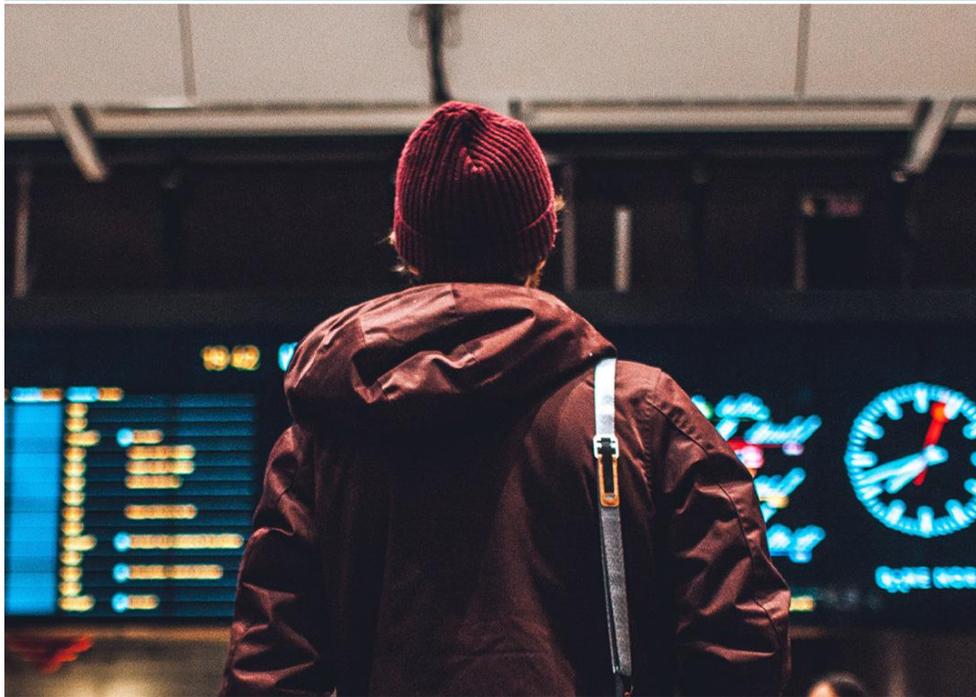


First Sunday of Advent

Series: “Come Home for Christmas”

Time to Go Home

COME HOME FOR CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SERIES



November 28, 2021 – 10:00 a.m.

Davis United Methodist Church

In-person and Livestreamed worship today!

Problems accessing the service?

[Visit our Website](#) for more access information



***We Are a Reconciling and an Inclusive Community of Faith
Open and Affirming to the LGBTQIA Community and to All
Committed to Living and Teaching The Love of Jesus Christ***

Order of Service for the Worship of God

UMH = United Methodist Hymnal

FWS = Faith We Sing

Today's hymn singer: Joyce Smuda

GOD CALLS US TO GATHER FOR WORSHIP

"In the name of Jesus, the Christ and our brother, you are most welcome!"

The Light of God's Presence is Among Us – Lighting of the Christ Candle

Prelude O Come O Come Emmanuel (12th c., arr. T. Barbieri) Ashlyn, Kian, and Tracia Barbieri, Isabelle Henry, and Bill Andrews

Welcome

Pastor Brandon

Song

"Blessed be the God of Israel" (v. 1, 3)

UMH # 209

Lighting the Candles of Advent

THE CANDLE OF HOPE

Rosa and Jerry Olson, readers

¹⁴The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness." -- *Jeremiah 33. 14-16 (NRSV)*

Reader One: We have endured these past few years and know that there is more to face before us. We don't know if we have the strength to withstand what might be around the next corner. And we wonder who will stand with us, who will have our back, who will occupy our corner.

Reader Two: Who is with us? That is what we begin to wonder these days. Who will light our way and chart our course? Who is on our side, who will welcome us home again?

Reader One: Home. The prophet Jeremiah speaks of a branch that will be raised. Jesus spoke of a Son of Man that will descend. Both point to a hope. A hope that calls us home. Our true home, where we're welcomed and loved and included. Where there is justice and equality and peace. It's time, this Advent season, time to go home.

Reader Two: We light this candle, as a sign of our hope, our strong hope that there is a way to go home. To the home in Christ, and it starts with us, and it starts here, and it starts now. It's time to go home.

Light the first candle on the Advent wreath

Anthem

Cradle for a Lamb (Penny Rodriguez)

Ashlyn, Kian, and Tracia Barbieri [piano], Isabelle Henry, and Bill Andrews

Pastoral Welcome

Pastor Brandon

Moment With Children/Song "Jesus Loves the Little Children"

*Jesus loves the little children, all the children of the world.
Every color shining bright, we are precious in his sight.
Jesus loves the little children of the world!*

The Peace of Christ is Given to All

One: The peace of the living Christ be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

WE LISTEN FOR THE LIVING WORD

Focus Scripture

Luke 21. 25-36 (NRSV)

Pastor Brandon

“There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in a cloud’ with power and great glory. ²⁸Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

²⁹Then he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³²Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³⁴“Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, ³⁵like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

Witness to the Word

“Time to Go Home?”

Pastor Brandon

WE OPEN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS TO GOD

Do you have a prayerful need? Please send your request to prayerchain@davisumc.org

****Prayer Hymn**

“To Know You More” (v. 1, 3)

FWS # 2161

Praying in Community

One: The Lord be with you. Let us pray together.

Beloved Creator,

Something stirs deep within us – a longing, a hope, a thirst for joy, a hunger for peace, a yearning for blessing. We listen to the voice of the Autumn wind and hear within it the crackle of hearthfire. We know deep within that our hopes and fears will be met by angel’s songs and children’s sighs. We know deep within that the chill of night will be chased away by the warmth of each other’s smiles.

It is Advent – the season of waiting, hoping, yearning. Advent, the time to go home. Our home, Lord, is in your love. Amen.

Silent Prayer -

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father [Creator], who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kin-dom come; thy will be done; on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

WE OFFER OUR SELVES & OUR GIFTS TO GOD

A Ministry Moment

New Play Structure

Contact Dick Dowell at dicknjudy@aol.com

An Invitation to Give

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when my promised one will teach transgressors my ways, and heal the world with love and mercy. Let us be healers. Let us give, joyfully.

To give online and have it channeled to the special offering fund, please click on or visit this link:

<https://onrealm.org/DavisUnitedMeth/give/specialoffering>.

This will allow you to make your donation electronically.

If mailing a check, please allow for extra processing time.

You can find information about this month's special offering in the announcements section below.

**Doxology

"Praise God, From Whom All Blessings Flow"

UMH # 95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heav'nly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen

**Prayer of Dedication

God our Creator, Please help us remain alert and watchful for the coming of your promised one, the one who comes with power and glory, the one drawing near to bring our salvation. Help us please to prepare the way, and use our gifts and offerings to care for your Kin-dom. Amen.

WE GO TO SERVE GOD & OUR NEIGHBORS IN ALL WE DO

**Hymn of Benediction

"People, Look East" (v. 1, 4)

UMH # 202

**Benediction – "A Sending" by Ruth Burgess from her book "Winter"

In the strength of God the maker, we are going on a journey.

In the friendship of Jesus, we are going on a journey.

In the safeguarding of the Holy Spirit, we are going on a journey.

A star is shining.

Angels are busy.

Mary is pregnant.

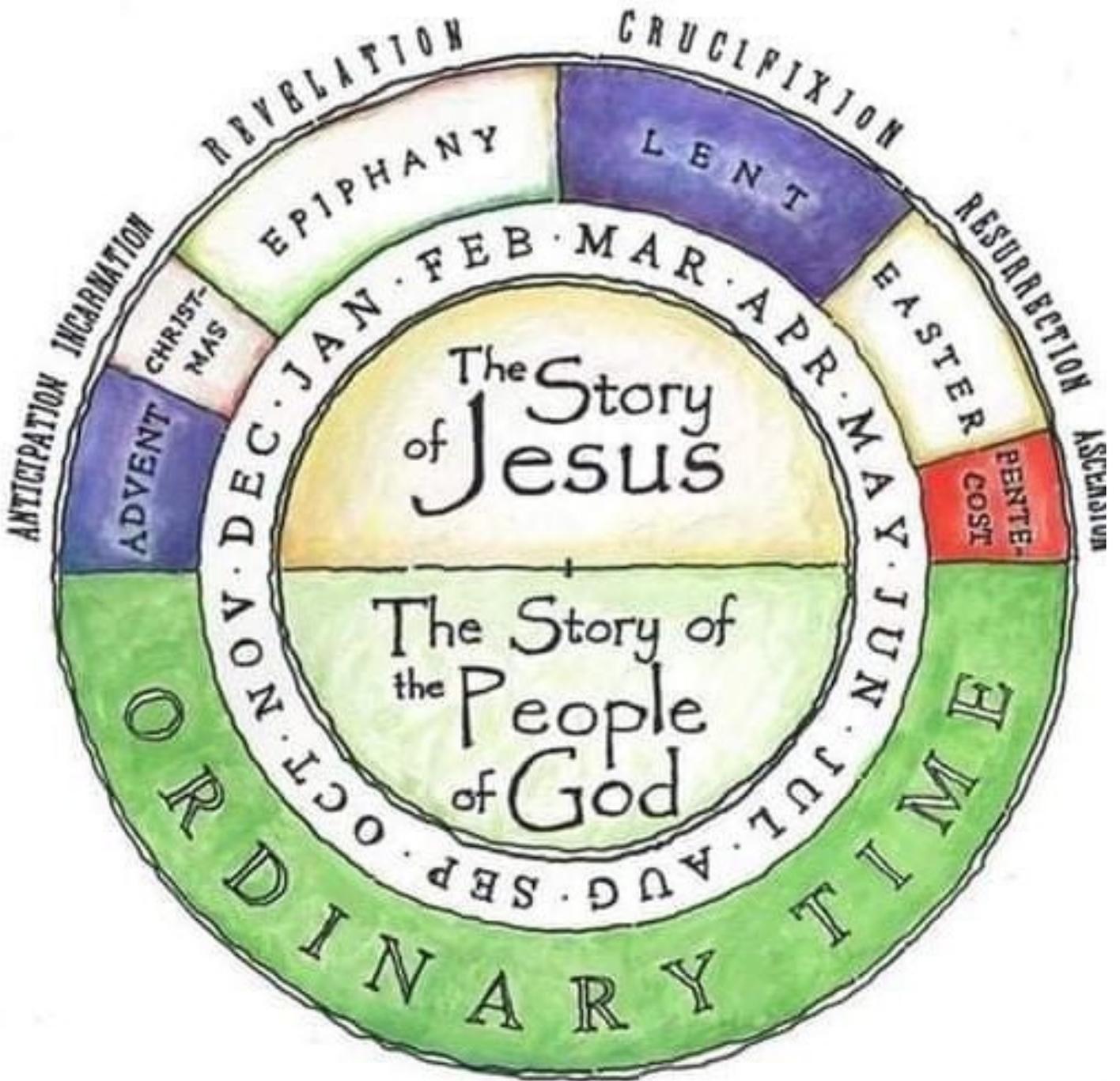
Joseph is packing.

Advent is coming.
It's time to go.
May God bless us with hope and wonder as we travel. Amen.

Postlude

Sing We Now of Christmas *(trad. French carol, arr. Prentice)*
Ashlyn, Kian, and Tracia Barbieri, Isabelle Henry, and Bill Andrews

The Light of God's Presence Goes Before Us Into The World



Updates

Birthdays:

November 28th: Linda Deos
November 28th: Dave Woods
November 29th: Rosa Washington Olson
December 2nd: Alice Lakin
December 4th: Helen Roland
December 5th: Mitch Finklang
December 5th: Josh Hull
December 5th: Eileen Tutt
December 6th: Robin Johnson
December 9th: David Achimore
December 13th: Kim DeYoung

Anniversaries:

December 14th: Vince Sturla and Kelly Wilkerson

STARTS TOMORROW: “The Redemption of Scrooge”

By Matt Rawle

A Four-Session ADVENT DISCUSSION GROUP with *Pastor Brandon*

Mondays @ 7:00 PM

Pick up your book after worship, or

Order Your Book Here - https://www.amazon.com/Redemption-Scrooge-Pop-Culture/dp/1501823078/ref=tmm_pap_swatch_0?encoding=UTF8&qid=&sr=

Session Dates/Chapter Titles

November 29 – “Bah, Humbug!”

December 6 – “The Remembrance of Christmas Past”

December 13 – “The Life of Christmas Present”

December 20 – “The Hope of Christmas Future”

Join Us On ZOOM: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81171169645?pwd=L3Jjb2VRa2FrUTRRTTGhISUFaajE2dz09>

“A Ghost Story of Christmas” is what Charles Dickens subtitled his well-loved book “A Christmas Carol”. With the author of the accompanying guidebook, we will consider what insights Dicken’s story may offer to each of us. At the end of our discussion group series, maybe we can find a time as Christmas approaches to watch one of the movie versions of this story together!! Do you have a favorite? I do!

No need to sign up for this advent discussion group; just click the ZOOM link above and show up with your book for our discussion ;o). Questions? Contact me – Pastor Brandon

November's Special Offering

The Mountain Maidu

Contact Names: Susan Padgett - sdpadgett@sbcglobal.net
Marge Matoba – margematoba@gmail.com

November is Native American Heritage Month so our special offering will go to the **Maidu Summit Consortium**. The Mountain Maidu are slowly reclaiming their homeland in the upper Feather River watershed and restoring their land to ecological and spiritual health. The Mountain Maidu people have been incredibly resilient in the face of genocide, government betrayal, and loss of land. Let us be generous in helping them reclaim their land and heritage.

Much more information about this month's worthy special offering recipient will appear starting this Thursday in your [weekly newsletter](#), available via E-mail and archived on the church's Website.

Note: We are accepting donations to our special offering at any time during the month. Please indicate on your check or in your e-giving that your donation is for the special offering. If giving electronically, please follow the link in the bulletin to direct your gift effectively.

Service & Justice Ministries

Contact Names: Susan Padgett - sdpadgett@sbcglobal.net
Marge Matoba – margematoba@gmail.com

Service & Justice ministry initiatives can be found in "Our Weekly Newsletter" here: [newsletter archive](#)

Grace Garden's Newsletter

Contact name: Dave Woods – davwoods@comcast.net

Join the Garden crew from 9-11am Mondays, Thursdays, and Saturdays as we all transition to a cooler season. Take a look at the most recent [garden update](#) which has some very important information about the new leadership in the Garden.

Zoom Into Wednesday Bible Study - You'll Be Glad You Did!

Contact Name: Louanne Horsfield - 530-759-9202 or brainh@aol.com

- Do you want to dip into Mark's Gospel a little bit at a time, and discuss with friends the meaning it has for us in our time?
- Then come to Bible study on Wednesdays on Zoom, 1:30-2:45 pm.
- NO homework, just real conversation about real things.
- Plus time for prayer concerns and blessings, and catching up with each other.
- This small group is always ready to welcome new participants.

An Announcement from CA House

We now have official word that Rev. Sara Tillema, director of the Cal Aggie Christian Association (aka. CA House), is moving on to take the position of Program Director at the Zephyr Point Presbyterian Conference Center in South Lake Tahoe! More information in your newsletter and at www.cahouse.org.

A Christmas Gift For Our Staff

Our *Staff-Parish Relations Committee* encourages your holiday giving for the benefit of our staff, who offer their best in ministry with us throughout the year. As you are able, please contribute generously toward this year's Christmas gift which we will distribute to them for the holidays. Checks for the gift should be made to **Davis UMC** and please note "**staff gift**" on your check. Please send your gift with enough time for it to be received at the church by December 15th. **Please (please!) do not mail cash to the church.**

A special "FYI": federal tax law stipulates that "bonus payments" to staff are considered "income" and, thus, are taxed at the normal rate for salaried and hourly workers. Keep that in mind when giving and consider adding an amount that would offset this increased tax burden on the staff.

In these times, electronic and text giving options may suit you. The link is <https://onrealm.org/DavisUnitedMeth/give/Staff>. To give via text, right from your phone, send a text message in the format "DavisUMC Staff \$X" (Where X is the amount offered) to 73256.

Contact the Finance Secretaries (finance@davisumc.org) with any questions about this year's staff offering- and thank you!