# Rooted In Faith

McKendree Methodist Church

## **Message from the Pastor**

## **December Sermon Series Week 1 Recap!**

We are going to GO into the new year. Let's spend this time being Rooted in Faith and get ready to GO!

## **Prepare for a Visitor**

- Cleaning your house for when a guest arrives
- Putting up Christmas Decorations
- We are going to clean up our own house—our mind, body, and soul—as we prepare to celebrate our Savior's birth!

In the busyness of preparing for Christmas, we are going to keep our Savior at the center of everything we do this Advent season! Last week, we talked about being thankful for all things, big and small, and we are going to continue that this season!

When you wrap a gift, be thankful that you are blessed to be able to not only purchase or make the gift but also for the person you are wrapping it for.

When you put up your Christmas decorations, don't see it as a chore, but rather as a way to remind those who pass by your house that Jesus is the reason for the season!

And the biggest challenge of all this season: look at everything through the lenses of a child! God tells us to be like children for a reason!

#### **Clean Up Your House!**

Our body, mind, and spirit! As we focus on Jesus' birth this Advent season, our scripture reading Luke 21:25-36 this week reminds us that we need to always be prepared for the return of our Savior. He will be coming back, and when He does, as we discussed a few weeks ago, it is not the image we typically think of when Jesus returns. Rather, He is coming as our conquering King on a white horse, with red eyes, and a sword, coming to claim His people!



When know when Christmas is coming, but the difference is we don't know when Jesus is coming back, so we better be prepared all year round!

But for the Advent season, we are going to prepare our hearts and minds to celebrate the birth of Jesus, and we will use the book of Luke as our guidebook. Then there is all the preparation that goes into the Christmas season—but the key is to keep the reason at the forefront!

"When I pray, I talk to God; when I read the Bible, God talks to me!" D.L. Moody. Repeat!

Step 1 - Our first action step is to read Luke this season! As you read, let God talk to you! Luke is a guidebook for life, not just the Advent season. Let it change you from the inside out!

Be in God's word—read the book of Luke, one chapter a day, and on Christmas, you will have read all 24 chapters, which prepares us to read the entire story of Jesus! One chapter a day!

As we read in chapters 1 and 2, as Jesus prepares to enter the world, we have a great example in the parents of John the Baptist and, most importantly, Jesus! They had to prepare for the coming of our Lord! When you read these chapters, look for the action steps! We are called to be active, not passive, in our faith walk. As we prepare, we cleanse our body and mind and block all distractions to focus on our relationship with Jesus!

Step 2 - Prayer: talk to God anytime, anywhere! This past year, we read and preached on how Daniel went to God three times a day! We had a 30-day challenge to do the same! For the Advent season, let's continue this practice three times a day! We see this in Luke 1 with Zechariah, Elizabeth, Joseph, and Mary—all of them had angels come visit them in dreams and prayer time. God spoke to them and let them know that a miracle was going to happen! Mary is a virgin who is going to give birth to Jesus. Elizabeth is older—some scholars say she is 90—and she is going to give birth... God gave her an action step to go and visit Mary! See, we aren't called to go through life alone or keep our blessings to ourselves. God tells us to move; we need to move!

**Step 3** - Listen and watch good things. Make intentional choices this Advent season to put good things in your heart and mind.

Step 4 - Be like a child. God told us this for a reason!

- Laugh
- Enjoy the surprises
- Go all in on the reason for the season

See you Next Sunday as we continue with our December Sermon Series!

## **Event Information**

## **Christmas Caroling December 20th**

Everyone is invited to attend door to door caroling for shut-in members on December 20 at 4 p.m. followed by soup and hot cocoa at the church.

Friday, Dec 20, 2024, 04:00 PM

When?

**Event Information** 

**Christmas Eve Service** 

We will hold our Christmas Eve service at 5 PM!

When?

Tuesday, Dec 24, 2024, 05:00 PM

Where?

**McKendree Methodist Church** 

# December Service Schedule

**December Series -Here Comes Our King!** 

<u>December 1</u> - Worship at 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM; Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Kids.

Sermon Topic: "Here Comes Our King Part I - Prepare for a Visitor."

**December 8** - Worship at 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM; Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Kids.

Sermon Topic: "Here Comes Our King Part II - Scandal?"

An admin council meeting will follow Sunday School.

**December 15** - Worship at 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM; Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Kids.

Sermon Topic: "Here Comes Our King Part III - Lessons and Carols Service!"

December 22 - Worship at 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM; Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Kids.

Sermon Topic: "Here Comes Our King Part IV - Tell It! The Kingdom is Here and Now!"

**December 24** - Christmas Eve Service at 5 PM!

December 29 - Worship at 9:30 AM and 10:45 AM; Sunday School for Adults, Youth, and Kids.

Sermon Topic: "Here Comes Our King Part V - Who We Are in Christ!"

## C.A.R.E December 9th at 1 PM

CARE (Caregiver's Afternoon Respite Event) began as a caregiver's "day off" and has evolved into a fun social gathering for participants.

The program includes arts and crafts, chair exercise, entertainment, a devotional, games and a light dinner.

#### **Event Information**

## Weekly Thursday Night Bible/Book Study! We will start on Jan. 9th!

- We will start our weekly Bible/Book study on Thursday, Jan. 9th at 6:15 PM. We will meet each Thursday! This will be pastor-led, but don't let that keep you away.
- The first book we will read is: Gospeler: Turning Darkness into Light One Conversation at a Time.
- In the new year, our focus will be to Go! To go into our community and go into the world and grow God's Kingdom! We can do this one conversation at a time.

When?

Thursday, Jan 9, 2025, 06:15 PM

Where?

McKendree Methodist Church, Manfield Road, Manquin, VA, USA

First Name

Last Name

Email Address

Attend (RSVP)

# McKendree Merchandise



Celebrate your connection to **McKendree Methodist Church** with our new online merchandise store! Every purchase benefits the church, helping us continue to grow and serve.

Shop today and support!









# **McKendree Methodist Church Contact Info**

## **McKendree Methodist Church**

Pastor: Corey McConville

Email: coreylw05@gmail.com

Location: 4347 Manfield Rd, Manquin, VA 23106

**Phone:** 804-335-6114

Facebook: @mckendreeinkingwm

Instagram: @mckendree\_methodist\_kwva

