

The Wonder of All Wonders

God travels wonderful ways with human beings, but he does not comply with the views and opinions of people. God does not go the way that people want to prescribe for him; rather, his way is beyond all comprehension, free and self-determined beyond all proof.

Where reason is indignant, where our nature rebels, where our piety anxiously keeps us away: that is precisely where God loves to be. There he confounds the reason of the reasonable; there he aggravates our nature, our piety—that is where he wants to be, and no one can keep him from it. Only the humble believe him and rejoice that God is so free and so marvelous that he does wonders where people despair, that he takes what is little and lowly and makes it marvelous. And that is the wonder of all wonders, that God loves the lowly.... God is not ashamed of the lowliness of human beings. God marches right in. He chooses people as his instruments and performs his wonders where one would least expect them. God is near to lowliness; he loves the lost, the neglected, the unseemly, the excluded, the weak and broken.

That ... is the unrecognized mystery of this world: Jesus Christ. That this Jesus of Nazareth, the carpenter, was himself the Lord of glory: that was the mystery of God. It was a mystery because God became poor, low, lowly, and weak out of love for humankind, because God became a human being like us, so that we would become divine, and because he came to us so that we would come to him. God as the one who becomes low for our sakes, *God in Jesus of Nazareth—that is the secret, hidden wisdom ...* that “no eye has seen nor ear heard nor the human heart conceived” (1 Cor. 2:9).... That is the *depth of the Deity*, whom we worship as *mystery* and comprehend as *mystery*.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

None of the rulers of this age understood this; for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory. But, as it is written,

“What no eye has seen, nor ear heard,
nor the human heart conceived,
what God has prepared for those who love him”—

these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God.

1 Corinthians 2:8–10

For His Glory
Pastor Dillon Evans

Welcome To Gloucester Point Baptist Church



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Phone: (804) 642-2555

Pastor Dillon Evans
Margaret Sarratori
Connie Stewart
Dr. Paul R. Garber
Members

Pastor
Director of Music
CYM Coordinator
Pastor Emeritus
Ministers

We thank God you are here and hope you get to know Jesus by receiving His love and His church's ministries. Please fill out a "Welcome or C.A.R.E. Card" & place it in the offering plate.

December 10, **WORSHIP** 11:00 am

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP * 77 v. 1 & 2 "Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS David Crummett, Deacon
MINISTRIES/PRAYER Pastor Dillon Evans
LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH David Crummett, Deacon

ANTHEM "The Advent Wreath Carol" by
Alan Mitchell and Anne A. Davis

CHILDREN'S SERMON Pastor Dillon Evans

HYMN OF OFFERING * 108 v. 1 & 3 "How Great Our Joy"
PARALLEL SCRIPTURE: Luke 6:20-23 Victoria Dawson
OFFERING/PRAYER David Crummett, Deacon

OFFERING
DOXOLOGY * Hymn 253

SCRIPTURE: Acts 21-26 Pastor Dillon Evans
MESSAGE: "Trials for the Innocent"

HYMN OF INVITATION * 105 "Child in a Manger"
(tune is Morning Has Broken)

CLOSING PRAYER Pastor Dillon Evans
CLOSING CHORUS * 111 "Sing We Now of Christmas"

POSTLUDE Please take this time to greet one another

*Congregation Stands

"As you go, make disciples..." Matthew 28:19
Pray, call, visit, minister, witness with members and others.

CLOSING CHORUS *
"Sing We Now of Christmas"

Sing we Noel,
the King is born, Noel!
Sing we now of Christmas,
Sing we now Noel!

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SERMON NOTES