dr. Roger L. Fredrikson

7:00 p.m.—Evening Service

Children's Program

(Nursery Care at All Services)

FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

There is a wonderful spirit around our church for which we give thanks. All the preparations and the singing and the attempt to make things beautiful—these are not in vain. Surely we should be able to bring our best to Christ. **It is fitting that in the Morning Service this Sunday there are those who will come to be baptized,** since Christmas should be a time when we pledge our allegiance to Christ. May I remind you that our **Evening Service will begin at 7 p.m.** because of the small children involved.

We are thankful to all those who made last Sunday Evening such a beautiful experience, particularly the choirs and their directors and those who worked so hard on the tableaux.

Just last week a very fine coffee maker was installed in our kitchen. I think you should know about it. It was presented to the church by the **Junior Philathea Class.** The arrangements for purchasing it were made through **Mr. Warren Larson** and **Mr. George Carlstrom** made the installation

as a gift. We appreciate this kind of concern and help. Incidentally, this same class gave a **vacuum cleaner** to the church some weeks ago. We need to remember that there was not only Mary who sat at the feet of our Lord in the Scriptural account, but there was Martha who took care of our Lord's needs in the kitchen. While we are on the subject of giving let me say how grateful we are to the Women's Mission Society for their annual investment in the church program of \$500. They have also been buying some dishes for our kitchen.

Since the announcement of our achievement on our **Venture of Faith** will have been made Wednesday night, let me say that as the **Times** goes to press 582 of our people have pledged **\$111,377.20** to our total budget. There are still 65 people who pledged a year ago who have not yet made their commitment. We expect these commitments will be made. This money has been given for the glory of God and the service of man. I trust it can be used

in such a way that His Kingdom will come among men.

God bless you all.

R.L.F.



FROM BABCOCK'S BRIEFCASE

I know that **you will be thrilled by the Children's Christmas Program** Sunday evening. We think that with both the slides and the tape recordings, we will be able to bring you almost into the Sunday school rooms where you will be able to participate with the children in the celebration of Christ's birthday. It will be a program of real interest to the entire church, as well as to the parents of the children.

You are also invited to an Open House in the church school rooms of the children's division. Teachers will be in the rooms ready to greet you this Sunday before the program from 6:15 to 6:50. You will be able to visit with the teachers for a few minutes and see the actual work of the children. Let your own children show you around as your host or hostess. They will be thrilled.

Remember that your **children are to bring their offering** for the special Christmas project, the Benito Juarez Children's Home in Ciudad Victoria, Mexico, **to the program** and put it in the offering plates there. Be sure that they use the envelope they brought home, or that they get one from the pew to use, so that their offering can be separated from the regular church offering. Of course, if you cannot make the program, children may bring the envelope to the church school on any day. It will be used to help homeless Mexican boys and girls have the essentials of life.

Al Babcock

OUR MINISTRY OF NEW LIFE

Is it not strange that **once a year our hearts become warmed by the story of Christmas?** Even amidst the changing world in which we live, there seems to be a stability in this never-changing story. There is something about the simplicity of a child born into a family which causes us to marvel at the mystery of God in human reality. **Christmas reminds us that the birth of Jesus is not that of just another boy.** Bruce Barton once spoke of this when he said, "Sleepless and bewildered but gloriously proud, the husband of Mary emerged from the stable and made his way to the census taker's booth. For it was the decree of Imperial Rome that had brought them to Bethlehem.

The Angels' song hummed through his heart and his face was radiant with the wonder of the night. But enrollment blanks kept the census taker busy, and all he saw was another peasant standing in line. 'Name?' he demanded. 'Joseph, Carpenter, of Nazareth, of the house of David.' 'Married?' 'Yes.' 'Wife's name?' 'Mary' 'Children?' The Carpenter drew himself up . . . 'One Child, a Son, Jesus, born last night.'

Was there any comment? Did the petty official who wrote for the first time the name that was to be above every name—did he wonder as he wrote? Probably not. It was just one more name on the census roll. Just another boy. What laughter would have rung through Rome if someone had pointed to that name and said that this was the beginning of the end of all empires everywhere. Rome would have laughed and Rome is dead. The influence of the child lives on.

We celebrate His birthday, and the festival of all children everywhere. They, not we, are the really important people on the earth. In cradles, and at the foot of Christmas trees, are the lives that are to overthrow and rebuild all that we have built. Nothing is so powerful or so perfect that it cannot be transformed utterly by the miracle of another girl. Or another boy."

I hope in our life together we sense the presence of this child now grown into manhood and Savior of all.

Jim Rowe

"SOMETHING GOD HAS DONE"

"She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins."

Matthew has given us in his Gospel a beautiful and an amazing story of faith and love between Joseph and Mary. Make no mistake about this. He has eyes only for her. When he is about to marry her she makes an incredible confession to him. She is carrying a child. Now put yourselves in Joseph's shoes. Imagine the shock and shame of it all. He finally decides he will put her away rather than keep her. I am certain this decision was made only after great turmoil of soul. Then God intervened and in effect said, "Keep her for this child is my doing." **Now Joseph believed the unbelievable and had the faith to accept the word of God at face value.** The Christian church has accepted the miraculous birth of our Lord. By faith Christians have believed that this is God's doing. Now make no mistake. There have been many criticisms of this position. Yet Christian people have insisted that God, the majestic Creator of all things, could certainly send His Son into the world in this way. Beyond this is the stupendous assertion that **the initiative for man's redemption begins with God and not with man.** It is to those who have the faith of Joseph, who dare to believe the incredible, that this story takes on meaning.

Two names are given to our Lord in Matthew's Gospel. The first is **Emmanuel—God with us.** What this means, in effect, is that God has not stayed beyond us, out of our reach. He has come into our world. In the words of J. B. Phillips this is a **"visited planet."** In the amazing love of Jesus we have seen God's love. In the power of His healing we have seen God. In His direct forgiveness of men's sins there has been God's Presence. In His power over death we have seen the very glory of God. **Both in who He was and what He**

did we have seen the majesty and the glory of God. As the poet has said,

"I know not how that Bethlehem's babe
Could in the Godhead be.

I only know that manger child
Has brought God's life to me.

Secondly, **His name is Jesus for He shall save his people from their sins.** Now, of course, there is no need for a Saviour unless man knows he is a sinner. So our question is, "De we really need a saviour?" Interestingly, one of the most penetrating statements on the fact of modern sin is given by a French existentialist in his novel **"The Fall."** **Albert Camus** does not claim to be a believer and yet the central theme of his book is sin. The main character of the Fall is Jean Baptiste, an eminent lawyer who is willing to defend the poor and is eloquent in the cause of justice. He is well-adjusted, witty and urbane yet he discovers sin in a series of incidents. There is a traffic jam and the guilty driver strikes him and a spectator calls him a dope. So over and over again he rehearses what he would do to get even. Camus calls this the **violence of self.**

Then one of his love affairs sours. He had thought he was very sophisticated in these affairs until one of the women turned on him. He cannot bear rejection so he lays siege to her heart in a way that has no hear. Camus calls this the **vanity of self.**

Finally he sees a woman standing on a bridge late at night. Then there is an anguished cry and a thud in the river. Had he jumped at once he could have saved her but he hesitated and lost her. **This is the cowardice of self.** Camus says that **"sin is the pride of the creature. We have little sun lamps and we are posing as the sun."** Yet the

novel ends in a kind of despair for the author says, "There is no deliverance."

Ah, but this is not the Gospel. **What we celebrate at Christmas is that God has acted by sending us a Saviour who will save us from our sins.** Does anyone here really believe that progress or wealth or status can save him? This is no "do-it-yourself" project. **The magnificent power of the Gospel is "not that we loved God but He loved us and sent His Son to be the expiation for our sins, and not for us only but also for the sins of the whole world."**

—An Abstract of the Sermon preached by Pastor Fredrikson on December 10, 1961



WITHIN THE FAMILY

by Margaret Clark

In all that we did together Sunday there seemed to be that air of expectancy that is so much a part of Christmas. In the simple telling of the Christmas Story through the spoken word and through the music I was struck once again by the amazing fact that God meets us where we are in order that we may fulfill His dreams for us. . . . The rosebud which graced the piano on Sunday was in honor of **John Perry**, the son of **Mr. and Mrs. Perry Pollard**. . . . A fine group of people came forward on Sunday in response to the invitation. **Donna Day**, **Scott Gerloff**, **Mike Cindrich** and **Ricki Cindrich** came indicating their desire to accept Christ and follow Him in baptism. **Dick Churchwell** came to become a part of our fellowship by transfer of letter from the First Baptist Church of Alliance, Nebraska; and **Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Kowalski** came presenting

themselves for membership in our church. Leonard is coming by transfer of letter from the First Baptist Church of Detroit, Michigan and Jean comes as an Associate from the First Christian Reformed Church of Detroit. We rejoice with all of these friends in the decisions they have made. . . . The **Serviceman of the Week is S/Sgt. James F. Fennig**, AF 17331546, Box 1214, 3922nd CS GP, APO 30, New York. Won't you breathe a prayer for him this week and drop him a line letting him know that he is remembered at home? . . . By the time this reaches you our **Anniversary Celebration** will be a thing of memory. As this is being written on Monday there is much activity in preparation for this event. We are happy that Dr. Hintz will be here to share it with us.

. . . So we move one step closer to Christmas. As we scurry about making plans for family get-togethers, and all the excitement of our "modern" Christmas, I would hope we might find time to look up at the stars and share in the wonder of Christ's coming. Perhaps we shall even be able to hear the song of the angels—if we but listen. . . . See you Sunday?



MINISTRY OF REMEMBRANCE

"I am the Resurrection and the life; he who believeth in me, though he die, yet shall he live."

In the fellowship of the Risen Christ we extend our hand of understanding to **Mrs. Elmer Olsen** in the death of her father.



LAST SUNDAY

Church School	630
Morning Worship	691
Evening Worship	455
Our Share in Christ's Work....	\$2,634.55