

## He Grew Up

By Adam Faughn

Our world is in the hurry and bustle of the final days and hours before Christmas. Presents are being bought and wrapped, baking is being done, traveling is going on, and all sorts of other late-minute things are being completed so the holiday can be enjoyed by as many as possible.

In the midst of all that preparation, many are also focusing on the birth of Jesus Christ. Certainly, we do not know the date on the calendar on which Jesus was born, but so many in our world are thinking about that event this time of year that it is to our advantage to speak even more openly and boldly about our faith. There is, in some ways, a clearer pathway to speak to people about Jesus when they are thinking about His birth during this time.

What is difficult to get across to people, though, is that the baby in the manger grew up. Then, when that same baby was a man, He demanded so much of people and said things that are not always popular in our world. He told us that we have to guard our heart, or we are guilty of the most heinous of sins (see Matthew 5:23; 5:28; 5:44). He told us that families would be torn apart for following Him (Matthew 10:34-37). He made it clear that there is only one way to heaven (Matthew 7:13-14), and that only following Him would be that way (John 14:6).

Ultimately, Jesus gave His life on the cross, but also demanded that we be willing to take up a cross each day, that we live in order to follow Him (Luke 9:23). Part of the life and teachings of Jesus is simply not what people want to hear, but we dare not shy away from the entirety of Who Jesus was (and is), and what He demands of people if they would be counted faithful and live eternally with Him in heaven.

While so many are thinking about the baby Jesus in the manger, may we have the boldness to take this opportunity to boldly, yet lovingly, remind people that He grew up and that He is to be the Lord of all our lives. But we must also take every opportunity to show and remind people that following Him as Lord is not drudgery, but joy.



That meets at 701 South Wilbur, Sayre, PA 18840

(570) 886-1838

Arthur Barry, Evangelist- (607) 280-1732

December 6, 2020

### WELCOME!

#### Sunday

Bible Class- 9:30 a.m.

Worship- 10:30 a.m.

#### Wednesday

Bible Study-6:30 p.m.

---

**All the churches of Christ greet you.**

Romans 16:16

---

#### Today's Sermon: *The Anointing*

Sermons are recorded and are available for listening on the church website.

Bulletins are archived on the website.

**valleycitieschurchofchrist.org**

Find us on Facebook:

**[www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc](https://www.facebook.com/valleycitiescoc)**

**Headphones are available for the hearing impaired.**

**Scripture Reading: 1 John 2:15-27**

## ANNOUNCEMENTS / UPCOMING EVENTS...

- **Sunday Morning Bible Class:** We are studying through the Book of Acts.
- **Wednesday Evening Bible Class: December 9<sup>th</sup>- We will begin our study of Zechariah.**
- **Sojourners: Mike and Nadine Huddleston, Larry and Kay Little and two other couples** hope to be here the last week in June and the first two weeks in July.



### NEWS

- **We had a short meeting last week following worship in which we discussed selling the church van and planned our Wednesday evening carol singing event on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.**
- **We have invited members of nearby churches of Christ to come sing Christmas songs with us on the front porch at 7pm, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. There will be hot chocolate and cookies too! There is a flyer which will be posted in the foyer.**
- **Doug and Darlene** have arrived safely in Newberry, FL.
- **Ted and Jennifer** will be following our worship service at home until they are able to get a Covid vaccination.
- **Arthur** will be preaching this morning.

## PRAYERS

- Gail Westerhold has asked us to pray for her cousin's wife, **Linda Yale**, who is in Packer Hospital being treated for cancer. She is in a lot of pain.
- Gail also asked us to pray for her neighbor, **Cliff Scalf** who is in the hospital in Wilkes-Barre with Covid 19.
- **Pray for Paul's sister Linda** as she has cancer and is in hospice care. Pray for comfort and peace for Linda and for her family.
- **Pray for Dawn's sister Alice** who is having radiation treatments for cancer while recovering from Covid.
- Pray for **G.K. Pennington** and his wife Jo as they deal with his aggressive esophageal cancer.
- Please pray for **Lori Kashorek** from the church in Plattsburg where her husband Doug preaches. Lori is in hospice care. Pray for peace and comfort.
- **Jackie** is feeling a bit better on her new arthritis medicine. Dara will be helping her out now that Darlene and Doug have traveled to FL until February.

If you have any PRAYERS or NEWS that you would like included in the bulletin, please contact Sandy at [barncat7237@gmail.com](mailto:barncat7237@gmail.com) or text or call (607) 261-0911.