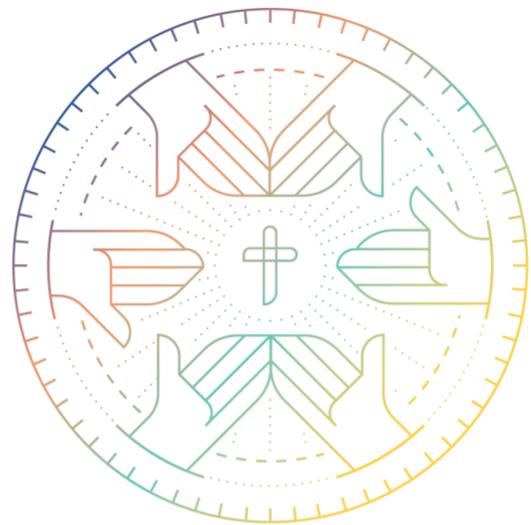


Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



ICEBREAKER (10 MINUTES)

When was the last time you felt awe or wonder?

OR

What setting tends to inspire you to recognize God's greatness? Literature? Art? Nature? Music? Architecture? People? Babies? Scripture? History?

INTRODUCTION (5-10 MINUTES)

What most stood out to you from Pastor David's message?

What is it about the season of Advent and Christmas that helps you rediscover and experience wonder and awe in your faith?

INTO THE WORD (20 MINUTES)

Read Luke 1:11-17. As you read Zechariah's story, what elements bring you awe and wonder?

Read Luke 1:46-55. Do you see a contrast between v46-49 and v50-55? How would you complete the sentence, "Mary was in awe and wonder that _____."?

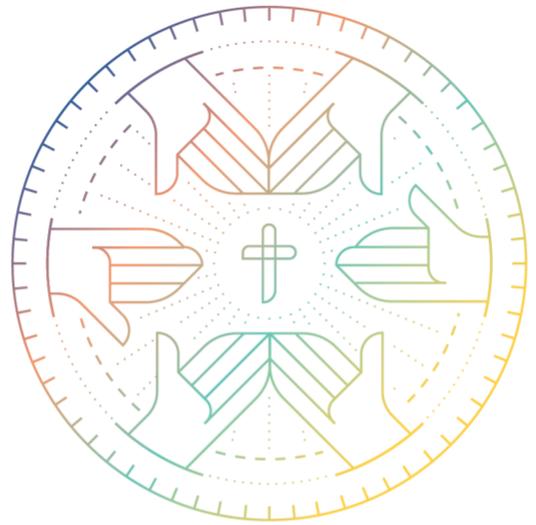
Read Luke 2:15-18. Shepherds were not highly esteemed in Jesus' time. What does it say to us that the heavenly announcement of the Savior came to those considered the lowliest of people? Do you think that added to the shepherds' wonder and awe?

Read Luke 2:25-26. What is meant by the title, "the Lord's Christ" in v.26? What must life have been like for Simeon, coming to the temple each day knowing that this could be the day that he sees the Lord's Christ?

Read Luke 2:36-38. What do you find most interesting about Anna? In what ways might she inspire you in your life with God?

Group Life.

WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER



APPLICATION (20 MINUTES)

David shared six statements of timeless truth taken from characters in the Christmas story. **If you read these statements as spoken directly to you** (as in bold below), which statement(s) most encourages you today?

1. God answers prayer. ***I will answer your prayer.***
2. No one is insignificant in the eyes of God. ***You are not insignificant in my eyes.***
3. God meets you where you are. ***I will meet you where you are.***
4. God keeps his promises. ***I keep my promises.***
5. God reveals Himself in our daily lives. ***I will reveal myself to you in your daily life.***
6. You will always find Jesus when you look for Him. ***You will find me when you search for me.***

PRAYER

Our Savior and Lord Jesus, you are Immanuel, God with us. We worship you in awe and wonder because of the Christmas story. There is so much in this story that inspires us and challenges us. During this Advent season, help us to live as people who have been shown great mercy and filled with good things. May we be heralds of glad tidings during this season. Fill us with an overflowing awe and wonder this Christmas season. Amen.