



Calvary Christian Fellowship Mennonite Church

Welcome to our Worship Service!

December 18, 2016

Devotional:----- Jonathan Miller
Message:----- Norman Yoder
Offering:----- General
SS Lesson:----- Revelation 18

Adult and Youth Verse: And I heard another voice from heaven, saying, Come out of her, my people, that ye be not partakers of her sins, and that ye receive not of her plagues. Revelation 18:4

Intermediate Verse: By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son. Hebrews 11:17

Junior Verse: Exhort servants to be obedient unto their own masters, and to please them well in all things; not answering again; Titus 2:9

Primary Verse: "And thou shalt do that which is right and good in the sight of the Lord" Deut. 6:18

Preschool Verse: "We ought to obey God" Acts 5:29

SS Lesson for next week: Revelation 19

Adult and Youth Verse for next week: Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. Revelation 19:7

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-The Beauty of Our Galaxy

So much of our amazing galaxy is unique and beautiful. We can look at space from the earth and see wonderful things God put there for us to enjoy and appreciate. The moon (the "lesser light" created on Day 4) was designed to "rule the night," according to Genesis 1:16. Indeed, the moon does rule the night; it outshines every other nighttime celestial object. In fact, when the moon is out, it has a tendency to "wash out" most other astronomical objects, making them more difficult to see. The sun (the "greater light") is over 100 times the diameter of the earth. If it were hollow, it could hold over one million earths. At first, it might seem almost "wasteful" to create such a massive globe merely to provide light for earth, until we consider that God created the sun just as easily as the rest of the universe. It wasn't at all difficult for Him (Jeremiah 32:17), and it demonstrates His great power.

Our galaxy is shaped like a disk with a bulge in the center. The disk has spiral arms; we cannot directly see this spiral structure because we are within it. To us, the galaxy looks like a faint, milky band stretching across the sky. This is how our galaxy gets its name—the Milky Way. The Milky Way galaxy contains more than 100 billion stars; the Bible says that God calls them all by their names (Psalms 147:4; Isaiah 40:26). How amazing that God has a name for each and every one of those stars!

The galaxy contains more than stars. It also contains nebulae—the same stuff as stars, but whereas stars are compact spheres, a nebula is spread out over a much larger region of space. When a nebula is heated by nearby stars, it glows, often with vivid and beautiful colors. They are not only beautiful; they are enormous. The Rosette Nebula is estimated to be more massive than 10,000 suns, and a section of the Eagle Nebula is several thousand times larger than our solar system.

God paints beautiful artwork, and He does it on a canvas of unimaginable size!

-Kids Answers <https://answersingenesis.org/kids/astronomy/the-beauty-of-our-galaxy/>

Announcements:

- > This Evening: This evening is open due to all the Christmas activities.
- > School devotions this week by: Chadwin Nissley
- > School lets out at 1:00 on Friday the 23rd for Christmas vacation and will resume on Tuesday January 3rd.
- > Out of state correspondence this week by Elmer Yoders

~BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES~

December 19, Happy Birthday! Andrea Martin, 2010
December 21, Happy Birthday! Jonathan Yoder, 2011
December 21, Happy Birthday! Julia Yoder, 2011

He Became Man and Dwelt Among Us
by: Louis Cassells, Source Unknown

Once upon a time, there was a man who looked upon Christmas as a lot of humbug. He wasn't a scrooge. He was a kind and decent person, generous to his family, upright in all his dealings with other men. But he didn't believe all that stuff about incarnation which churches proclaim at Christmas. And he was too honest to declare that he did.

"I am truly sorry to distress you," he told his wife, who was a faithful churchgoer. "But I simply cannot understand this claim that God became man. It doesn't make any sense to me." On Christmas Eve, his wife and children went to church for the midnight service. He declined to accompany them. "I'd feel like a hypocrite," he explained. "I'd must rather stay at home. But I'll wait up for you."

Shortly after his family drove away in the car, snow began to fall. He went to the window and watched the flurries getting heavier and heavier. "If we must have Christmas," he thought, "It's nice to have a white one." He went back to his chair by the fireside and began to read his newspaper. A few minutes later, he was startled by a thudding sound. It was quickly followed by another, then another. He thought that someone must be throwing snowballs at his livingroom window.

When he went to the front door to investigate, he found a flock of birds huddled miserably in the snow. They'd had been caught

in the storm, and in a desperate search for shelter had tried to fly through his window.

"I can't let these poor creatures lie there and freeze," he thought. "But how can I help them?" Then he remembered the barn where the children's pony was stabled. It would provide a warm shelter. He put on his coat and galoshes and tramped through the deepening snow to the barn. He opened the doors wide and turned on a light. But the birds didn't come in. "Food will bring them in," he thought. So he hurried back to the house for bread crumbs, which he sprinkled on the snow to make a trail into the barn.

To his dismay, the birds ignored the bread crumbs and continued to flop around helplessly in the snow. He tried shoeing them in the barn by walking around and waving his arms. They scattered in every direction--except into the warm, lighted barn. "They find me a strange and terrifying creature," he said to himself. "And I can't seem to think of any way to let them know they can trust me. If only I could be a bird myself for a few minutes, perhaps I could lead them to safety..."

Just at that moment, the church bells began to ring. He stood silently for a while, listening to the bells pealing the glad tidings of Christmas. Then he sank to his knees in the snow. "Now I do understand," he whispered. "Now I know why you had to do it."

<http://www.inspirationalstories.com/cgi-bin/printer.pl?273>