

ADVENT

over



Word of the Week

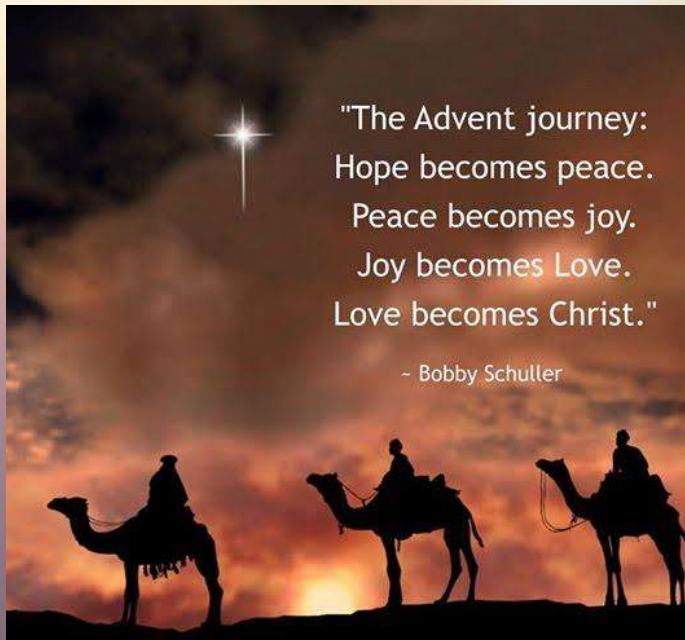
A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John

This is how God showed his love among us: He sent his one and only Son into the world that we might live through him. 10 This is love: not that we loved God, but that he loved us and sent his Son as an atoning sacrifice for our sins. 11 Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another.

Prayer for the Week

God of hope, who brought love into this world,
be the love that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought peace into this world,
be the peace that dwells between us.
God of hope, who brought joy into this world,
be the joy that dwells between us.
God of hope, the rock we stand upon,
be the centre, the focus of our lives
always, and particularly this Advent time.
Amen





"The Advent journey:
Hope becomes peace.
Peace becomes joy.
Joy becomes Love.
Love becomes Christ."

- Bobby Schuller



The Christmas Story

Watch this short clip.

[CLICK HERE](#)

Some of these children in the clip have never heard the Christmas story before and have a lot of questions. Sometimes we take for granted the Christmas story, we have heard it so many times before that we aren't shocked or surprised or amazed by any of it.

Take a moment this morning we read the Christmas story ([click here](#) or turn to Luke 2: 1-20 in your bible). Imagine you are hearing the Christmas story for the very first time, you are hearing about the Son of God being born into the world. What surprises you? What amazes you?

Questions to Ponder

- How have you experienced God's love in your life? What are some ways you can show that love to others this Advent?
- Are there any relationships in your life where it's hard to love? How can you take small steps to love like God loves you?
- In what ways can you prepare your heart to receive God's love this Advent season?

Don't forget about our 2024 Advent Appeal!
Please bring any donations to Kate's office.

Love Came Down

God didn't just say "I love you" from a distance. He showed His love by sending His Son, Jesus, into the world. During Advent, we remember that God didn't just send a gift, but became the gift. This is a reminder that love isn't just a feeling or a word, but something that is meant to be shown through actions

This week's Word of the Week says, "not that we loved God, but that He loved us." It's easy to think that our love for God is the foundation of our relationship with Him, but the truth is that God's love for us comes first. Even when we don't feel like we're enough, God's love is already there, ready to welcome us. In Advent, as we prepare our hearts for Christ, it's important to remember that we're loved no matter what. Since God has loved us so deeply, we're called to reflect that love in our relationships with others. Love isn't just for those who are easy to love; it's for everyone - even those we don't always get along with. This Advent, think about how you can show God's love to others, whether through kindness, forgiveness, or even just a smile.

At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern



St Theresa of Calcutta



Something to watch and listen to...

Not Just a Baby // A Christmas Spoken Word
[WATCH HERE](#)

To Save Us All // feat. Andrea Thomas
[LISTEN HERE](#)

Chris Tomlin - Emmanuel God With Us
[LISTEN HERE](#)