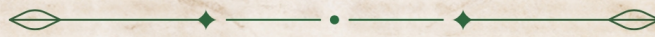
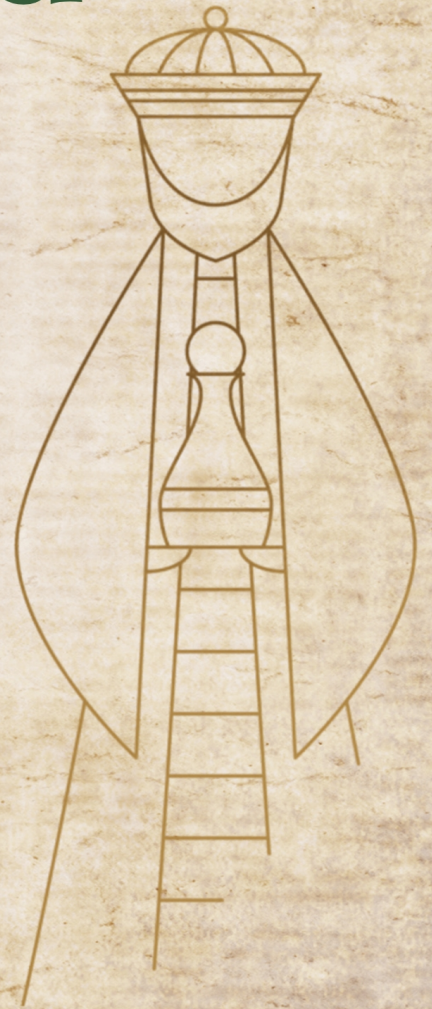
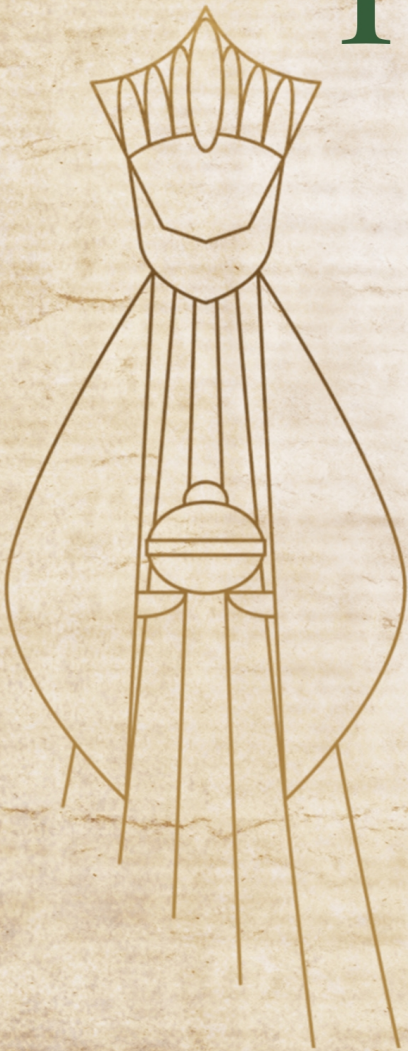




# ReGifted



The Magi's Tale



Advent & Christmas 2024



# Overview

## *What if your gifts could lead you to the greatest treasure of all?*

This Advent season, we invite you to embark on a transformative journey with our sermon series titled “Re-gifted.” Imagine the Magi, guided by a star, arriving to present their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh—believing they were honoring a new king. Yet, in their offering, they stumbled upon the profound truth of the prophesied Messiah - He is the ultimate gift given to the world.



In Romans 8:31-32, we are reminded that if God is for us, who can be against us? This Advent and Christmas season, God the Father has given us the greatest gift - His Son, Jesus. And Jesus keeps offering us gifts that only He can give: Hope, Peace, Love, and Joy.

Each week of Advent, we will focus on one of these themes, discovering how they manifest in our lives as we embrace the true meaning of Christmas. Join us as we celebrate the Advent & Christmas seasons as welcoming the greatest gift of unconditional love ever - Christ, himself. Don't miss this opportunity to unwrap the greatest gift of all!

*“Since he did not spare even his own Son but gave him up for us all, won't he also give us everything else?”*

*Romans 8:32*

## Take the *ReGifted* challenge!

### READ

Using the “Reading Plan” below or one of the Advent Devotionals - spend time daily with the Lord receiving the gift of His presence in scripture.

### GIFT

Identify someone in need in your life and share a gift with them - a special present, a meal, a zoom call... Or participate in our Giving Trees.

### INVITE

Take an invitation to invite someone to celebrate Christmas Eve with us here at Community Church. Also, you could invite someone who is alone to join you for the holidays

# Advent Bible Reading Plan

Date	Full Passage	Focus Verse
Dec. 1	Isaiah 11:1-10	Isaiah 11:1
Dec. 2	Genesis 1:1-31	Genesis 1:27
Dec. 3	Genesis 3:1-9	Genesis 3:8
Dec. 4	Genesis 6:1-8	Genesis 6:8
Dec. 5	Genesis 12:1-9	Genesis 12:2
Dec. 6	Genesis 21:1-7	Genesis 21:6
Dec. 7	Genesis 22:1-19	Genesis 22:14
Dec. 8	Genesis 28:10-22	Genesis 28:16
Dec. 9	Genesis 37:1-4, 50:14-20	Genesis 50:20
Dec. 10	Deuteronomy 5:1-21	Deuteronomy 5:28-29
Dec. 11	Joshua 2:1-24	Joshua 2:18
Dec. 12	Ruth 1:6-22	Ruth 1:16
Dec. 13	1 Samuel 16:1-13	1 Samuel 16:7
Dec. 14	Isaiah 9:1-7	Isaiah 9:2
Dec. 15	1 Kings 18:1-24	1 Kings 18:21
Dec. 16	Jonah 1:1-3, 17; 2:10; 3:1-3	Jonah 3:2
Dec. 17	Micah 5:1-6	Micah 5:2
Dec. 18	Esther 4:1-17	Esther 4:16
Dec. 19	Habakkuk 2:1; 3:17-19	Habakkuk 2:1
Dec. 20	Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:17
Dec. 21	Matthew 3:1-12	Matthew 3:3
Dec. 22	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:28
Dec. 23	Matthew 1:18-25	Matthew 1:23
Dec. 24	Luke 2:1-7	Luke 2:7
Dec. 25	Luke 2:8-20	Luke 2:11



## *Put Christ at the center of your Christmas*

These Advent bible readings will take us through the family tree of Jesus from Genesis until his birth in the gospels.

Each day turn your focus to Christ, who is present in scripture, to prepare for celebrating his birth this Christmas.

### *Slow down. Focus. Pray.*

Try reading at the same time each day over quiet morning coffee, or at the dinner table, or at bedtime.

You can also pick up an Advent devotional in the lobby.





Advent & Christmas Sermon Series

## *ReGifted*

Rediscover The Best Gift-giver

Sermon Schedule

Date	Text	Sermon Title	Jesse Tree Lesson
<u>December 1, 2024</u> Communion 1st Advent Sunday P. Mike VanDrie	Isaiah 11:1-9	The Gift of Hope	Created by Love Gen 1:27
<u>December 8, 2024</u> 2nd Advent Sunday P. Brandon Beebe	Isaiah 9:6-7, John 14:27	The Gift of Peace	God's Looking for You Gen 3:8
<u>December 15, 2024</u> 3rd Advent Sunday P. Brandon Beebe	Lamentations 3:19-33 Ephesian 2:1-10	The Gift of Love	10 Love Rules Deuteronomy 5:28-29
<u>December 22, 2024</u> 4th Advent Sunday P. Brandon Beebe	Zephaniah 3:14-20 John 15:9-17	The Gift of Joy	Kneel at the Manger Luke 2:7
<u>December 24, 2024</u> Christmas Eve 4:30pm & 6:30pm	Matthew 2:1-12	ReGifted: The Magi's Tale	
<u>December 29, 2024</u> Christmas Sunday P. Mike VanDrie	John 1:1-14	The Greatest Gift	Never Ending Christmas Luke 2:11-19



# The Jesse Tree

## What is the Jesse Tree?

The Jesse Tree is a way of preparing for Advent by journeying through the stories on Jesus's family tree. Each day of Advent, read Bible passages about someone on Jesus's family tree and hang an ornament symbolizing the story on your Jesse Tree. As you decorate your tree, you'll see how God prepared for Jesus to be born through many generations.



## Where does Jesse Tree come from?

The Jesse Tree tradition is rooted in Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of David, Israel's greatest king. And Jesus is descended from the line of David. He is the branch God promised would grow from Jesse's family tree. Each symbol represents a story from within this family tree and a step toward the birth of Jesus. To bring focus to Advent, the Jesse Tree follows Jesus family tree from Genesis to Revelation.



## Resources:

Start a Jesse Tree advent tradition in your family using the resources below:

**The Greatest Gift by Anne Voskamp -**

<https://annvoskamp.com/thegreatestchristmas/>

**The Greatest Gift Ornaments-**

<https://tinyurl.com/zp55hwbh>

**Faithward Jesse Tree Resources -**

<https://www.faithward.org/jesse-tree/>

# Timeline

## November 2023:

Nov 17 - Poinsettia ordering begins

Nov 24-30 - Church Decorating

## December 2023:

Dec 2 - Family Communication about walk-up pageant goes out

Dec 6 - Community Mailing, Newspaper Ads, Online promo

Dec 9-13 - Costume Preparation

Dec 13 - Recruit ushers and greeters

Dec 15 12:00-3:00 - Staff Chr

Dec 16 - Giveaway Bags  
+ Worship Around the Tree  
+ Candy or Coffee  
+ Christmas Ornament  
+ Invitation to New Year's Brunch

Dec 19 - Print Christmas Eve Programs

Dec 22-24 - Cleaning

Dec 23 - Poinsettia Delivery

Dec 22-24 - Sanctuary Set-up

Dec 22, 11:30 am - Dry Run Rehearsal with musicians & main actors

Dec 24 2:00 - Dress rehearsal

- 4:30 Service #1

- 6:30 Service #2

Dec 29 - Normal Sunday 10 am worship (guest music)

Dec 30 - Jan 4 - Holiday Clean-up

## January 2024:

Jan 5 - Annual Meeting & Testimony Sunday

Jan 12, 10:00-10:30 - Devotional

10:30-12:30 - New Year Community Brunch



## Christmas Eve: The Magi's Tale

Arrival: People arrive to be welcomed by hosts, Christmas cookies and drinks, Christmas music, and decor that gets them thinking about the Gospel message of Christmas. The lobby Christmas tree is surrounded by Christmas gift bags that encourage families to keep Christ central to their Christmas celebration.

4:00 Seating Begins	Ushers
4:25 Prelude	Ed Scheif, Piano
4:30 Welcome	P. Brandon
4:35 Song: God of Wonders	<i>Worship Team</i>
4:40 Act 1: The Star	Dastur, the Magus
4:50 Song: Hark The Herald	<i>Worship Team</i>
4:55 Act 2: Jesus Born in Bethlehem	Mary, Joseph, kids
5:05 Song: O Holy Night	Worship Team
5:10 Act 3: Magi's Gifts	Dastur, the Magus
5:25 Song: Do You Hear What I Hear	Molly Scheif
5:25 Candle Lighting	Ushers
5:35 Joy To the World	All
5:45 Blessing	P. Brandon
5:46 Postlude	Ed Scheif, Piano
5:46 Hosts give Christmas Bags away	Hospitality Team
5:50 - 6:15 Dinner/Break for participants	

[Repeats at the 6:00 hour]

# Advent Order of Worship

## **Advent Order of Worship:**

9:55am Pre-service Song

10:00am Welcome & Announcements

10:10am Song #1

10:15am Call to Worship - Jesse Tree

Dec 01 - Created By Love (Gen 1:27)

Dec 08 - God's Looking for You (Gen 3:8)

Dec 15 - 10 Love Rules (Deuteronomy 5:28-29)

Dec 22 - Kneel at the Manger (Luke 2:7)

Dec 29 - Never Ending Christmas (Luke 2:11-19)

10:25am Song #2

10:30am Message

11:00am Closing Song

11:05 am Blessing