

ADVENT
WEEK 1



Rediscovering Awe

Unexpected Joy



NOVEMBER 30-DECEMBER 1, 2019

NORTHLAND
CHURCH

Christmas. On the surface, it's gift lists and shopping sprees, crisp nights and fun parties, Rudolphs on roofs and Santas in stores, trimmed trees and lavish lights. Going deeper, it's connecting with friends, reuniting with family, nostalgic carols, scrumptious meals, giving gifts, and making memories. But what if ...

What if...

... we add rediscovering awe to our Christmas expectations this year?

... in the midst of navigating our normal holiday routine, we find again—or unwrap for the first time—the awe and wonder of the extraordinary events launching the celebration thousands of years ago?

... at the deepest level, Christmas becomes a time of peeling back accumulated layers of holiday clichés—diving into the astonishing “why” and “so what” behind the season?

... we enter into the mystery of God becoming flesh and inhabiting our broken reality?

What if...

... Christmas becomes a time of reflecting on the mundane being indwelt by the majestic?

... we slip into sandals of obscure, peasant shepherds whose commonplace existence was interrupted by an encounter with Heaven ... and we, too, are mesmerized by an angelic symphony proclaiming unexpected Hope?

... this season found us imagining the smells and sensations of a first-century stable—wallpapered with soot from centuries of Bedouin fires, carpeted with innumerable layers of sheep manure?

... we engage with the cosmic incongruity of the Creator of the World and Restorer of our Humanity occupying a shepherd's cave, clothed in rags, cradled in a feeding trough?

What if...

... we contrast the tranquility of that night with the sheer horror of a crucifixion thirty-three years later and—with overwhelming gladness, gratitude, and grief—realize the eternal purpose of His birth?

... we spend this season pondering what it means for ordinary human beings—in the midst of routine schedules, overwhelming stress, and truncated happiness—to graciously, unexpectedly be summoned by God Himself?

Welcome to Advent 2019! Our hope is that this teaching series will serve as an invitation for us to listen together to the angels' song ... ***tasting Christ's Joy, delving into His Glory, experiencing His Peace, and relishing His Favor.***

UPCOMING SERVICES

» Dec 7-8 | **Advent Week 2** | REDISCOVERING AWE | Unexpected Glory | Luke 2:8-14 | Pastor Matt Heard

» Dec 14-15 | **Advent Week 3** | REDISCOVERING AWE | Unexpected Peace | Luke 2:8-14 | Pastor Matt Heard

What's Current

Find out more information at NorthlandChurch.net or ask a connections team member wearing an orange lanyard for assistance.

#GivingTuesday

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3 | GIVE VIA FACEBOOK BEGINNING AT 8 A.M.

We are asking for \$50,000 to impact those with special needs in our community.

For more info, visit NorthlandChurch.net/GivingTuesday

Christmas House

DONATE GIFTS NOW THROUGH WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4

For more info and to sign up to volunteer, visit NorthlandChurch.net/ChristmasHouse

The Nutcracker Ballet

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6 | 7-9:30 P.M. | SANCTUARY

For more info and to purchase tickets, visit NorthlandChurch.net/Nutcracker

Poinsettias Tradition

HONOR OR MEMORIALIZE A LOVED ONE WITH THE PURCHASE OF A POINSETTIA AND HELP DECORATE THE CHURCH

For more info, visit NorthlandChurch.net/Poinsettias

Tithes and Offerings

"When it comes to life the critical thing is whether you take things for granted or take them with gratitude."

—G.K. Chesterton

"A spirit of thankfulness is one of the most distinctive marks of a Christian whose heart is attuned to the Lord."

Thank God in the midst of trials and every persecution."

—Billy Graham

"...God isn't asking you to be thankful. He's asking you to give thanks. There's a big difference. One response involves emotions, the other your choices, your decisions about a situation, your intent, your 'step of faith.'"

—Joni Eareckson Tada

Be sure to check out the newly released December *Engage* paper and turn to page 44-45 for a review of the amazing year you've facilitated through 2019!

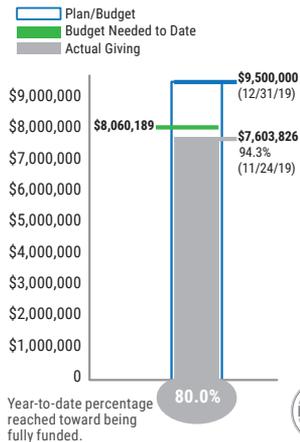
* REMINDER * DECEMBER 3rd *

GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement created in 2012. It is our goal to raise \$50K in funds to support our Access Ministry on GivingTuesday. Facebook is matching up to \$7M in eligible donations made through Facebook during GivingTuesday 2019 on a first-come, first-served basis starting at 8 a.m. Northland Church for Access Ministry can receive up to \$100K in matched funds, so please prayerfully consider setting your alarm and contributing first thing in the morning!

To learn more, visit NorthlandChurch.net/GivingTuesday.

January 1 - November 24, 2019

Your continued prayer and partnership is greatly appreciated. We are thankful for you!



Ways to Give

Give via mobile text. Text "northland" to 77977.



Download and use the PushPay App.



Give online at NorthlandChurch.net/Give or use the Northland App.



Give by cash or check and drop it in any of our tithe boxes.



Give at the iPad stations located throughout the foyer.

