

The Canton Christian

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A Quiet Christmas

By Michael Grigsby

"He says, 'Be still and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations. I will be exalted in the earth.'" Psalm 46:10 NIV

Three days until Christmas, and, although things should be wrapping up and the preparation should be coming to an end, I'm sure it's not. Our culture has mastered the art of procrastination, even when it comes to the Christmas season!

Holiday shopping is chaotic – and so is house decorating, Christmas cooking... And we usually don't give up until everything is perfect, even if that's not until just hours before December 25.

The time period between Thanksgiving and Christmas feels shorter and shorter each year, as presents get bigger, lights get brighter, and the pressure to get it right becomes all the more relentless. And before you can genuinely and peacefully enjoy the holiday and all the effort that was put into the presents, feast, and decorations, it's over. The wrapping paper is scattered across the living room floor, and people have moved past the Christmas cheer and are already looking towards preparing for the new year.

Although there's not much we can do to slow down the pace of the season, we don't have to rush it either. We can intentionally set time aside to appreciate the beauty and meaning of the season and to remember what it is that we are celebrating. Okay, but do we really need to do this *quietly*?

I am by no means suggesting a somber or dull Christmas! Christmas is meant to be celebrated! It should be full of love, laughter, and joy, but I think there is an inner quietness and peace that should be explored as well.

With quietness comes stillness. With stillness comes the opportunity to focus, ponder, and meditate on what this holiday season truly represents. I find it interesting that in the time we should be closest to God, thanking Him for what He did all those

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*Christmas Cantata to be presented by
the Canton Christian Church Choir*




The Choir will be presenting Russell Mauldin's 2025 Christmas Cantata, *A Child is Born . . . ALL IS WELL*, Saturday evening, December 20th at 7:00 p.m. and the following Sunday morning at 10:25 a.m.

The musical will take you back to the moment that everything changed . . . the moment that brought hope, peace, joy and love into our world.

The cantata will feature selections and arrangements from The Gettys', Michael W. Smith, Phil Wickham, Lanny Wolfe, Russell Mauldin and Sue C. Smith.

You are invited to a joyous celebration of praise and worship.

December 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 Mark Michels Robin Smith	3 Bradley Murray	4 Linda McGahen	5 Susan Kendrick	6 Becky Garriott
7 Jesse Follis Josie Follis	8 James Blood Cashion Murray Charlie Murray	9	10	11	12 Jerry Brickman	13 Larry Jones Janice Smith
14 Mike Canada Jack Hankins	15 Larry Byers Kurt Murray	16 Carol Childs	17	18	19 Darla Lacy	20 Chrissy Eichelberger Lisa Russell
21 Jordon Holsapple Steve & Sherrie Holsapple	22 Jim Chaloupek Levi Haigler Brenda Palacios Luke Swartwood	23	24 Jennifer Reichert	25 CHRISTMAS 	26 Sarah Pippins	27
28 James Blood Todd Hoffman	29 Chase Canada Aaron Skinner Jeremy Parker	30	31 Nicholas Hoffman			
2nd Tuesday CWF Meetings 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. **** Board Meeting 7:00 p.m.	ADULT BIBLE STUDY Monday 6-7:00 p.m.	CHOIR PRACTICE Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. 	<i>Eric Swartwood - December</i> ?? - January ?? - February 	NOTE: Please notify us if a name needs to be removed or added. Contact Toni Goforth at: tonigo4th@hotmail.com or you may text or call 580-822-5109.		

Prayer is the Way

Steve Driskill
Blake Boulard
Nicole Bowman
Keith Long
Emma Burich
Marty Seifried
Dwight Lunsford
Jim Rose
Wes Robinson
Steve Bond
David Lupo
Kylie Wilson
Shirley Moore
Steve Reist
Arta Waltman
Janelle Wile
Kraig Birchfield
Tim Kirk
Amy Warner
Kaylynn Philpot

Jason Smith
Ashley Crews
Levi Hunt
Bob Ogle
Jeff Koos
Aubrey Cheney
Barbara Mason
Connie Woods
Tom Towns
Rhett Haigler
Mary Ferguson
Josephine Gonzalez
Donita Murray
Dave Swindt
Dale Schumacher
Vicki Reavis
Pete Petree
Melvin Warner
James Walters
James Jones Sr.

Connie Johnson
Cheryl Flynn
Tristan Hladik
Teller Grey
Gary McKee
Ron Waltman
Randy Baker
Cara Schultz
Travis Fortune
Wilder Wray

*Family of Debbie Gonzalez
Family of Shirley Denton
Family of Nicholas Wathier
Family of Edna Day
Family of Don Pinkerton*

Note: To call out a prayer need during the week, contact Laberta at 580-886-5225.

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A Quiet Christmas

years ago by sending His son to this earth, we are the most stressed and busy.

When our minds are clouded with responsibilities and checklists, we find ourselves far from God. To draw near to Him, we must continually prioritize Him – especially in our busy seasons, because that's when it is easy to lose sight of Him. *1 Samuel 12:16, "Now then, stand still and see this great thing that the Lord is about to do before your eyes!"*

Later in the chapter, God performs a great miracle for all of the people of Israel despite their disobedience and sinfulness. For the Israelites to see and recognize the miracle, Samuel had to tell them to stand still, be quiet, and focus on what God was doing.

The point is this: You could miss it. Be quiet so that you can hear the Lord speak and do. Thank Him for what He has done, and participate in the joy and peace that He is so eager to give us. God had a plan in mind when He created the world, and He knew it would involve the most significant sacrifice; yet, He did it anyway. He sent His son, Jesus, to be born in a manger, mocked throughout His life, and, ultimately, die on the cross for every one of us. How amazing and good and gracious is He!

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

His kingdom will never end.
(Luke 1:33 NIV)

A Humble Birth

She looks into the face of the baby. Her son. Her Lord. His Majesty. At this point in history, the human being who best understands who God is and what he is doing is a teenage girl in a smelly stable. She can't take her eyes off him. Somehow Mary knows she is holding God. So this is he. She remembers the words of the angel. "His kingdom will never end."

He looks like anything but a king. His face is prunish and red. His cry, though strong and healthy, is still the helpless and piercing cry of a baby. And he is absolutely dependent upon Mary for his well-being.

Majesty in the midst of the mundane. Holiness in the filth of sheep manure and sweat. God entering the world on the floor of a stable, through the womb of a teenage, and in the presence of a carpenter.

A birth that couldn't be more humble. A birth that changed the world—including mine and yours. Can we ever thank him enough?

ONE MORE THOUGHT

As we open gifts, gather around the dinner table, and enjoy time with family, let's remember the real reason we celebrate this day. A birth in a stable. A king in the form of a baby. God among us. Joy to the world!

—Max Lucado

TEST YOUR BIBLE KNOWLEDGE

910. The descent of Joseph, the husband of Mary the mother of Jesus, was from Jacob through

[Matthew 1:1-3]

- a Reuben
- b Judas
- c Joseph
- d Dan

911. In the gospel according to Matthew, the number of generations between Abraham (the father of Isaac) and Jesus was

[Matthew 1:2-16]

- a 17
- b 28
- c 39
- d 42

912. When Joseph learned that his espoused, Mary, was with child, his first inclination (before an angel of the Lord visited him in a dream) was to

[Matthew 1:18-20]

- a act as if he were the father-to-be
- b denounce her to the priests
- c put her away without public exposure
- d send her abroad

913. The angel of the Lord instructed Joseph to call Mary's son Jesus, for He was to

[Matthew 1:21]

- a restore Jerusalem
- b transmit messages from the Lord
- c save His people from their sins
- d preach love, not hate

914. Jesus was born in

[Matthew 2:1]

- a Bethlehem of Judaea
- b Bethlehem of Zebulun
- c Nazareth
- d Jerusalem

915. The wise men, because they saw in the East the star of Him who had been born King of the Jews, came to

[Matthew 2:1-2]

- a Jerusalem
- b Bethlehem
- c Nazareth
- d Capernaum

916. The source of Herod's information as to the town where the Christ was to be born was

[Matthew 2:1-8; Micah 5:2]

- a the wise men
- b his security police
- c Micah
- d Joseph

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p	911.
a	910.
a	914.
a	915.
c	916.