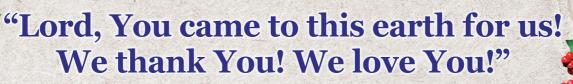
# Manmin News

NO. 757 DECEMBER 31, 2023



**Christmas Lighting Ceremony 2023** 













At 8 PM on Friday, December 8, 2023, the 'Christmas Lighting Ceremony 2023' was held at the garden adjacent to the house of worship in the Senior Pastor's residence and broadcast live on YouTube

It was attended by those who belong to Performing Arts Committee and have participated in special songs, dances, or performances and served as staff in the worship services and major events. Scarcely had Acting Senior Pastor Soojin Lee buttoned the switch when colorful lights covered the garden so much beautifully.

Praise leader Deaconess Moda Seungwon Seo

and Brother Power Kwonneung Yoon gave a special song and Pastor Soojin Lee delivered a message. Pastor Lee said, "Jesus, who is blameless and sinless, came to this earth in the flesh and died on the cross and opened the way of salvation so that our sins might be washed away and we enter the beautiful heaven. So, on this Christmas I ask you to make up your mind once again to love God first of all and abide in the Light and truth."

She cut the Christmas-commemorating cake into pieces and said "Merry Christmas" to all brothers and sisters of Manmin all over the world.



Words of Life



## **Jesus Christ**

"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)

Senior Pastor Rev. Jaerock Lee

Christmas is one of the major feasts of Christianity. On Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus who came to this earth to save all mankind and rejoice and give thanks. Now let us look into the spiritual meaning contained in the name of Jesus Christ on this Christmas.

#### 1. Jesus Christ is our 'Savior'

As written in Acts 4:12, "And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men, by which we must be saved," Jesus Christ is our only Savior. The ultimate purpose on His birth and earthly life is to become the Savior.

Jesus' whole life was connected to redeeming people from their sins and bearing their burdens and difficulties, from His birth to His crucifixion. When He came to this earth in the flesh to save people, Baby Jesus was born in a stable and laid in a manger. It has a spiritual meaning.

Manger is a long, shallow container in which food for animals is placed. When Jesus was laid on a manger, it means He came to save people who sinned and are but beasts and He Himself became the bread of life to them (John 6:48-51). Jesus, the Son of God, lived in poverty to release us from poverty and make us rich (2 Corinthians 8:9).

After completing His earthly ministry, Jesus shed His precious blood, as of a lamb unblemished and spotless to forgive mankind of their sins and was crucified on the wooden cross to redeem us from the curse of the law. However, it was impossible for Him to be held in the power of death because He was put to death without sin. He broke the power of death and resurrected on the third day of burial, thereby becoming our Savior.

Therefore, anyone who believes Jesus Christ with

the heart and confesses with the mouth He is the Savior can be released from the curse of the law, which states "the wages of sin is death" (Romans 6:23) and receive eternal life. They also gain the right to become children of God in Jesus Christ and come to live a happy life to the extent they practice the Word of God.

Through the Savior Jesus Christ, they receive the amazing blessing of being forgiven of sins and passing out of death into life.

#### 2. Jesus Christ is our 'Advocate' and 'Comforter'

1 John 2:1-2 says, "My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. And if anyone sins, we have an Advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and He Himself is the propitiation for our sins; and not for ours only, but also for those of the whole world."

1 Timothy 2:5-6 says, "For there is one God, and one mediator also between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave Himself as a ransom for all, the testimony borne at the proper time."

Jesus Himself was the propitiation for our sins and is a Mediator between God and people. He reconciled us sinners to God. He gave Himself as a ransom for all to redeem them from sins so that He could break down the barrier of the dividing wall between God and people. When we believe Jesus as our Savior, we are made righteous by faith but not sanctified all at once. Therefore, if a believer commits a sin, Jesus Christ intercedes for them as the Advocate to God.

Hebrews 4:15 says, "For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin." Jesus underwent all the tests we may face.

The Holy Spirit dwells within us and helps us. Romans 8:26 says, "And in the same way the Spirit Manmin News NO. 757 DECEMBER 31, 2023

also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words." Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit understand our weaknesses and intercede for us more earnestly than we.

God is the Father of mercies and the God of comfort. 2 Corinthians 1:4-5 says, "[God] who comforts us in all our affliction so that we may be able to comfort those who are in any affliction with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. For just as the sufferings of Christ are ours in abundance, so also our comfort is abundant through Christ."

Jesus said that anyone can become a child of God regardless of their status in this world. He also taught that blessed are the poor in spirit, those who mourn, and those who are persecuted. His words poured down lights of great hope upon those many who were oppressed by authorities and lived in poverty. During His earthly ministry, the abandoned and the rejected followed Him even more diligently than others.

It is because our Lord loves and comforts anyone who opens their heart and seeks His comfort. He stays with them, embraces them with His warmth and tenderness, and guides them to the path to prosperity and solution of problems.

The name of Jesus Christ our Comforter means happiness for some, hope for others, and abundance for still others.

#### 3. Jesus Christ is our Provider

In John 14:13-14, Jesus said, "Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it."

When we ask in the name of Jesus Christ, whatever seems impossible with human ability is made possible with God. When we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, forces of darkness depart from whatever kind of problem appears insoluble and the solution is given to us.

When we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Father God will hear our prayers and give us answers through His name at His proper time. However, there is a difference in power between when we pray in the name of 'Jesus' and when we pray in the name of 'Jesus Christ'

Suppose a thief met a policeman who did not know that he is a thief. The thief may not be afraid of the policeman. However, the thief may run away quickly when he saw another policeman who knows he is a thief.

Similarly, those who know a difference between the name of Jesus and that of Jesus Christ have a greater power in defeating the enemy devil than those who do not know. As written in Matthew 1:21, 'Jesus'

was named for He would save His people from their sins. It does not refer to 'the One who have saved' in the perfect tense, but 'the One who will save' in the future tense.

'Christ' refers to 'the anointed one' in Greek and is translated into 'the Messiah' in Hebrew. When they call Jesus Christ, it means Jesus has acquired the position of the Savior for mankind, and of the Reconciler and the Mediator between God and people. The Bible shows He was not named Jesus Christ until He became the Savior through the crucifixion and resurrection.

In that sense, it is proper to call Him 'Jesus' before His crucifixion and 'Jesus Christ' after His crucifixion and resurrection. And we can call Him 'our Savior', 'Christ', 'Lord Jesus', or 'Lord' along with the name of 'Jesus Christ'.

So, Jesus' disciples and apostles no longer called Him 'Jesus' but instead 'Jesus Christ' or 'the Lord Jesus Christ' in their prayers and messages after His resurrection and ascension.

In the same way, when we ask God in prayers, we have to ask in the name of Jesus Christ or Lord Jesus, which indicates His position as the Savior along with Jesus. In John 16:23, Jesus said, "...Truly, truly, I say to you, if you ask the Father for anything in My name, He will give it to you."

However, some people fail to receive answers from God when they ask in the name of Jesus Christ. This is because they ask harboring wickedness in their heart or in doubts or when they ask with wrong motives so that they may spend it on their pleasures or because they grumble or complain against God (Psalm 66:18; James 1:6-8, 4:3). We should first seek the kingdom of God and His righteousness and ask with faith but without doubt so that we may receive whatever we ask for in the name of Jesus Christ.

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

On Christmas we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ whose name contains salvation, grace, love, blessing, and answers.

I pray in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ that your life may overflow with grace, love and blessing through the power and authority of the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, the Comforter, and the Provider.

### **Manmin News**

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### **Special**

# How to receive blessings from God?

Deuteronomy 28 presents a clear way to receive God's blessings and shows what kinds of blessings come upon those who have prepared proper vessels.

Now let us look into three conditions for receiving blessings from God?

**Condition 1** 

We have to listen to God's words and keep His commandments (Deuteronomy 28:1)

God's words refer to all the Scriptures recorded in the Bible. All Scriptures were not written by people but only by people who were inspired by the Holy Spirit in accordance with God's will (2 Timothy. 3:16).

That's why there are many verses that read, "declares the LORD" or "says the LORD" or "the LORD has spoken." It tells the Scriptures have the mind and will of God, so we have to listen to the words of God attentively.

What then is the most important in listening to

His words? We should not just listen to them with ears but obey and do His words diligently. As Romans 10:17 reads, "So faith comes from hearing, and hearing by the word of Christ," we have to come near to the Scriptures and read and meditate on them day and night. In reading the Scriptures we have to make our spiritual bread of them and practice them.

His commandments refer to all the words of the Bible that command us to do or obey something. All the commandments are abbreviated into the Ten Commandments that are directly related to salvation including life, death, misfortune, and fortune. When we find and feel God's love embedded in them, we can joyfully obey and do His commandments.

In other words, when we learn that God has given us His commandments for our good (Deuteronomy 10:13) and keep them willingly and readily, we can be deemed to have prepared a proper vessel for God's blessing and receive His blessing exceedingly.

### The Confession of Faith

- 1. Manmin Central Church believes that the Bible is Godbreathed Word that is perfect and flawless.
- 2. Manmin Central Church believes in the unity and the work of God the Trinity: God the Holy Father, God the Holy Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- 3. Manmin Central Church believes that we are forgiven of our sins only by the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ.
- 4. Manmin Central Church believes in the resurrection and ascension of Jesus Christ, His Second Advent, the Millennium, and the eternal heaven.
- 5. Members of Manmin Central Church confess their faith through "The Apostles' Creed" each time they come together and believe in its content verbatim.

"[God] Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things." (Acts 17:25)
"And there is salvation in no one else; for there is no other name under heaven that has been given among men
by which we must be saved." (Acts 4:12)



Condition 2

We have to obey the commandments with sincerity (Deuteronomy 28:2)

What is obedience in the light of truth? When we practice what we cannot and we obey what seems impossible to obey in reality, it is true obedience. It is only by spiritual faith that we can obey what is impossible. It goes beyond the level of faith in which

we obey what we can and includes the level of faith in which we do whatever we cannot.

True and spiritual faith enables us to obey what doesn't agree with common sense, human theory and knowledge and do what we can never.

This is true obedience in God's sight. There is nothing impossible in doing God's works when we believe God the Almighty and obey His words (Mark 9:23). When we willingly obey God, we can enjoy abundant blessings on earth (Isaiah 1:19).

Condition 3

We have to put trust in the words of God (Numbers 23:19)

The word of God is definitely fulfilled (Isaiah 55:10-11). Our faith in God can be confirmed when we completely believe His word will be fulfilled and obey it. We have to believe 100% God's plan and providence will be fulfilled according to His will. We should neither interpret God's words according to our benefits nor understand them according to our standards of judgment.

We have to put trust in

the word of God and do it until the end even though it is different from our opinion and it disagrees with our plans. Only then, will God cause all things to work together for our good at the proper time.

James 1:6-7 says, "But let him ask in faith without any doubting, for the one who doubts is like the surf of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. For let not that man expect that he will receive anything from the Lord."

What was Abraham's faith like? When a long time had passed since God promised him a seed of the promise and a great number of descendants, he steadfastly believed in His covenant and obeyed His words. As that result, he obtained Isaac as the seed of promise at the proper time.

In the same way, it is so important for us to believe in the word of God steadfastly until it comes true.



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6 Manmin News

## "I just tried my best to restore my faith. But I was thankfully healed of tinnitus, too."

Deacon Gyeongyeol Kim (aged 60, Parish 6 in Manmin Central Church)

I developed tinnitus in the left ear about 3 years ago. At first a small sound 'sha' began ringing in the ear, but it worsened increasingly. Finally, I had difficulty hearing others' words.

During the conversation, I repeatedly asked for their pardon and had to lean myself against them. And the ringing sound was bigger at nighttime because all was quiet.

I wanted to be healed at Manmin Summer Retreat 2023 and in July I attended a Vowed Daniel Prayer Meeting in preparation of the event. When I was praying one night, Manmin Prayer Center's President Boknim Lee prayed for me with her hand on me and I was filled with the Holy Spirit. From that day on I looked back on my past religious life.

I wondered if I would be able to enter New Jerusalem with my present faith, and I concluded No. I was determined to possess ardent faith and lead a religious life fervently. I was reminded of my first fervor and love for the Lord.

I was guided by my wife to Manmin Central Church on May 6, 1990. While listening to Senior Pastor Jaerock Lee's sermon, I learned God gave His only begotten son Jesus as a propitiation to save us, and Jesus obeyed to the point of death, even on the cross, and I was so grateful for His grace and love.

I really wanted to do the words of God and obey Him to bring joy to Him. When I obeyed what the Spirit urged me to do, it felt like God was pleased. When I was urged to give some amount of rice to a deacon, I obeyed and the deacon asked me, "How could you know I lacked rice?" When I was urged to not go to a place I was supposed to, I obeyed and didn't go there. Later I came across a piece of news that there had been a car accident there.

I led a happy life in Jesus Christ obeying God's words willingly, but my faith increasingly became lukewarm with the passing of time. Now I was appointed as a district leader and found myself insisting on my opinions against sub-district leaders, cell leaders and many members.



I repented of my arrogance and self-righteousness before Father God, and tried my best to restore my first love. As I had learned we can become sanctified by means of the word of God and prayers, I began reading the Bible diligently and praying for spiritual change earnestly. And filled with the Spirit, I diligently paid many visits to district members to take care of them. When I attended Manmin Summer Retreat 2023, I was filled with God's grace and love.

On the first day of the event, Acting Senior Pastor Soojin Lee led a special seminar and Divine Healing Meeting and I thought her message was for none other than me and Father God was guiding me to a better place in heaven. My heart was so touched. When she prayed for the sick from the podium, I received it with faith and returned home with emotion and the Spirit's fullness.

When I came back to Seoul along with my family, it was so hot that night. I turned on the air conditioner and the circulator. By the way, it was very noisy to me. I had never heard such a loud circulator sound before, so I thought it might be broken and turned it off. Now it was calm.

Feeling unfamiliar with that situation, I turned off the air conditioner, too. All was quiet. Only then could I find myself completely healed. I was healed of my tinnitus. Hallelujah!

I just tried my best to restore my first love for the Lord, but God thankfully restored my faith and healed me of tinnitus. I give all thanks and glory to our loving Father God who knows whatever I need and blessed me spiritually and physically.



# "My kidney stone is gone!"





One day in early 2023, I felt severe pain in the abdomen and my stomach was swollen. Such severe pain restricted me from working properly in the office. I went to the hospital for a checkup, and the ultrasound showed I had a stone in the right kidney.

I eagerly desired to be healed by faith and attended a zoom meeting led by Pastor John Sanghwi Kim. Pastor Kim taught me fundamentals of Christian faith and advised me to look back on my past days to receive divine healing from God. I discovered sin and evil in my heart.

I sent my prayer request to Delhi Manmin Church and then received Senior Pastor Jaerock Lee's prayer for the sick recorded on video. Meanwhile I heard Acting Senior Pastor Soojin Lee would lead a Divine Healing Meeting at Manmin Central Church in March. I eagerly prayed for my healing in the services and repented of my past days.

On March 24, 2023, I attended the Divine Healing Meeting via YouTube channel 'GCNTV HINDI' and earnestly received Acting Senior Pastor Soojin Lee's prayer for the sick with faith.

After that, I was able to do chores well at home, and I had

no problems walking or eating. When I went to the hospital again, the examination showed the kidney stone had already disappeared. Hallelujah!

I give all thanks and glory to Father God who blessed me to lead such a happy life that I couldn't dream before and strengthened me to devote myself to the Lord.

