

## Songs

How Many Kings – Downhere  
God with Us – Mercy Me  
Prince of Peace – Hillsong United  
Peace Has Come (O Come All Ye  
Faithful) – Hillsong

## Giving

**On Sunday:** use wooden boxes  
by auditorium doors  
**Online:** [npberean.org/give](http://npberean.org/give)  
**Text:** text any amount to 84321  
**Mail:** 202 W. 8th St.  
North Platte, NE 69101



# BEREAN CHURCH

Leading people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ.

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12.12.21

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## Coming up

- **Baptisms – Today 12/12:** Baptism is a public witness of an internal reality – that the person has passed from death to life by trusting in Jesus alone for salvation. Today we're baptizing:
  - Ani Aten – by Amanda Aten (mom) and Sue Lukas (Sola small group leader)
- **Hometown Hope 2021 – Every Tue. 12/7-12/21:** Would you consider partnering with us as we give back to the community of North Platte? For details go to Facebook or [npberean.org/christmas!](http://npberean.org/christmas!)
- **Christmas Experience service opportunities! – Sun. 12/19 & Sun. 1/2, 1-4 p.m., NPBC:** This year the Drive-Thru Nativity will be available Dec. 19-25. We're asking everyone to consider helping set up on Sun. 12/19 from 1-4 p.m. Teardown will take place Sun. 1/2 from 1-4 p.m. Please write Nativity on a ConnectCard if you would like to be involved with this outreach to our community.
- **Christmas Eve gatherings – Fri. 12/24; 3, 4:30, or 6 p.m.; Auditorium:** Many have heard the Christmas story so many times that it can easily become white noise against the backdrop of a rush-rush holiday season. But we're talking about God coming *in the flesh* – and there is nothing ho-hum about this reality when we stop and really consider it. Mark your calendar to join together in celebrating Jesus' birth this Christmas Eve! Three times to choose from: 3, 4:30, or 6 p.m.
- **Holiday schedule:** To give time for our staff, volunteers, and church family to rest and connect with their families over the Christmas holiday, we'll be making the following changes to our usual schedule:
  - **Sola (grades 6-12):** Not meeting Wed. 12/22 or 12/29; no middle school Sun. 12/26.
  - **252 (grades K-5):** Not meeting Sun. 12/26 or 1/2; however, First Look (infant-PreK) will meet.

## Welcome!

We'd love to connect and be a spiritual resource for you – please fill out a ConnectCard (in seat pocket or [npberean.org/cc](http://npberean.org/cc)). If you're new, bring your ConnectCard to the information center for a welcome gift.

## New here?

- **Digital bulletin:** Visit [npberean.org/sunday](http://npberean.org/sunday) for enhanced digital version of this bulletin or [npberean.org/sundayprint](http://npberean.org/sundayprint) for PDF version.
- **Sunday large gatherings:** 8, 9:15, & 11 a.m. and 6 p.m.; livestream at [facebook.com/npberean](https://facebook.com/npberean) at 9:15 a.m. or [npberean.org/live](http://npberean.org/live) anytime.
- **Need a Bible?** Available free at information center.
- **Sound levels:** Assisted listening devices and earplugs available at sound booth in back of auditorium.
- **Office hours:** Mon.-Thu. 9-4 (closed Tue. 1:30-2:30 for staff meeting).
- **Find out more:** Visit [npberean.org](http://npberean.org), email [npberean@npberean.org](mailto:npberean@npberean.org), or call 308-532-7448.

## For families

- **Mother's Room:** A private place to care for your baby and still connect to the gathering via livestream – follow signs north of auditorium.
- **Kids Connect (infant-grade 5):** Available at 9:15 and 11 a.m. – check-in east of Commons or upstairs from foyer. Kids also welcome in large gatherings. At-home resources: [npberean.org/kids-connect-at-home](http://npberean.org/kids-connect-at-home).
- **Sola (grades 6-12):** Main gatherings Wednesdays 6:30-8:30 p.m. – meet in 252 Room/The Commons. Middle school typically also meets Sundays at 11 a.m. in the Upper Rooms, but 2nd Sunday each month (today) we will not have Sola middle school as a way to help encourage students to engage in the large gathering with their families.

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Sermon text next Sunday: Matthew 2

## Luke 2:25-35 (ESV)

<sup>25</sup> Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. <sup>26</sup> And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

<sup>27</sup> And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law, <sup>28</sup> he took him up in his arms and blessed God and said,

<sup>29</sup> "Lord, now you are letting your servant depart in peace,  
according to your word;  
<sup>30</sup> for my eyes have seen your salvation  
<sup>31</sup> that you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,  
<sup>32</sup> a light for revelation to the Gentiles,  
and for glory to your people Israel."

<sup>33</sup> And his father and his mother marveled at what was said about him. <sup>34</sup> And Simeon blessed them and said to Mary his mother, "Behold, this child is appointed for the fall and rising of many in Israel, and for a sign that is opposed <sup>35</sup> (and a sword will pierce through your own soul also), so that thoughts from many hearts may be revealed."

## Anticipated Encounter

Encountering the Child • John Stone • 12.12.21

This was an \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:25-27  
Ps. 51:11  
Rom. 11:29  
Eph. 1:13-14  
Luke 11:13

This encounter \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:28-32  
Matt. 6:9-10  
Rom. 1:16

This encounter \_\_\_\_\_

Luke 2:33-35  
John 9:39-41  
Mark 2:17

### Talk it over

Visit [npberean.org/grow-groups](http://npberean.org/grow-groups) for more resources or to connect.

- **Treasuring God:** Do we wait with anticipation like Simeon's for Christ in our lives? Do we have the same space for Christ to intersect with our lives?
- **Being Transformed:** When Simeon meets Jesus, he experiences great joy and great peace. Do you feel that peace when you encounter Jesus? What do you feel when you encounter Jesus?
- **Loving Others/Pursuing Unity:** Anna and Simeon had been waiting for similar moments of encountering Jesus. How do you think that would have connected them? How do our own interactions with Christ create relationships between us and others at Berean? How could we invite others into this relationship?