Christmas Eve Service

Mike Colaw, 2023

Revelation 21 and Luke 2

Introduction:

I hold before you thousands of next steps cards from our church. I have read all of them. Our team has prayed over all of them. We know your pain. We see you as our family and we deeply want every hurt made whole too. How does this happen?

Lectio:

Revelation 21 mixed with Luke 2

Our past: Baby Jesus

And in the same region there were shepherds out in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And an angel of the Lord appeared to them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were filled with great fear. And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people.” (Luke 2:8-10)

Our future: King Jesus

And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man.” (Rev 21:2-3a)

Our Past: Baby Jesus

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. (Luke 2:11)

Our Future: King Jesus

He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. (Rev 21:3b)

Our Destiny: Rev. 21:4

He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.

Medatatio:

What can we learn from baby Jesus and King Jesus?

The Bible teaches that our greatest problems are first solved relationally.

God indwelling and dwelling with man. Baby Jesus in our hearts to King Jesus over all.

It is True Love truly making loving people.

Can you imagine what will happen when Love assumes the role as King of everything?

Every human cell, every relationship, every law of nature moving from dissonance to harmony. Every appetite, every longing for beauty, every purpose finding its charitable perfect fit. The Bible says it all begins with a relationship. Baby Jesus into your heart to King Jesus over the universe.

God makes relationships a big deal. We are going to make them a big deal too.

I want to invite you into a relational journey with us.

We will cover two relational themes through the Spring.

Prayer: Our relationship with God.

Friendships: Our relationships with others.

I wrote a book to help begin this journey. It is internally published, so it won’t be perfect, but it is personally written to you, our Trinity Family.

Actio:

If God believes our greatest problem is relational and the way we find life to the full is first relational, would you consider going on a relational journey with us?

Two things you can do:

Commit to make the church family a central priority between now and Easter. Join us.

Read our love letter to you.

Pray:

Father, our origin in the Garden of Eden, Jesus Incarnate and our final destiny with King Jesus reveal that you believe our greatest problem is solved relationally. Let us not be a people who only know about you, but a people in loving relationship with you and able to be in loving relationship with the people you love too.