



DECEMBER 8, 2011

ADVENT SERIES: A DISCIPLE'S CHRISTMAS
The Praying and Praising Disciple

As we enter the third week of Advent this Sunday, we will continue our sermon series of "A Disciple's Christmas." As part of our messages we have been asking ourselves, "How does a disciple or follower of Christ prepare for Christmas?"

This past Sunday, in a message titled "Confused and Contemplative," Pastor Sam Hamstra explained that the cause of our confusion is the certitude of our God, and a result of His promises. "Our future as God's children is sure," Pastor Hamstra said. "We are favored—yet it is that certitude that causes confusion, because our circumstances do not always seem to align." Yet Pastor Hamstra challenged us to make a commitment to walk into our future while confused and contemplative. We must live into that future with obedience.

This Sunday Pastor Hamstra will preach on "The Praying and Praising Disciple" from Luke 1:46-56. Each Sunday Living Hope Church gathers in the Grand Lobby of the Ozinga Chapel on the campus of Trinity Christian College at 10 a.m. Join us!

ANGEL TREE GIFTS DUE THIS SUNDAY
Please Bring Your Gifts Already Wrapped

Living Hope has partnered with Prison Fellowship's [Angel Tree](#) program this Christmas—the purpose of which is to connect parents in prison with their children through the delivery of gifts for the children. This past Sunday all of our paper angels (which represent children and their gift needs) were taken—thank you! **It**

is ideal that you return the wrapped gifts this Sunday so the missional community can continue to organize the process of delivering the gifts. (If necessary, final gifts can be brought to church on Sunday, December 18.) **Please remember to attach the top portion of the paper angel to the gift.** If you have any questions, email [Pastor Chris Cano](#).





JOIN US FOR OUR CHRISTMAS SERVICE
We Will Gather on Thursday, December 22

With Christmas Day landing on Sunday, Living Hope Church will gather as a community to celebrate Christmas on Thursday, December 22. We will celebrate Christmas by participating in the traditional, yet inspirational "Lessons and Carols" service. This service provides an opportunity for participation by many people, the reading of the main Scripture passages dealing with the birth of Christ, and the singing of our favorite Christmas carols. Plus, there will be a solo rendition of "O Holy Night." The service will take place in the sanctuary of the Hilltop Bible Church and begin at 7 p.m. Hilltop is located at 14036 Long Avenue in Crestwood, IL.

PRAYER REQUESTS PAGE UPDATED WITH SUBMITTED REQUESTS
Submit Yours Via Welcome Card or Through the Website

Each Sunday those present for worship have the opportunity to submit prayer requests. The requests are prayed over by the pastors, but the requests are also posted to the member-only section of the Living Hope website, allowing others to join in prayer for the community. Stop by the [Prayer Requests page](#) to see this week's requests. And, if you have a prayer request, please drop the new Welcome Card in the offering plate on Sunday or use the convenient [website form](#) to submit one. The Prayer Requests page requires a login in order to access; if you have not yet registered an account on the Living Hope website, you may do so [here](#). If you have problems registering for an account, please contact [Ann Payne](#) and she can create an account for you.

LIVING HOPE CALENDAR

Sunday, December 11: [The Praying and Praising Disciple](#)

Sunday, December 18: [Children's Christmas Program](#)

Thursday, December 22: [Christmas Candlelight Service](#)

Sunday, December 25: No Sunday Service

Sunday, January 1: [New Year's Day Service](#)