



# Christmas Questions

Advent 2021



8:30am Service  
Sunday, Jan 2, 2022

Rev. Dave Steane preaching  
[John 1:10-18 \(ESV\)](#)

**Welcome and Call to Worship** Rachel Poysky

**Songs of Praise** *Here for You*  
*All Creatures of Our God and King*

**Prayer of Confession and Assurance** Rachel Poysky

**Song of Response** *Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus*

**Moment of Prayer** Rachel Poysky

**Song of Preparation** *Promises*

**Message** **Christmas Questions: How Does Jesus Make God Known?** Dave Steane  
[John 1:10-18 \(ESV\)](#)

**Song of Response** *Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

**Opportunity to Give and Benediction** Dave Steane

Musicians in this service:

Asher Pudlo, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Chris Parrott, guitar;  
Nani Nicole & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders



## Sunday Worship Playlist

[Click here to listen.](#)

## Give Online

[give.mdpc.org](http://give.mdpc.org)

### Remember Our Mission Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

Each week, we pray for three of **MDPC's** local and global mission partners. During these difficult days, our partners truly covet your prayers! Visit [partners.mdpc.org](http://partners.mdpc.org) to find this week's (three) prayer recipients.

# Christmas Questions

Advent 2021

9:45am Service  
Sunday, Jan 2, 2022

Rev. Dave Steane preaching  
[John 1:10-18 \(ESV\)](#)

<b>Welcome and Call to Worship</b>		Meliza Gómez
<b>Song of Praise</b>	<i>Speak the Name / Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus</i>	
<b>Moment of Confession and Assurance</b>		Rachel Poysky
<b>Songs of Preparation</b>	<i>Won't Stop Now Here for You</i>	
<b>Message</b>	<b>Christmas Questions: How Does Jesus Make God Known?</b>	Dave Steane <a href="#">John 1:10-18 (ESV)</a>
<b>Song of Response</b>	<i>Promises</i>	
<b>Moment of Prayer</b>		Rachel Poysky
<b>Opportunity to Give and Benediction</b>		Dave Steane

Musicians in this service:

Asher Pudlo, drums; Daniel Martinez, keys; Uvaldo Callejas, bass; Chris Parrott, guitar;  
Nani Nicole & Meliza Gómez, worship leaders



## Sunday Worship Playlist

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# Christmas Questions

Advent 2021

11:15am Service  
Sunday, Jan 2, 2022

Rev. Dave Steane preaching  
[John 1:10-18 \(ESV\)](#)

<b>Prelude</b>	<i>Once in Royal David's City Away in the Manger</i>	arr. Robert Hobby (b.1962) arr. Todd Billingsley (b.1972)
<b>Welcome and Call to Worship</b>		Dan Aikins
<b>Choral Introit</b>	<i>Rise Up, O Men of God</i>	Kenneth Jennings (1925-2015)
<b>*Hymn of Praise</b>	<i>God of Grace and God of Glory</i>	#420; Vs. 1, 2, 4   CWM RHONDDA
<b>*Prayer of Confession and Assurance</b>		Dan Aikins
<b>*Affirmation of Faith</b>	from the Apostles' Creed	
<b>*Congregational Response</b>	<i>The Gloria Patri</i>	Hymn #579
<b>Anthem</b>	<i>Thou Art Holy</i>	Craig Courtney (b.1948)
<b>Pastoral Prayer</b>		Dan Aikins
<b>Anthem of Preparation</b>	<i>The Work of Christmas</i>	Dan Forrest (b.1978)
<b>Message</b>	<b>Christmas Questions: How Does Jesus Make God Known?</b>	Dave Steane <a href="#">John 1:10-18 (ESV)</a>
<b>*Hymn of Response</b>	<i>How Great Thou Art</i>	#467; Vs. 1, 3   O STORE GUD
<b>Opportunity to Give and Benediction</b>		Dave Steane
<b>Postlude</b>	<i>We Three Kings</i>	arr. John David Peterson (b.1950)

Musicians in this service:  
Charles Hausmann, conductor; Meredith Vajdos, piano; Kathryn White, organ/piano

## MDPC Partners on the Front Lines of Ministry

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**Give Online**  
[give.mdpc.org](http://give.mdpc.org)

Sunday, Jan 2, 2022

# MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS

## BIRTHS AND DEATHS

Connie Gullickson passed away December 23, 2021.

## GIVING

Weekly financial updates will be printed in the bulletin after the 2022 budget is approved by Session in late January. Online giving is available at [give.mdpc.org](http://give.mdpc.org).



**Sundays, Jan 9-30**

Research shows certain marriage prep programs to be particularly effective at preventing divorce and increasing marital satisfaction. Learn more at [mlp.mdpc.org](http://mlp.mdpc.org). Engaged couples and those married up to 3 years are encouraged to join us!



**Tuesday Evenings starting Jan 11**

Do you have questions about the Bible and theology? Have you ever considered attending seminary? Do you love learning? If you answered "yes" to any of those questions, we have something unique for you! Learn more at [institute.mdpc.org](http://institute.mdpc.org).



**Thursdays, Jan 13-Mar 3 • 4:30-6:00pm**

Have you been grieving the loss of a loved one? Do you wonder where God is in your pain and if you will ever feel joy again? If so, you are not alone. Learn more about our 8-week grief recovery program at [grief.mdpc.org](http://grief.mdpc.org).



**Sat, Jan 29 • 9:00-11:30am**

Invest a couple/few hours on a Saturday morning into the lifelong relationship with your kids! A free light breakfast is included in the offerings. Learn more at [dadpal.mdpc.org](http://dadpal.mdpc.org).



**Fri-Sun, Feb 18-20 • Willis, Texas**

Enjoy fellowship and relaxation at the luxurious Historic Hill House, just a short drive from Houston! Come for connection, gourmet food, and a chance to rest in the presence of God, with others. Details at [getaway.mdpc.org](http://getaway.mdpc.org).



**Register Now for Spring Recreation Classes!**

Kids classes include Basketball, Chess, Tumbling & Gymnastics, Abakadoodle Art, Woodworking, Piano, Soccer, Theater, and Dance. Adults can enjoy Art, Piano, and two kinds of Yoga! Learn more and sign up at [reach.mdpc.org](http://reach.mdpc.org).



**Sundays, Jan 9-Mar 6 • 5:00-6:30pm**

Make this the year you get out of debt, build security, learn to manage your money, and determine your financial future! Learn more and sign up at [fpu.mdpc.org](http://fpu.mdpc.org).



Are you looking for a way to help? To make a positive impact on the community, and others' lives? There is plenty of need in Houston! Visit [action.mdpc.org](http://action.mdpc.org) for ways to get involved today.



Need a soft place to land? Unsure of where to go next? Learn more about our short-term counseling ministry by emailing MDPc counselor-in-residence Amanda Grace Caldwell, or visit [counseling.mdpc.org](http://counseling.mdpc.org).



**Mon-Thu Lunch • Sun Mornings • MDPc Fellowship Hall**

MDPC Café offers an extensive menu of fresh-made lunch items, plus a pantry of fresh-frozen soups, casseroles, and entrées to simply your evening! See the menu and hours at [cafe.mdpc.org](http://cafe.mdpc.org).



**Sat & Sun, Feb 26 & 27 • Registration opens Jan 9**

Make a comeback! Church in the City is the annual Sunday when MDPc leaves the pews to serve our city. Save the dates and stay tuned to [citc.mdpc.org](http://citc.mdpc.org) for more details.



**[John 1:10-18 \(ESV\)](#) • How Does Jesus Make God Known?**

On this first Sunday of the new year, we conclude our Advent and Christmas sermon series on the questions surrounding Christmas. During the past few Sundays, we’ve considered questions like: *Why did the angels sing? Why Bethlehem? Why is Jesus called the Prince of Peace?*

Today we conclude the series by considering this question: *Why and How Does Jesus Make God Known?* At the core of this question is the profound theological truth and mystery of the Incarnation. Simply put, the Incarnation affirms that God became a human being in the person of Jesus Christ. Therefore, if we want to know Who and What God is like, we find the answers in Jesus.

The first chapter of John’s gospel has a beautiful and eloquent description of the Incarnation. John 1:14 sums it up: *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”*

1. In John 1:10, we find a statement about Jesus’ role in creation: “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him…” Take a few moments to reflect on the meaning of this. In what ways does this shape your view of Jesus?
2. In John 1:11-12, we see that people reacted differently to the coming of Jesus. Some did not receive Him while others did. To those who did receive Him, they were given the right to become children of God. Why do you think some people reject Jesus? What does it mean to you to be a child of God? How have you experienced this?
3. Again, the central verse in this passage is John 1:14: *“And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen His glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.”* One of the names and titles of Jesus is “The Word.” This means that Jesus is God’s spoken word and when Jesus speaks, it is the same as hearing God’s voice. How is your view of God shaped by the words of Jesus? Is there anything that Jesus said that challenges your view of God?
4. Two words are featured in this passage that reveal the nature and character of God. The first is *grace*. We see *grace* in verse 14 and in verses 16-17. A good definition of *grace* is “unmerited favor.” In other words, it is receiving something without earning or buying it. Grace must be given in order for it to be received. Grace is a free gift, but when received and understood, carries a weighty response. What has been your experience with God’s grace? In what ways is grace a mystery?
5. The second word that is featured is *truth*. We see *truth* in verse 14 and verse 17. Note that God’s *grace* and *truth* came **through** Jesus Christ. A good definition of *truth* is “a disclosure, an unveiling, a revealing, etc.” In other words, it is showing how things really are. This type of *truth* is objective and is not influenced by opinion or culture. In what ways have you found God’s truth to be impactful in your life? Are there areas where you struggle with it? Reflect on how you can better understand God’s truth in your life.
6. What is one specific point of application from this text you can implement in your life starting today?