

1ST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

MEDITATION PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP:

O Lord we pray that you would wake us up to your loving presence. Reveal to us the depth of your love in all the places of life. Prepare our hearts and minds to receive the coming of your son among us. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

- We are all meant to be mothers of God, for God is always needing to be born.
 Meister Eckhart
- Our world is full of injustice and unrighteousness, so something has to give where God enters the world, and it is not going to be God.
 -Rosalind Brown

CALL TO WORSHIP:

- Leader: Come, let us prepare ourselves with open hearts for the familiar Christmas story
- People: And hear the angel's disturbing message, God comes to the weak and lowly.
- Leader: Then, like Joseph, swept up in events we cannot control, butwith firm faith in God –
- People: Let us make room for Jesus in our lives.

Praise Song: Bring in Your New World (verses 1, 2, 4) (music at end of bulletin)

Our Confession:

All: Loving God, in our weakness we cry out for you to come. We do not look deep enough to see you in the midst of difficulty, to find you inside our anxious longing. We do not recognize you in our longing for someone or something to help us when we are not strong enough to face the world. We place our hopes in some mighty conqueror and miss the strength of the love which is offered to us by the child in the manger. Persistent God, open us to seeing you in the paradoxes of life. Give us reason to smile, knowing you are born in the midst of weakness and need. Be born in us. Amen.

Confession Response: What Have We Done for the Poor Ones (v. 1, 4, 6) (music at end of bulletin)

Lighting of the Advent Wreath: Messiah (music at end of bulletin)

The Reading:

2 Corinthians 12:9

but he (God) said to me, 'My grace is sufficient for you, for power* is made perfect in weakness.' So, I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

THE GOSPEL:

Luke 1: 46-55

And Mary said, 'My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy. according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants for ever.'

MESSAGE: Be Born in the Midst of Our Weakness - Pastor David Schoob

MESSAGE RESPONSE: No Obvious Angels (music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

- Leader: The child is born in you whenever you bring good news to the oppressed, bind up the brokenhearted and proclaim liberty to the captives. In all that you say and do, let the Lord be born in you!
- ALL: Amen.

THE SENDING SONG: All Earth is Hopeful (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

SUPPER SKINNY AS A RAIL CAN AFFORE

People: Thanks be to God.

OUR Nelcome IS WIDE OPEN

Skeptic. Cynic. Certain. Believer. Confident. Fearful. Doubter. Seeker. Questioner. Latino. Black. Asian. White. Indigenous. Immigrant. Any combination of ethnic or racial identities. Female. Male. Straight. Gay. Bisexual. Transgender. Questioning. Rich. Poor. Middle-class. Barely making it. Able bodied. Specially abled. Disabled. Young. Old. In-between. Married. Single. Divorced. Awaiting trial. Served time. On probation. Tired. Worn. Hopeful. Employed. Unemployed. Workaholic. Slacker. Anxious. Depressed. Confused. Centered. Inked. Pierced. Both. Life long follower of Jesus. Regular attender. Occasional attender. Curious onlooker. Don't quite fit the box. Need a prayer right now. Trinity is a faith community where we believe in God's love, grace and mercy—illustrated most clearly through Jesus Christ. We believe we are all children of God, created in God's image and equal in God's sight. We believe God loves us just as we are and way too much to let us stay this way. We are called to live in God's light and be transformed, not through judgment but through unconditional love. We believe God's love is all-inclusive and is stronger than the pressure to be perfect regardless of whatever labels we carry. Saint. Sinner. Democrat. Republican. Independent. Libertarian. Green. Socialist. Apolitical. Addicted. Recovering. We don't care what religion or denomination you are. We are all Human. We are all Flawed. We are all Beloved. -You are welcome here.

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COME as you are.

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Bring in Your New World v. 1, 2 & 4





No Obvious Angels



