

*Devotional for Each Day of the Week*

**Sunday:** “Be exalted, O God, above the heavens; let Your glory be above all the earth.”—Psalm 57:5. **Praise God for His glory;** and **pray** that He would be glorified in our worship. **Pray** for Brian Chitiyo and his family, grieving over the death of his aunt in South Africa.

**Monday:** “But above all these things, put on love, which is the bond of perfection.”—Colossians 3:14. **Pray** that love would characterize our relationship with each other. **Pray** for Pastor H.P. McCracken and the Orlando (Fla.) Reformed Presbyterian Church.

**Tuesday:** “And let the peace of God rule in your hearts.”—Colossians 3:15a. **Pray** that God’s peace would rule you and your family. **Pray** that the church would have rest from her enemies, especially Islam. **Pray** for Second Reformed Presbyterian Church, Indianapolis, Indiana, including Pastor James Faris; **pray** for the selection of an additional pastor.

**Wednesday:** “To which also you were called in one body.”—Colossians 3:15b. **Pray** that we as a fellowship would have God’s peace with each another. **Pray** for Southfield (Mich.) Reformed Presbyterian Church, and Pastor Adam Kuehner; **pray** for success in the outreach efforts in Southfield and also in Pontiac.

**Thursday:** “And be thankful.”—Colossians 3:15c. **Pray** that you and your friends would be able to be thankful. **Pray** that the Reformed Presbyterian congregations in Japan would be strengthened, and that the Lord would raise up more elders for them.

**Friday:** “Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom.”—Colossians 3:16a. **Pray** that the word of Christ would indwell you richly, and would indwell the church as a whole richly. **Pray** for Pastor Zach Kail and the Trinity Church on the island nation of Cyprus.

**Saturday:** “Teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.”—Colossians 3:16bc. **Pray** that many people would come to church tomorrow, and that we all would be able to sing the psalms with grace and with understanding. **Pray** that the worldwide church would increasingly learn to sing from God’s hymnbook, the book of Psalms.

# Atlanta Presbyterian Fellowship

*The Lord’s Day*  
*December 24, 2017*

Meeting every week at  
472-B Paines Avenue NW  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Sunday School at 4:45 PM  
Worship at 5:30 PM

**Frank J. Smith, Ph.D., D.D.**

***franksmith76@gmail.com***

***http://atlanta-rpc.org***

***(770)241-3946***

***Proclaiming the Kingship of Jesus Christ***

Welcome and Announcements

Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions

The Call to Worship Isaiah 7:14

\*The Invocation

\*Psalm 146A "Hallelujah! Praise Jehovah!"

Scripture Reading (p. 588) Luke 2:1-20

Pastoral Prayer

\*Psalm 147A "Praise Ye the Lord, For It Is Good"

Scripture Text (p. 551) Matthew 1:18-25

The Sermon "The Virgin Birth of Christ"

\*Prayer

\*Psalm 113A "Praise Jehovah; Praise the Lord"

\*Benediction

\*Psalm 103D "In the Heav'ns Has Jehovah"

*\* Congregation will please stand.*

**We are so glad that you could join us today!** This service is being conducted under the auspices of the Reformed Presbyterian Church of North America. Please be sure to return next week and bring a friend.

According to the Reformed Presbyterian Testimony, "The presentation of tithes and gifts is warranted as part of worship." We encourage you to consider a year-end gift for the support of this work. A tithe box is available at the back.

### Scripture Memory and Catechism Questions & Answers

**"Now unto the King eternal, immortal, invisible, the only wise God, be honour and glory for ever and ever. Amen."—I Timothy 1:17.**

**Q. 20. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?**

**A. God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.**

**Q. 21. Who is the Redeemer of God's elect?**

**A. The only Redeemer of God's elect is the Lord Jesus Christ, who, being the eternal Son of God, became man, and so was, and continueth to be, God and man in two distinct natures, and one person, forever.**

Matthew 1:18-25 "The Virgin Birth of Christ"

Theme: The angel of the Lord reveals to Joseph the wonderful truths about the birth of Christ.

### **I. The Fact of the Virgin Birth**

- A. affirmed in several ways in our text
- B. taught in Isaiah 7:14; Luke 1:34-35; 3:23

### **II. The Reasons for the Virgin Birth**

A. Jesus is God

- 1. Luke 1:35 ("Son of God")
- 2. Emmanuel
  - a. the God-man (John 1:14)
  - b. God manifested in the flesh (I Timothy 3:16)
  - c. given to us . . . the Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6)
  - d. He has identified with us
    - (1) with the sick, to heal them
    - (2) with the demon-possessed, to liberate them
    - (3) with the poor in spirit, to bless them
    - (4) with lepers, to cleanse them
    - (5) with the diseased, to cure them
    - (6) with the hungry, to feed them
    - (7) with the handicapped, to restore them
    - (8) with the lost, to seek and save them

B. Jesus had to be perfect to be our Savior

- 1. all humanity has a sin problem
  - a. we are all sinners
  - b. original sin: the guilt of Adam's sin; our sinful tendency
- 2. He is named Jesus
  - a. the very name points to salvation
  - b. in order to be our sacrificial lamb, He had to be perfect
- 3. for He shall save His people from their sins

### **Observations**

A. Mary—she, like all of us, needs salvation

B. the virgin birth is an essential doctrine of our faith