

# Welcome to Rosedale

Sunday December 15, 2013

Welcome & Announcements

Invocation

Musical Praise & Worship

Junior Church

Family Prayer

Scripture Reading..... John 1:4-13

Message.....Pastor John Bellingham

**“LET THERE BE LIGHT”**

Final Song

Benediction

*Into the world to live and witness for the Lord*

## Memory Verses for Junior Church:

### **Younger Elementary:**

**Review:** Psalm 100:3a, 104:24; Romans 5:8, 8:28;  
John 14:21; Ephesians 1:4; 1 John 4:10

### **Middle Elementary:**

“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD  
make His face shine upon you and be gracious to  
you; the LORD turn His face toward you and give  
you peace.” Numbers 6:24-26

## Mission of the Week

### Gospel for Asia – Suna Tamang (Sikkim, India)

“Recently our students and staff arranged a mass outreach which was a blessing to many lives. They were divided into groups and visited different areas. One of the groups interacted with many Buddhist monks and shared about Jesus with them. They also took time to share, explain and encourage people from God’s Word and asked for their prayer requests too. Elsewhere in the region, 24 year old Dawa was rejected by his family because of the Gospel. When Dawa’s Buddhist parents came to know about his salvation, they tried to force him to deny Jesus, but Dawa refused. So, his father and younger brother expelled him from their home. Please uphold this young man in your prayers.”

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## Families of the Week

Please remember to encourage and pray for the following families this week.

<b><u>Monday</u></b>	McDonald, Luke
<b><u>Tuesday</u></b>	McPherson, Pat
<b><u>Wednesday</u></b>	Meertins, Cedric
<b><u>Thursday</u></b>	Meinzinger, Julius & Mary
<b><u>Friday</u></b>	Metcalfe, Kris & Michelle Keegan, Oliver, Jonas, Rael
<b><u>Saturday</u></b>	Miller, Russell & Wendy

# Rosedale Baptist Church



Reaching up....

Reaching in....

Reaching out...

11 Rosedale Place  
Welland, ON L3B 1J2  
905-735-0788

Pastor: John C. Bellingham

[www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com](http://www.rosedalebaptistwelland.com)

## This Week at Rosedale

Monday: Youth Group – 6:30pm

Tuesday: Men’s Study – 9:30am

Wednesday: Prayer Meeting – 7:00pm

Friday: Young Adults – 6:30pm

Saturday: Niagara Prayer Group – 9:30 am

Sunday: Christian Foundations – 9:00am  
Worship Service – 10:30 am

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**Christian Foundations:** This morning at 9:00am we began a new video series on the History of Revival as taught by the late Baptist historian J. Edwin Orr. We would encourage you to come a bit earlier on Sunday morning so that you can benefit from our Foundations class!

**Christmas Luncheon:** There will be a Christmas luncheon immediately following the morning worship service today. If you are visiting with us, we warmly invite you to join us!

**Christmas Eve Service:** Our annual Christmas Eve Carol service will be happening at 6:30pm on Tuesday December 24<sup>th</sup>. The flyers in the bulletin are intended for you to invite a friend or a neighbour this week.

**Niagara Prayer Group:** The Niagara Prayer group will be meeting again this Saturday (December 21) here at Rosedale. This is a great opportunity to join with brothers and sisters from other Churches across our region to pray for revival.

## Let There Be Light - John 1:4-13

- Last week, we saw that Jesus is the eternal, pre-existent “Word” of God who reveals the heart and mind of our invisible God

- As we continue our Advent series, we see John introducing a new metaphor to help us understand the person and work of Jesus Christ: **Light**

### **I. The Source of Light (vv. 4-5)**

#### 1) The Nature of Light

- a. Light exposes and reveals
- b. Light gives life (cf. John 8:12)
- c. Light is totally pure and remains undefiled by anything it touches

#### 2) Light and Creation

- a. In Creation the Word of God spoke and light immediately pierced the darkness (Gen 1:3)
- b. The Creation narrative of Genesis prefigures the Christmas narrative
  - i. The physical world is designed to point us toward even greater spiritual realities!
  - ii. Jesus is the “true light” coming into the world which enlightens everyone (v. 9)
  - iii. When Jesus came into the world, light once again pierced through the darkness
    1. Isaiah 9:2, cf. Matthew 4:16
    2. Isaiah 42:6-7
- c. Light always overcomes darkness (v. 5)
  - i. In Creation
  - ii. In the Incarnation
  - iii. At the Cross
  - iv. In the New Birth (2 Corinthians 4:3-6)

### **II. The Reflection of Light (vv. 6-8)**

#### 1) Ministry of John the Baptist

- a. A prophet from God who came in the spirit and power of Elijah (Isaiah 40:1-5; Malachi 4:5-6)
  - b. John was to Jesus what the moon is to the sun!
  - c. Some of John’s followers exalted him too highly even though John was crystal clear about his relationship to Jesus (v. 8, cf. John 3:30)
- 2) Our Responsibility: Jesus, is the true light of the world, but we His disciples follow in the footsteps of John the Baptist by reflecting His light to the dark world around us! (Matthew 5:14-16)
- a. Words – declaring the gospel to others
  - b. Deeds – living our lives that reflect the priorities and values of God’s Kingdom

### **III. Our Response to the Light (vv. 9-13)**

#### 1) A Universal Light that “enlightens everyone”

- a. Greek verb indicates external ‘enlightenment’ (the light shining upon something) rather than internal illumination of the heart
  - i. Doesn’t mean that Jesus saves everyone!
  - ii. Doesn’t support Wesley’s view that God’s ‘prevenient grace’ overcomes the effects of the Fall in every individual person
- b. The truth about God shines brightly wherever the Word – Jesus Christ is proclaimed as Lord

#### 2) A Dividing Light

- a. In the Creation narrative of Genesis, light created a division between Day and Night
- b. In John’s narrative, the appearance of the ‘true light’ also creates a division
  - i. Those who reject Him (cf. John 3:19-20)
  - ii. Those who receive Him (cf. John 3:21)

**Application:** What is your response to the true Light from God? Will you allow Him to overcome your sin and darkness this Christmas?