

From the Pastor

December 2017

December 3 marks the first Sunday in Advent. The last day, Sunday, will be December 24. Advent comes from a Latin word meaning "coming" or "visit." During Advent, we prepare for, and anticipate, the coming of Christ. We remember the longing of Jews for a Messiah and our own longing for, and need of, forgiveness, salvation and a new beginning. Even as we look back and celebrate the birth of Jesus in a humble stable in Bethlehem, we also look forward, anticipating the second coming of Christ as the fulfillment of all that was promised by his first coming.

During this 22 day season I encourage you to read the scriptures related to the birth of Jesus. I have put together a reading schedule for each day of the season. Take some time to read the daily passage asking these 3 questions:

1. What does it tell us about God?
2. What does this say about us human beings?
3. What has God done about this and what does he expect of us?

Perhaps you can do this as a family using an easy to read translation, e.g. the "New Living Translation." Whether alone or with others, seek to make this a practice during this special season.

01-Dec	Jeremiah 33:14-16	13-Dec	Luke 1:46-56
02-Dec	Isaiah 2:1-5	14-Dec	Luke 1:57-66
03-Dec	Zephaniah 3:14-20	15-Dec	Luke 1:67-80
04-Dec	Isaiah 35:1-10	16-Dec	John 1:6-9
05-Dec	Luke 1:5-25	17-Dec	Matthew
06-Dec	Malachi 3:1-4	18-Dec	Isaiah 11:1-10
07-Dec	Luke 1:26-38	19-Dec	Luke 2:1-7
08-Dec	Isaiah 7:10-16	20-Dec	Micah 5:2-5
09-Dec	Genesis 1:1-2	21-Dec	Luke 2:8-14
10-Dec	John 1:1-5	22-Dec	Luke 2:15-20
11-Dec	Isaiah 9:2-7	23-Dec	John 1:10-13
12-Dec	Luke 1:39-45	24-Dec	John 1:14

- Pastor Kurt

