

**GOD WITH US – PART I**  
**“The New Creation”**  
**John 1:1-18**

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In the prologue to John’s gospel we have a summary of the Christmas story. This is one of the most theologically rich passages of Scripture in the entire Bible. It depicts Jesus as the Creator, the light that offers salvation, his rejection, and more. With the appearance of Jesus we have the beginning of God’s new creation. A new day has arrived in the history of the redemption of humanity. Everybody is invited to receive what Jesus offers.

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**#1. THE NEW CREATION CAME ABOUT THROUGH JESUS—THE WORD, vv. 1-5**

- A. The word (*logos*) is borrowed from Greek philosophy
- B. The word has no beginning – he is eternal, Gen 1:1
- C. The word is fully God, v. 1
- D. The word is the Creator of everything out of nothing, Gen 1:1, 1 Cor 8:6; Col 1:16; Heb 1:3; Rev 3:14
- E. The word is light & life for all humanity, Gen 1:3, 2:7
- F. The word overcomes the darkness – cosmic conflict, v. 5

**#2. THE NEW CREATION WAS ANNOUNCED BY JOHN THE BAPTIST, vv. 6-8**

- A. John was sent by God to prepare the way of the Lord, Isa 40:3, Mark 1:1-3
- B. John called people to repentance, Mark 1:4-6
- C. John pointed people to Jesus, Mark 1:7-8
- D. John & Jesus were related, Luke 1:36
- E. John was born 6 months before Jesus, Luke 1:26
- F. John is the greatest prophet, Luke 7:28

**#3. THE NEW CREATION IS VASTLY SUPERIOR TO THE PREVIOUS ERA OF REDEMPTIVE HISTORY, vv. 9-14**

- A. Jesus offers light to everyone, v. 9, 2 Pet 3:9
- B. Jesus – the Creator became a creature, v. 10
- C. Jesus was rejected by his own – he was crucified, v. 11
- D. Jesus offers the new birth to those who believe & receive him, v. 12, John 3:3, 5
- E. Jesus brings us into the family of God, vv. 12-13
- F. Jesus became flesh & dwelt (pitched his tent) among us, v. 14
- G. Jesus is the shekinah glory of God, v. 14

**#4 THE NEW CREATION FEATURES UNLIMITED GRACE, vv. 15-18**

- A. John decreased as Jesus increased, v. 15
- B. Jesus gives more grace on top of grace already given, v. 16
- C. Jesus is contrasted with Moses – a new era grace & truth, v. 17
- D. Jesus being God has revealed God the Father, v. 18, Exodus, 33:18-23, John 14:9

**NOTES:**

## DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- #1. Compare and contrast Genesis 1:1-4 with John 1:1-5.
- #2. Where did the term word (*logos*) come from? What is significant about that?
- #3. What was the purpose of God sending John the Baptist to prepare people to meet Jesus?
- #4. Why is John identified as the greatest prophet?
- #5. In what sense is Jesus the dividing line between all humanity?
- #6. What is significant about Jesus giving light to everyone? (v. 9)
- #7. What does it mean to receive and believe in Jesus?
- #8. What is significant about Jesus being the Shekinah glory of God? (v. 14)
- #9. What conclusion(s) can we make about grace from vv. 15-18?
- #10. Moses asked God to reveal his glory him (Exo 33:18f). How does that relate to v. 18?
- #11. What is your takeaway from this passage?

# Welcome

To

# Hillcrest Church!

*Love, Acceptance, Forgiveness!*

*The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

*John 1:14*

**November 27, 2022**  
**Pastor Bruce Guckelberg, PhD**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **TODAY IS THE BEGINNING OF ADVENT**

Pastor Bruce is beginning his Christmas series "God With Us". The first candle will be light which stands for the hope of God's people.

### **AFTER TODAY'S SERVICE STAY & HELP DECORATE THE TREE**

Snacks and beverages will be served as we set up the tree and other decorations around the church.

### **UPDATING OUR DIRECTORY FOR 2023**

We would like to see everyone included in our Hillcrest church directory. There is a form at the information station in back of the sanctuary that you can fill out.

### **ONLINE GATHERINGS**

Tuesday Prayer at 7:00pm, Wednesday Bible Study at 6:30pm  
Go to the online meeting room on our website (hillcrestRoseville.com) to access the gathering.

### **THANK YOU FOR YOUR FINANCIAL SUPPORT**

Our offering box is in the back of the sanctuary. You can place your tithes and offerings there, or you can visit our website and give online (hillcrestroseville.com).

### **NO SERVICE CHRISTMAS DAY**

Christmas Eve is Saturday night at 7pm, so there will be no Sunday morning Christmas Day service.

### **BRUCE & CAROL OPEN HOUSE – SATURDAY DECEMBER 17**

Everyone is invited to the Guckelberg's house between 12 and 3pm for snacks and refreshments.

### **YEAR END GIVING TO THE GREAT COMMISSION FUND (GCF)**

As we come to the end of 2022 we are mindful of the importance of supporting all our missionaries through the GCF. Would you consider a generous year end offering to the GCF. You can designate "GCF" in the memo of your check.

### **YEAR END GIVING TO THE BUILDING FUND**

Please consider giving generously to our building fund, which helps pay for our remodeling projects on the facility. We have made great progress upgrading our building because we had the funds to pay for the materials.

### **OPERATION ANGEL TREE – CIRBY SCHOOL**

We have an opportunity to bless some the kids at Cirby school by giving them Christmas presents. These are kids of prison families that will not have much of a Christmas. At the small tree in the back, pick a name, get some presents and bring them back to church on **Sunday, December 11<sup>th</sup>**. Make sure you label the package with the kids name and put a card on the package with your name on it so they know who gave them the gifts.

### **DECEMBER 6<sup>th</sup> – "SEEK" A DISTRICT PRAYER EVENT**

The Central Pacific District is having a night of prayer, which can be attended in person at the Pointe Church (8155 Watt Ave, Antelope) or remotely. The Facebook link is (<https://www.facebook.com/cpdistrict>), and the district webpage is (<https://cpdistrict.org>). A zoom link will be available as we come closer to the event.