

## NASA – To the Stars and Beyond

Most people are familiar with NASA—the National Aeronautics and Space Administration. NASA is over the science and technology of the United States that governs airplanes and space, and its ventures reach far beyond our solar system. Hundreds of NASA's technological experiments have benefited our world. Things like water purification, wind turbines, even firefighter gear that now uses fire-resistant fabrics originally designed for space suits.

Interestingly, the acronym NASA is also a Hebrew word (*nasá*) that means “to lift.” Our government’s NASA lifts things into the sky. Lamentations 3:41 says, “Let us lift up (*nasá*) our heart with our hands unto God in the heavens.”

As a Hebrew root word, *nasá* expands into many meanings. One of those is “to exalt.” Exalt not only means to lift, but also to glorify, praise or honor. “O LORD, thou art my God; I will exalt thee, I will praise thy name; for thou hast done wonderful things; thy counsels of old are faithfulness and truth” (Isaiah 25:1).

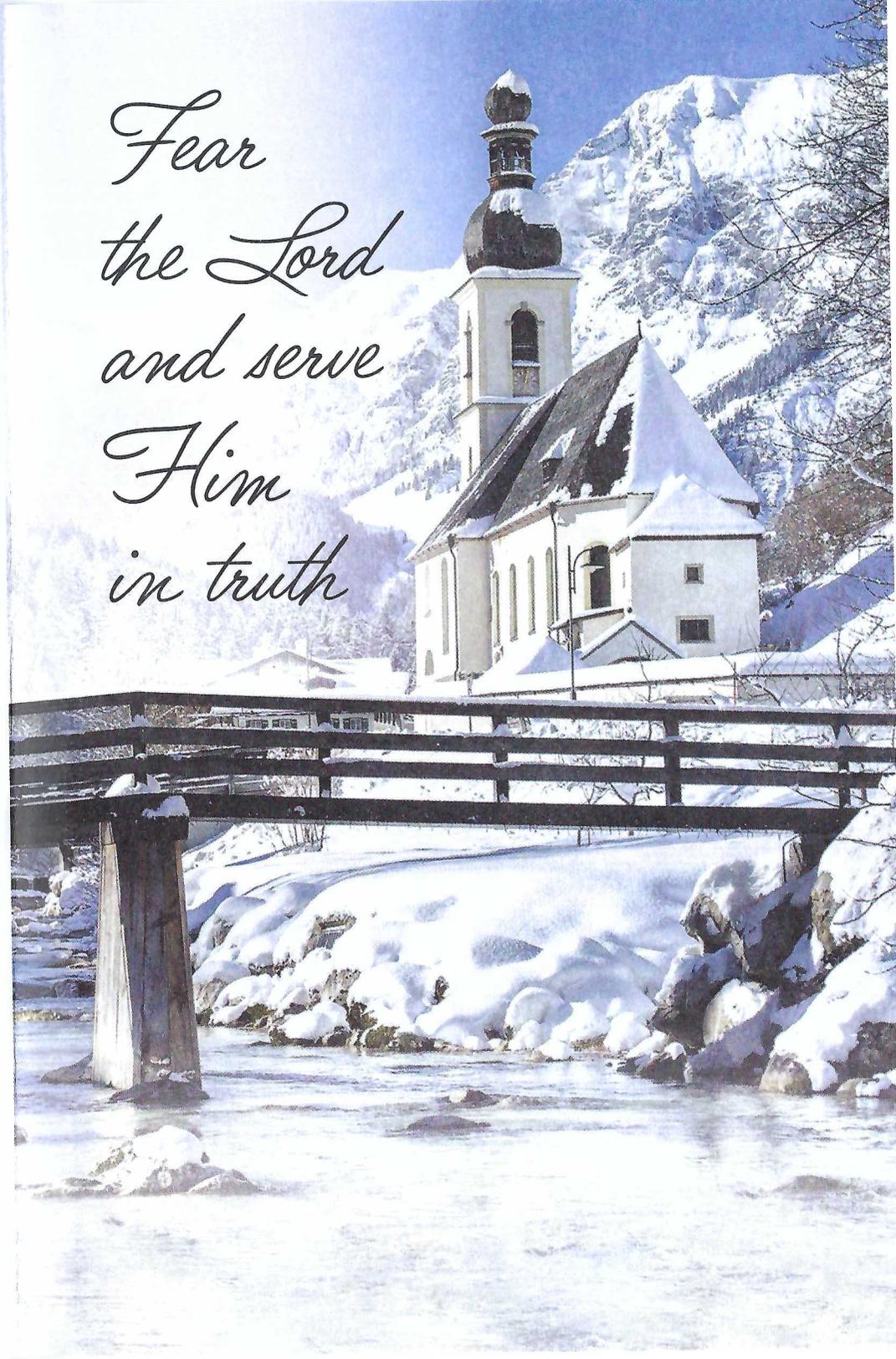
NASA has done many amazing things: putting a man on the moon, inventing technology used in our cell phone cameras, improving weather forecasting, providing safety from harmful food-borne bacteria, and more. But let our glory, honor and praise be lifted high—*nasá*—to our Lord God who created the heavens that NASA explores.

“Thine, O LORD, is the greatness, and the power, and the glory, and the victory, and the majesty: for all that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine; thine is the kingdom, O LORD, and thou art exalted as head above all” (1 Chronicles 29:11).

*Lucinda J. Rollings*

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*Fear  
the Lord  
and serve  
Him  
in truth*



# Covenant Church

3115 N.W. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue Gainesville FL 32605

December 31, 2023

## Call to Worship

*Sounds of Hope*

## Invocation

*Pastor Don Mauldin*

## Sing Unto the Lord

Hymn # 270 Joy to the World

## Welcome and Announcements

*Ron Marks*

## Recognition of Guests

## Mission Moment

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

## Worship in Song

Hymn # 273 Good Christin Men Rejoice

## Offertory Prayer

*Craig Alexander*

## Offertory

*Rose Morgan*

## Sermon: "No Figs Again"

*Pastor Don Mauldin*

Scripture: *Luke 13:6*

## Benediction

O Holy Night

*Sounds of Hope*

*Pastor Don Mauldin*

*352-262-5349*

## Covenant News

Our ministry for December is Helping Hands Clinic. Helping Hands is a group of volunteer health professionals who have provided free healthcare to the poor and/or homeless for over 30 years. The clinic is staffed by social workers, registered nurses, advanced registered nurse practitioners, physicians, and community service volunteers.

*Happy New Year!*

How can I use the New Year to better serve my Lord?  
I'll read my Bible every day, and be more in accord.  
I'll find new ways to serve others; I'll love my neighbor, too.  
I'll focus on "give" instead of "get" in everything I do.  
I'll forgive the people I'm mad at; angry feelings I'll discard;  
I'll try to love my enemies, even though it's hard.  
In the New Year, I'll lift people up, instead of putting them down.  
I'll fill my heart with love and joy, and never wear a frown.  
I'll let go of my worries; put it all in His hands;  
I'll repent and try to sin less, and obey all His commands.  
These New Year's resolutions are difficult, at best.  
Yet, here's what I can do each day that will put my soul at rest:  
I'll love my Lord with all my heart, with all my mind and soul;  
If I do that essential thing, I'll leave the rest in His control.  
- Anonymous