

MINDFUL MONDAY DECEMBER 2nd

With the hanging of the greens during worship service, the Advent season is officially here. The Advent season is a time to prepare for the “coming” or birth of Jesus. It is a time of reflection, preparation, and great joy.

Each symbol plays a part in the history of Christian faith. The circular wreaths showing God’s endless love and eternal life.

A Christmas Tree is evergreen, staying green all year, and a symbol of our salvation and everlasting life. The tree also points upwards towards heaven. We add ornaments that hold meaning and help us remember the story of Jesus and the Christmas season.

The Advent wreath represents the four Sundays of the season; hope, love, joy and peace. With the Christ candle lit on Christmas Eve bringing God’s light into the world.

The Nativity reminds us of Christ’s humble beginnings and although he was just a baby the wise men and others traveled to bow down before him.

Poinsettias with their star shaped petals help us remember the holy night when “the stars shout forth the glory of God” and also remind us of the sacrifice of Jesus’ blood with their red petals.

All these things tell a story of our faith, a story of Jesus’ birth, a story of humble beginnings and great sacrifice. What a story to share with others. Go be a messenger for the Lord. “Go tell it on the mountains.” “Shout Hosanna!” Share this special season of our faith with others so they too can be a part of the story of a miracle.

¹⁰ But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: ¹¹ to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, ^[a] the Lord. ¹² This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” ¹³ And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, ^[b] praising God and saying, ¹⁴ “Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!” Luke 2:10-14

Today we have many that need prayer. We lift up Jeff Zaugg and his recovery after hip surgery. We pray for Jim Bane’s family with the loss of his father, Vernon. We say a prayer of Thanksgiving for all those that traveled safely this past weekend. We pray for those on our prayer list and all of those that are in need of your presence in their lives.

We pray for those on this week’s regional prayer calendar.

Iglesia Cristiana Nueva Jerusalem, Rochester, MN, Benjamin Vanegas

First Christian Church, Sac City, Mark McWhorter

Diana Robertson, Wendy Manuel, Lynda Carlson

Christian Church in Greater Kansas City –includes congregations in Missouri and Kansas in the Greater Kansas City area.