



ASCENSION

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

2016 Advent Readings

He became what we are in order to enable us to become what he is.

— Irenaeus

What has not been assumed cannot be restored; it is what is united with God that is saved.

— Gregory of Nazianzus

~

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27
THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Read Daniel 7:1-18. (This is today's sermon text.) What was the main point of the sermon today? How does it engage you in your life? Talk about it with someone.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 28

Read Isaiah 2:1-5.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Read Psalm 124.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Read Isaiah 54:1-10.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1

Read Psalm 72.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2

Read Isaiah 30:18-26.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3

Read Isaiah 40:1-11.

~

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 4
THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Read Micah 5:1-5a. (This is today's sermon text.) What was the main point of the sermon today? How does it engage you in your life? Talk about it with someone.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 5

Read Isaiah 11:1-10.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 6

Read Romans 15:4-13.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7

Read Psalm 21.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 8

Read 2 Peter 3:1-10.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9

Read Psalm 146.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 10

Read Luke 3:1-18.

It was God who went into the far country, and it is man who returns home.

— Karl Barth

~

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 11
THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Read Zephaniah 3:14-20. (This is today's sermon text.) What was the main point of the sermon today? How does it engage you in your life? Talk about it with someone.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 12

Read Psalm 45.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13

Read Isaiah 12.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14

Read Isaiah 35.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15

Read Ezekiel 47:1-12.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16

Read Jude 17-25.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 17

Read Psalm 80.

Christmas is not a dream, a moment of escapism. Christmas is the reality which shows up the rest of "reality."

— N. T. Wright

~

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18
THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Read Hosea 2:14-20. (This is today's sermon text.) What was the main point of the sermon today? How does it engage you in your life? Talk about it with someone.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 19

Read Isaiah 9:1-7.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20

Read Luke 1:26-38.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 21

Read 1 Samuel 2:1-10.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 22

Read Luke 1:46-55.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 23

Read Matthew 1:18-25.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 24
CHRISTMAS EVE

Read Isaiah 61:1-4; Luke 2:1-20.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25 • CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

Read Luke 2:1-20. (This is today's sermon text.) What was the main point of the sermon today? How does it engage you in your life? Talk about it with someone.

*Man's maker was made man,
that He, Ruler of the stars, might nurse at His mother's breast;
that the Bread might hunger,
the Fountain thirst,
the Light sleep,
the Way be tired on its journey;
that the Truth might be accused of false witness,
the Teacher be beaten with whips,
the Foundation be suspended on wood;
that Strength might grow weak;
that the Healer might be wounded;
that Life might die.*

— Augustine of Hippo

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's lap, his hair was like a light.
(O weary, weary were the world, but here is all aright.)*

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's breast, his hair was like a star.
(O stern and cunning are the kings, but here the true hearts are.)*

*The Christ-child lay on Mary's heart, his hair was like a fire.
(O weary, weary is the world, but here the world's desire.)*

*The Christ-child stood on Mary's knee, his hair was like a crown,
and all the flowers looked up at him, and all the stars looked down.*

— G. K. Chesterton, "A Christmas Carol"

*The Son of God became a man
to enable men to become sons of God.*

— C. S. Lewis

*Advent creates people,
new people.*

— Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Christianity is a faith with Christmas in its DNA.

— Peter Mead

~