

# Salem UMC Advert Study 2024

O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant! It's that time! Time to prepare for a holy mystery where God comes to earth to become a vulnerable baby in order to live a full life among us. Sometimes we try to think of new, exciting ways to tell the familiar story. And yet, remembering the traditions, songs, and stories from this annual journey to Bethlehem as we always do it can transform us and bring us closer to who we are called to be. You may be surprised to know that Advent and Christmas are separate seasons. The Christmas season does not begin until December 25th. Until then, we are in a time of preparation. We will spend the month in the paradox of seeing our deep need for Christ and the way he has already shown up. So, this season come relax into our Advent preparation and Come, let us adore him.

This series, rather than using our trusty, "wait, what?!", we will note what inspires us, what questions the scripture raises, what irks or bothers us in the reading, and what the text says God requires of us. In other words,

- Inspire!
- Inquire?
- #Irk
- &Require

Blessings on your Advent journey!

Rev. Emily

HINT: Each item has a symbol with it.

!?#&

When you are reading, use these symbols to mark your Bible so you can go back to it later when you are journaling.

#### INSPIRE!

What piece of the scripture inspires you?

INQUIRE?

What questions does this scripture raise?

#IRK

What bothers you in this scripture reading?

&REQUIRE

### December 4

#### Preparation and Passion

Read

Jeremiah 33: 14-16

Malachi 3: 1-4

Luke 3: 1-6; Luke 21: 25-36

Tournal

Inspire!

What piece of the scripture inspires you?

Inquire?

What questions does this scripture raise?

#1/4

What bothers you in this scripture reading?

& Require

### December 11 Presence

Read

Isaiah 12: 2-6

Luke 3: 7-18

Tournal

Inspire!

What piece of the scripture inspires you?

Inquire?

What questions does this scripture raise?

#1/4

What bothers you in this scripture reading?

*ERequire* 

## December 18 Promise

Read

Micah 5: 2-5a

Luke 1: 39-55

Tournal

Inspire!

What piece of the scripture inspires you?

Inquire?

What questions does this scripture raise?

#1/4

What bothers you in this scripture reading?

*ERequire*