

## NEWS+EVENTS

December 12, 2021

For more details and registration go  
to [heritageokc.org/news+events](http://heritageokc.org/news+events)

**Current Memory Verse, Rev. 4:11 (ESV)** "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

**Important Notice:** In order to claim a charitable contribution for 2021, donations must be made online or postmarked by Friday, Dec. 31. Checks may also be delivered to Heritage on or before Wednesday, Dec. 29 (the church office will be closed Dec. 30-31). Checks received after Dec. 31 will not qualify for a charitable contribution, even if the check is predated or was actually written in 2021. A record of your contributions to Heritage will be mailed to you in January.

**For Upcoming Seasonal Schedule Changes** see our website. Next Sunday, Dec. 19, 9:00am, Children & Youth classes do not meet; however, most ABF classes will meet (check with your leaders).

**Women's Bible Study, Better, Begins Jan. 6, 9:30-11:30am**  
This is a verse-by-verse study in *Hebrews* by Jen Wilkin and led by Cindy McWilliams and Lynn Skeen. Please sign up online.

**Kingdom Kids Christmas 2021** is a powerful evangelistic church planting tool in southern Mexico. We are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to help purchase backpacks filled with school supplies, toys, and the gospel to be given to children in remote communities. More info is in the Commons; contact Pastor Jim with questions, [jim@heritageokc.org](mailto:jim@heritageokc.org).

**Ministry Opportunity:** Our Quilting Ministry makes quilts for women and children in the battered women's shelter, and for others who need to feel the warmth and love in having a beautiful, handmade quilt (a Gospel tract is included with each quilt). Currently, there is the need for someone to machine-hem the quilts. Please contact Bobbie Stotts 405-990-2313 for more info.

**Get more information** about Wed PM groups, small groups, or ABF on the groups page on our website or at the Welcome Desk.

**Visit <http://heritageokc.org/serve/>** to find more ways you can be part of what God is doing at Heritage Baptist Church.

# ESTHER

*No Reserves, No Retreats, No Regrets*

As a family of forgiven people we are honored that you have joined with us today as we seek to develop people who delight in God and declare His glory—from our neighborhoods to the nations. Our prayer is that you will connect with God through Christ this morning and that this would be the beginning of a deep connection with other believers as well. Please take a moment to fill out the Communication Card located under the pew in front of you and place it in an offering pedestal in the back of the Worship Center.

Develop Delight Declare



**December 12, 2021**

*O Come All You Unfaithful*

**Call To Worship/  
Pastoral Prayer**

**Songs of Worship**

*Hark the Herald Angels Sing*

*Come Thou  
Long-Expected Jesus*

**Scripture Reading**

*Matthew 1:18-25*

**Song of Worship**

*Silent Night, Holy Night*

*He Who Is Mighty*

**Message**

**Song of Response**

*Come Thou  
Long-Expected Jesus*

“Nothing so high that is above His providence; nothing so low that is beneath it; nothing so large that is bounded by it; nothing so confused that God can order it; nothing so bad that He can draw good out of it; nothing so wisely plotted that God can disappoint it.”

*Richard Sibbes*

“If this book of Esther shows us anything, it shows us that God manages the affairs of men, even without their knowledge. God knows what He is doing, and in the courts of heaven there are no coincidences or surprises... Esther wasn't 'lucky' to be queen; Mordecai wasn't 'lucky' to have overheard the assassination plot; it wasn't 'luck' or 'chance' that made Haman enter the royal courts at this time. It was God; we don't say 'praise the luck!'”

*Dave Guzik*

“In the final analysis, God will have His way. He's not impressed with earthly kingdoms and personal towers, with pride and prestige and wealth and fame. He's impressed with a humble heart that comes to Him on His terms.”

*Chuck Swindoll*

“Was Jesus the pawn in Caesar's hands or was Caesar the pawn in God's hands to accomplish God's prophetic purposes in bringing the Messiah to Bethlehem to fulfill prophecy (Micah 5:2-5)?”

*Randy Smith*

## Sleepless in Susa: “It Just So Happened...”

**Esther 6:1-14**

**Big Truth of this Series:** God is always working behind the scenes in every detail of life to accomplish His redemptive purposes.

**Big Truth of Today's Message:** The pivotal point in the story of Esther that led to a reversal of an evil plot against God's people was that it “just so happened” that the king had a sleepless night.

– It just so happened that the king couldn't sleep (6:1a).

– It just so happened that he chose to read a history book (6:1b).

– It just so happened that the servants read the story of Mordecai saving the king (6:1c-3).

– It just so happened that Haman was in the right (wrong?) place at the right (wrong?) time (6:4-11).

– It just so happened that Haman discovered (too late) that you cannot successfully oppose God's people (6:12-14).