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advent devotional



**TWO RIVERS CHURCH
2021**



ADVENT 2021

Advent is a time of preparation in the four weeks before we celebrate the birth of Christ. The word "Advent" is derived from the Latin word *adventus*, meaning "coming," which is a translation of the Greek word *parousia* from verses such as 1 Thessalonians 5:23:

"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

JESSICA ELLERTSON



J O Y

This season we are focusing on Joy. In the Old Testament, the prophets often speak of the experience of joy and the act of rejoicing when Yahweh will bring restoration and will come once again into their midst. Zephaniah 3 says:

"Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout O Israel, Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst... Fear not, O Zion; the LORD your God is in your midst."

Likewise, Isaiah 12 declares "With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation" after this important statement:

"Behold, God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid;
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my song,
and he has become my salvation."

Thus, joy is not just an emotion, but a natural reaction to work that the Creator does among His people, particularly the work of drawing the lost back into relationship with Him. It is that reason that the New Testament frequently exhorts us to rejoice about Jesus and His work on the cross.



J O Y

Because Christ Jesus has come into our midst and His work on the cross is the basis of our salvation, our most natural response should be one of pure and unadulterated joy!

Therefore, we can have joy even in the midst of the most difficult and darkest of times. Joy is not something that is fleeting but a recognition of the character of our God. A God who allowed His own Son to provide the atoning sacrifice required to bring us back into right relationship with Him. A God who continuously walks beside us and draws us closer to Him. A God who refines us and a God who cherishes us. And our beloved Messiah who will return one day to establish His kingdom in complete fulfillment of all that Scripture has promised us.

Join us this Advent as 6 members of Two Rivers Church share their reflections on this joyful Advent season.

JESSICA ELLERTSON

Week 1 of Advent

SCRIPTURE READING:

JEREMIAH 33:14-16

PSALM 25:1-10

1 THESSALONIANS 3:9-13

LUKE 21:25-36

DEVOTION BY:

Tim Steel



WEEK 1 OF ADVENT

JOY IN CONFIDENCE

We can be confident that God is good, and His heart is to draw us nearer to Him and make us more like Him. “Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way.” (Ps 25:8) As we trust God and follow Him, He loves us, He teaches us, and He reveals His truth to us, but not in mere knowledge. The truth of God is transformative, changing us from the inside out to be more like Him. As we surrender our hearts to God, He strengthens our hearts in holiness. (1 Thes 3:13) As we grow in holiness, we grow in likeness to our Savior. God is glorified in our everyday lives, which serve as a witness to the world that there is a living and holy God whose name is the Lord.

Jesus Christ promises all those who believe in Him not only eternal life, not only forgiveness of our wrongdoing in the eyes of God, but salvation that begins today. James 2:23 tells us that “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” He was called a “friend of God” and was given the promise of a future savior. Jeremiah 33:14 restates the promise of salvation from God. “The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah.” God repeats His promises to King David and through the prophets. He then fulfills the promise of salvation through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ for all the world to see. Therefore, we can be confident that God has not forgotten the promises he has made to us! Numbers 23:19 tells us, “God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?” James 1:17 describes God, “with whom there is no variation or shadow of turning.”

TIM STOEL

ADVENT 2021

God has shown us that He is faithful to us, and because of this, we can continue to trust Him all the days of our lives. Knowing that we can be confident that every word of God will be fulfilled, we can rest in the righteousness assigned to us through our faith in Christ. We can be confident that our sins have been forgiven and that nothing can separate us from the love of God and the promise of eternal life in His presence.

JOY IN EXPECTATION

We wait in anticipation of the salvation of not only ourselves but the salvation of humanity and of the very world itself. A time when we are not only saved as individuals but all of creation itself is made new and returned to the goodness that God intended. A time where we receive glorious, heavenly bodies. Revelation 21:4 promises, "He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away." We will be dwelling in a new city made by God, illuminated not by sun and moon, but by the Glory of God. No evil will be present, there will be no darkness of night, and no more waiting and yearning for the world to be as it should be. Every one of God's promises we cling to now will be fulfilled, and we will be living in His presence and glory forever.

Hebrews 11:10 describes Abraham as "looking forward to the city that has foundations, whose designer and builder is God." We can confidently and joyously look forward to eternity with God.

WEEK 1 OF ADVENT

Looking towards eternity from a world that can, at times, be less than loving, less than pure, and less than beautiful, it is reassuring to know there is another world coming that will be what God wanted for us all along. God Himself will be with us, and that He will fulfill the desires of our hearts and provide us with a perfect dwelling place for all of eternity. Through His word, God has revealed a glimpse of the world to come. Jesus' own words tell us, "Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away," but it has not happened—yet. As we wait to celebrate the birth of our Savior, we also wait to see God Himself face-to-face, anticipating that day through faith. Like a child eagerly waiting for Christmas, seeing the gifts below the tree, we eagerly await the day of our salvation and our advent, or "arrival" into eternity and all that God has planned for us. We live our entire lives in this world, in a sense, in the meantime. Psalm 130:5 says, "I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope." We can live our lives here on earth with joy—unspeakable joy! We know our future is not only secure, but we have unimaginable goodness to look forward to.

REFLECTION



TIM STOEL



Week 2 of Advent

SCRIPTURE READING:

MALACHI 3:1-4

LUKE 1:68-79

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

LUKE 3:1-6

DEVOTION BY:

Michael Emery

WEEK 2 OF ADVENT

ANTICIPATION

I love that sense of anticipation that something good is on its way. It rents space in our minds to the point where we long to have it at this moment. We look for markers for when these events are to take place. We stay alert to when the launch sequence starts for that special event, whether it's a birthday, childbirth, Christmas presents, bucket list vacation, etc. The joy of having something to lean towards and experiencing it to the fullest gives us the satisfaction of living—the pleasure of hearing the good news that something is around the corner. We hang on to the promise because we know deep down that the source is reliable. We live to get to that event; we dream, internalize, meditate, and speculate the details even before they unfold.

Luke 3:4 quotes Isaiah 40:3, "A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the Lord in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God." Malachi 3:1–4 too describes a messenger that is to come preparing the way before the Lord. In a time of great distress, I would imagine that these passages brought anticipation and a clue as to a person who would fit this description. These gave insight into the one preparing the way and the Messiah Himself. After being mute for several months, the first word out of Zacharias' mouth was a prophecy about the Messiah to come. A declaration that the season was near to His manifestation to the world. He knew that his son was going to be very instrumental in ushering the arrival of the One.

MICHAEL EMERY

ADVENT 2021

I could not imagine the jubilee taking place in the hearts of those who understood the times and seasons of John's and Jesus' arrival. That 400 years have passed between the last Old Testament book to this moment in history. Being oppressed by the Roman empire, most thought that the Messiah would come and rescue them back into the greatness, the times of King David and Solomon. But the true gift is that he was making way for all people to know God the Father, promised to Abraham in Genesis 22:18. "That all the nations will be blessed because you have obeyed My voice." Also outlined in Luke 1:73, "the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham." There is a great joy to be included in the very same promise of Abraham. A significant marker in the launch sequence was John, son of Zacharias, and this was the very marker they had been looking forward to.

But are we not so different today? Look at the world today. We are looking to our promise of His return with our own markers in time. We longingly await the arrival, just as Jews in that time awaited for His.

Prayer: Give us clear directions to stay alert, study the scriptures, preach the good news to all creation, make disciples, and anticipate His return.

So, what gives us hope? Assurance? Something to hang onto? A concrete promise that the Messiah is on the way? Just as we started to open our present in anticipation on Christmas morning, we see in Luke 3:1-6 describing the very thing that the prophets of the Old Testament declared.

WEEK 2 OF ADVENT

Luke 3:2-4, "during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zachariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, 'The voice of the one crying out in the wilderness: "Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight." That when God speaks, it happens. When it happens, there is an overwhelming richness of his character that is on it. Luke 3:5-6, "Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

As we celebrate the "coming" Advent season with gladness in our hearts, I echo Paul's opening statement from Philippians 1:3-11. "I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God." Paul, the pharisee of pharisee who now is in prison, is praying not only for the church of Philippi but for the body today, that we would know the richness of the promise of Jesus. We have been part of this plan since the beginning and as it continues to unfold. We can take heart knowing with the same anticipation and hope that we are secure, held firmly by him who paid it all. To rejoice in this time and season, that all glory be to God, Amen!

MICHAEL EMERY

REFLECTION

CHRISTMAS

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Silent Night, Holy Night

And there were...shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock in night.

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, All is calm,
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Shepherds
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Saw of old
4. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Was born the King of peace.

Round you vir - gin earth and sky,
Glo - ries stream from heav'n and sea,
Ra - diant beams from Thy fair face
With the an - gels do

ten - der and mild, Sleep in heav'nly rest,
Al - le - lu - ia, Christ the Son of God,
deem - ing grace, Je - sus, Lord of Heav'n,
to our King, Christ the Son of God.

Optional transition to "The Babe is Born"

peace,
born,
born,
born.

WORDS: Joseph Moore, 1782-1842; music by Franz Xaver Gruber, 1781-1861

The background of the entire page is a dark, textured surface, possibly a fabric. Scattered across the top and sides are several dried orange slices, showing their intricate internal structure and a golden-brown hue. Interspersed with the oranges are sprigs of evergreen branches, likely pine or fir, with their characteristic needle-like leaves. The overall aesthetic is rustic and seasonal, typical of Advent decorations.

Week 3 of Advent

SCRIPTURE READING:

ZEPHANIAH 3:14-20

ISAIAH 12:2-6

PHILIPPIANS 4:4-7

LUKE 3:7-18

DEVOTION BY:

Jessie Stoel

WEEK 3 OF ADVENT

AGAIN I SAY, REJOICE!

As we draw near to the Christmas season, the celebration of our Lord and Savior, it is often a time of reflection of the past year. For some, happy memories and good times of the past year flood our memories. For others of us, the year may have had a few bumps here or there. But through the sweet seasons and the difficult times, the apostle Paul gives us a gentle reminder in Philippians 4:4-5: "Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near."

To rejoice is to outwardly proclaim the joy we have for our Lord Jesus Christ, the same joy that fills our hearts. In Revelation 4:11, John writes, "Worthy are You, our Lord and our God, to receive glory and honor and power." So may this passage be our proclamation. It is God that "created all things," and because of His will, all things "existed and were created." John the Revelator reminds us to let our praise to Him be our song and let our joy in the Lord transcend our current situation, good or bad. So let us not express our joy to the Lord once, but again and again and again!

Paul did not forget those who were facing times of trial and hardships. "Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God," (Phil. 4:6). Let us stop and reflect on this passage. God does not want us to worry about anything. Much like a caring parent who wishes their children not to be scared or anxious. Why? Because they have control of the situation.

JESSIE STOEL

ADVENT 2021

The child should not be worried about where they live, where the next meal is coming from, or whether there will be clothes for them to wear. The parent has it all planned out for them. In the same way, God takes care of each one of us. Jesus says in Matthew 6:26-27, "Look at the birds of the sky, that they do not sow, nor reap, nor gather crops into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not much more important than they? And which of you by worrying can add a single day to his life's span?"

However, it does not stop there. The apostle Paul continues, "And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus," (Phil. 4:7). God invites us through humility and thanksgiving to give Him our worries, anxieties, and requests. His peace surrounds and protects our hearts and minds. What a mystery it is! When we experience happiness, we have joy in Christ. When we experience sadness, we still have that same joy in Him!

SING ALOUD, O ISRAEL!

Paul's command to rejoice in the Lord came long before the days of Jesus. In the Old Testament, Zephaniah the prophet writes to a pre-exilic Israel, likely before the reforms of King Josiah. He warns the Israelites that judgment is coming against Judah and Jerusalem. After this judgment, Zephaniah prophesied his central message: The Day of the Lord. He declared to the Israelites to "Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more," (Zeph. 3:14-15).

WEEK 3 OF ADVENT

Zephaniah was declaring to Israel that God would deliver them from the threats of neighboring nations. Israel's deliverance would not be the result of their proud works but by the grace God has given to His people. Zephaniah continues," On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD,"

(Zeph. 3:16-20).

The Israelites were looking forward to the Day of the Lord. They were to sing aloud, rejoice, and lift up Yahweh's name despite their situation and sinful nature. We get to experience the fruits of the Day of the Lord when Jesus came to the earth. He fulfilled the covenant by sacrificing Himself and giving us the gift of a renewed spirit. But we also have something to look forward to: the day Jesus returns to restore our whole body, and we spend eternity with Him! Paul understood the prophecies of Zephaniah and was overjoyed when they came to pass. Zephaniah's declaration is the Good News. The law is no longer binding to us Christians, but instead, Jesus Christ redeemed us through His shed blood. The message should stir joy in our hearts!

JESSIE STOEL

ADVENT 2021

As the year comes to a close, be joyful for what the Lord has done for us. Let us proclaim our joy through song, thanksgiving, and through the act of rejoicing. Despite this year's ups and downs, let Isaiah's words remind us who we should keep our trust in: "Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted," (Isa. 12:2-6).

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, again I say, rejoice!

REFLECTION







Week 4 of Advent

SCRIPTURE READING:

MICAH 5:2-5

PSALM 80:1-7

HEBREWS 10:5-10

LUKE 1:39-55

DEVOTION BY:

Kevin Bird

WEEK 4 OF ADVENT

While Joseph's lineage is mentioned both in the Gospels of Matthew and Luke, no such mention of Mary's background can be found in Scripture. In fact, we know very little of her past before her angelic visitation (except for her being betrothed to Joseph) and once she gives birth, very little of her life.

THE ASSIGNMENT

God sent an angel to Mary, but no ordinary angel. This is Gabriel, one who stands in the presence of God, an archangel. Imagine the significance of this to a marginalized girl in ancient Jerusalem whose lineage and significance is ignored. Gabriel shows up and says "Greetings, favored woman, the Lord is with You". "Don't be afraid Mary, for you have found favor with God. You will conceive and give birth to a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be very great and will be called the Son of the Most High. The Lord God will give him the throne of his ancestor David. And he will reign over Israel forever; his kingdom will never end."

THE RESPONSE

"Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel." (Isaiah 7:14)

Mary asked "How can this happen, I am a virgin?" Now Gabriel explains to Mary how the Holy Spirit will come upon her and the power of the Most High will overshadow her. Gabriel's final comment (vs 37) "...for nothing is impossible with God". Her final response is "I am the Lord's servant. May everything you say about me come true." She wasn't doubting, she just didn't understand how she could become pregnant without relations with a husband. She was asking a sincere, honest question to try to understand. God did not reject her question. As a good father, He answered Mary's question through Gabriel.

KEVIN BIRD

ADVENT 2021

THE HOLY SPIRIT'S RESPONSE TO MARY

Mary left a few days after Gabriel's visit and went to Zachariah and Elizabeth's house. Upon her greeting, the baby in Elizabeth's womb jumped for joy. Suddenly, the Holy Spirit fell upon Mary and she began to prophesy of the Lord's mighty hand and how he has humbled the proud and exalted the humble.

WHAT CAN WE LEARN FROM MARY & HER RESPONSE

Who we are and where we've come from, lowly, marginalized, disenfranchised or insignificant has no bearing on how God sees us because God sees our heart. He used a lowly young woman in a male dominated society to give birth to the savior of the world.

It is true that sometimes God asks us to do something that appears confusing or scary or hard. We naturally have questions. Asking God sincere questions is not doubting, it's just being a child asking his father a question.

Mary said yes, knowing that being pregnant in her society before being wedded would mean ostracization and shame and possibly losing her husband. Her YES was putting everything in her life on the line.

God didn't use a high ranking Pharisee daughter, a Synagogue leader's daughter, a highly educated man or woman. He used a lowly girl and poor man (Joseph) who couldn't afford a room for the child's birth and so the Messiah was born in an animal's stable.

WEEK 4 OF ADVENT

MEDITATION

The Savior of the World, born in an animal's manger. Born to an unwedded, poor, humble teenager in a society that did not even count or recognize women. This story is not so much about Mary as it is about the Father's heart, His love, what He values, and how He sees the least and lowliest of us all. Mary is all of us. When He sees us, it's not how successful, how important or how many badges we have, it's simply how humble we are, how child like we are and how willing we are to submit to His assignment for our life.

REFLECTION



KEVIN BIRD

Christmas Eve

SCRIPTURE READING:

ISAIAH 9:2-7

PSALM 98

TITUS 2:11-14

LUKE 2:1-20

DEVOTION BY:

Lisa Montavon

CHRISTMAS EVE

Recently my son and I assembled a nativity out of foam pieces. This nativity came with all of the usual characters: Mary, Joseph, baby Jesus, the wise men, and even a few barn animals. We spent hours punching out the foam pieces, assembling, and gluing - lots and lots of gluing. And by we, I mean mostly me, since my son is only 3. As he began playing with the pieces and acting out the scene with lots of animal noises two things struck me. Firstly, where there are animals there is a lot of noises, and a big smelly dirty mess. Secondly, I realized our nativity scene had far too much light. In reality, without electricity Jesus was likely born in darkness. The only light would have shone in from the sky or been provided from a small fire. In this place scripture was fulfilled. Isaiah 9:2 tells us, "the people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." Jesus' birth released a great light into a land filled with deep darkness. Through this great light, God has enlarged the nation and increased our joy. (Isaiah 2:3).

For to us a child is born,
to us a son is given,
and the government will be on his shoulders.
And he will be called
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
Isaiah 9:6

ADVENT 2021

Scripture tells us that when the time came, Mary gave birth to Jesus and wrapped Him in cloth and placed him in a manger (Luke 2:6-7). The word *manger* has become so common place that the true meaning of the word has been lost. The truth is, a manger was a dirty feeding trough for barn animals. Not the first place I would choose to place my newly born child. Yet in this setting our Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, and Prince of Peace was born. An act of humility the world had never seen before. Jesus came not only to be a light in the darkness but to redeem us and liberate us from our sinful ways. Titus 2:14 tells us Jesus came to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for Himself a people that are His very own, eager to do what is good. **Jesus calls us His very own.** This powerful truth is enough to make us rejoice! No matter how dark or lonely the circumstances we can find joy because Jesus the savior of the world calls us His own. Meaning that in truth we are never alone. Our identity is redefined instead of lonely we are His.

Standing in our identity as Jesus's "very own people", we can find joy even in a land of deep darkness. Scripture demands that the nations clap their hands and shout to God with cries of joy (Psalm 47:1). Why? Because the Lord is awesome and is King over all the Earth (Psalm 47:2). This is a fact that we as Christians recognize and even sing songs about. Yet, we are at a time in history where a quick glance at the news headlines causes one to question this truth. And yet here we are celebrating the Joy of Christmas. Psalm 47:3 goes on to remind us that "God has subdued nations under us, people under our feet." Notice how scripture says "subdued" and not "some day He will". Throughout Scripture God reminds us that He chose us as His inheritance and we are His own.

CHRISTMAS EVE

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,
the Lord amid the sounding of trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;
sing to him a psalm of praise.

God reigns over the nations;
God is seated on his holy throne.

Psalm 47:5-8

We can rejoice even when the headlines tell us we should live in fear and grumble and complain. Why? because 2,000 years ago our savior was born, wrapped in cloth and laid in a manger. We can sing and shout for joy because God is the king of all the earth! Neither headlines, nor political policies can push God off of His holy throne. God reigns over all the nations and we will always have a reason to rejoice because we are His own.

Prayer: God, thank you for sending Jesus into the world as a great light in a land of deep darkness. I confess that I'm your very own, and I am never alone in you. I declare that I no longer walk in darkness and wickedness but I am a new creation, eager to do what is good. God, you reign over all the nations and over every situation in my life. I declare that there is nothing that you cannot do!

LISA MONTAVON

REFLECTION





Christmas

SCRIPTURE READING:

ISAIAH 52:7 -10

PSALM 98

HEBREWS 1:1-12

JOHN 1:1-14

DEVOTION BY:

Jessica Ellerton

CHRISTMAS

We can't think about the babe in the manger without thinking about the man on the cross. The birth of Jesus was not the beginning and it was not the end but another event in the unfolding redemptive history told throughout every single page in Scripture.

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs. **Hebrews 1:1-4**

The Father has always been calling humankind back to Himself from the very moment that Adam and Eve were expelled from the Garden. And in the person of Jesus, through His work on the cross, we are reconciled to the Father and are called sons and daughters. Jesus continues to intercede for us as our great High Priest at the right hand of the Father and the Holy Spirit walks alongside us in every moment of our earthly lives. We are never alone and never forsaken. Look around. The world needs Jesus. They need hope, joy, rest, and peace and Jesus is the only one who brings those things. Don't keep this good news to yourself. The world has a desperate need to hear the truth.

Oh sing to the Lord a new song,
for he has done marvelous things! **Psalm 98:1**

JESSICA ELLERTSON

REFLECTION



2RC ADVENT 2021





WRITTEN BY

Tim & Jessie Stoel, Michael Emery, Kevin Bird

Lisa Montavon, Jessica Ellertson


DESIGNED BY NICHELLE BENTLEY

**SCAN QR CODE FOR
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COPY!**





**"...DO NOT BE
AFRAID; FOR
BEHOLD, I BRING
YOU GOOD NEWS
OF
GREAT JOY WHICH
WILL BE FOR ALL
THE PEOPLE..."**

LUKE 2:10

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