

Let us begin our preparation for celebration.....

There is a common thread that runs from the beginning of the Bible all the way to the end. That thread is Jesus. “In the beginning was the Word and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through Him all things were made; without Him nothing was made that has been made.” [John 1:1-3, NIV].

Old Testament Prophets told generations about His coming, His kingdom, and that He would reign forever. We can see these prophets speak the word of God, and then these words come alive in the New Testament events. The prophets were preparing the people, God’s people, for a coming and promised Messiah. The Gospel writers and New Testament followers experienced these prophecies fulfilled. And there is still more prophecies of Jesus to be fulfilled.

We need to be ready—ready in the Advent Season as we once again celebrate the birth of Immanuel. We also need to be prepared for His second coming, when we will celebrate with our Lord in His heavenly kingdom. Let us begin our preparation for celebration.

As you begin to read these scriptures daily, you will see Old Testament prophecy and then you will read New Testament fulfillment. In the last weeks during and after Christmas, you will read the story of Christ’s birth being told by the Gospel writers. Pause in the busy season of the holidays. Think about God’s great plan that was put into action from the foundations of the world. Prepare to celebrate God’s gift of love, given to you!

As you read the scriptures, you will find some verses are emphasized in parentheses. These verses are the main verses of each scripture, reinforcing what is expressed about Jesus, the coming Messiah.

Grace and peace to you this Advent Season,
Pastor Barry

Week of December 3 – December 9, 2017

Sunday: Born of a woman Genesis 3:15
Monday:Matthew 1:18-21
Tuesday: Born in Bethlehem Micah 5:1-4 (2)
Wednesday:Matthew 2:1-6
Thursday: Born of a Virgin..... Isaiah 7:13-14
Friday:Matthew 1:22-24
Saturday:Luke 1:26-31

Week of December 10 – December 16, 2017

Sunday: From the line of Abraham.....Genesis 12:1-3; 22:15-18
Monday:Matthew 1:14 & Romans 9:1-5
Tuesday: Jesus, the great light..... Isaiah 9:1-2
Wednesday:Matthew 1:22-23
Thursday: Names of the Messiah..... Isaiah 9:6-7
Friday:Luke 1:29-35 (22-33)
Saturday:John 6:43-53 (48 & 51)

Week of December 17 December 23, 2017

Sunday: From the tribe of Judah.... Genesis 49:10; Hebrews 7:14-17
Monday: Heir to David’s throne 2 Samuel 7:12-13
Tuesday: Luke 1:32-33; Romans 1:3
Wednesday: His throne anointed & forever ... Psalm 45:6-7; Daniel 2:44
Thursday: Luke 1:33; Hebrews 1:8-12
Friday: His name is Immanuel Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:23
Saturday: The coming Messiah..... Numbers 24:15-19

Week of December 24 – December 30, 2017

Sunday: Christ the eternal Word..... John 1:1-18
Monday: Prepare the way..... Mark 1:1-3
Tuesday: The birth of John the Baptist.....Luke 1:5-25
Wednesday: Birth of Jesus foretold.....Luke 1:26-38
Thursday: Mary & Joseph told of the coming birth...Matthew 1:18-25
Friday: Mary visits Elizabeth Luke 1:39-45
Saturday: Mary’s Song.....Luke 1:46-56

Week of December 31, 2017 – January 6, 2018

- Sunday:* John the Baptist’s birthLuke 1:57-66
- Monday:* Zachariah’s ProphecyLuke 1:67-80
- Tuesday:* The birth of Jesus.....Luke 2:1-7
- Wednesday:* Shepherds and Angels.....Luke 2:8-24
- Thursday:* Simeon’s ProphecyLuke 2:25-35
- Friday:* Anna’s Prophecy.....Luke 2:36-40
- Saturday:* Jesus in the Temple.....Luke 2:41-52

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**AN ADVENT PRAYER**

Dear Lord, as I travel on this journey that was taken so long ago, may my heart and mind go with me. I pause to see how you thought of me and all mankind, by planning for our salvation before the world began. The prophets foretell it and your people patiently wait. Now I, too, must wait patiently in preparation for the time of celebration. Jesus has arrived. He has been born in Bethlehem so long ago. I pause to think what His birth means to me and how that event plays a part in my life today. I also prepare for another celebration yet to come. I wait for Jesus to come again. What a celebration that will be! AMEN.

# Preparing For and Celebrating



## *Our Newborn King*

SPRINGS OF LIVING WATER!  
 Church of the Brethren and Beyond  
 December 3, 2017 – January 6, 2018

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