

## Wednesday

Read **Luke 3:10-14** *Bearing the fruit of repentance*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Why isn't it enough just to repent?*
2. *Who have you known in your life who has shown you what it looks like to embody Christ to others? Give thanks for them.*

**Prayer Focus** We know we are to be your face, hands, and feet to others, God of strength. There are many things we can do to bear good fruit in your world. You took on human flesh, now let us take on your heart.

## Thursday

Read **Luke 3:15-17** *Jesus' coming is prophesied*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Is there a problem you've had that just kept getting worse the longer you let it go? What was the outcome?*
2. *Are there things in our world that you would like to see swept up and taken away for good? Reflect on this in quiet prayer today.*

**Prayer Focus** Thank you for the gift of the Holy Spirit. Without it as our compass rose, we might be lost and scattered, not knowing what to do to live in your way. Guide us to let all else just fall away from our lives, Beloved. Lead us today.

## Friday

Read **Luke 3:18** *Preparing for Christ in us*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *How is John's message good news?*
2. *What way is the Holy Spirit guiding you to share the good news this Advent?*

**Prayer Focus** Put songs of joy in our hearts this Advent, so we can sing out the message through our words and our actions: God is with us, loving, holding, and working through us to bring God's light to the world.

## *Incarnation*

**Pastor's message:** *Luke 3:7-18*

Talking Points: Feeling sorry is not enough. We are called to incarnate God's love in this world.

**Message Notes:**

## Small Group Format

### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *Have you ever lost something important only to discover you were better off without it?*

### Opening Prayer

### Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Luke 3:7-18**

- Discuss observations about the text
  - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
  - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

*Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)*

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

### Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

### Pray for each other

### Refreshments (optional)



## INCARNATION

### December 12, 2021

### Monday

**Read Luke 3:7-8** *John addresses the crowds*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *What does the word repentance bring to mind? Is it positive or negative for you?*
2. *Why does John want the people to ignore their ancestry?*

**Prayer Focus** It's Advent, our God, a time to turn around, and turn inward and examine the truth of our hearts and of our actions. Move us past our pride and our explanations and our excuses and simply gather us back to where we belong: in you.

### Tuesday

**Read Luke 3:9** *What needs to go in our lives*

**Questions for Reflection and Application**

1. *Why do we choose to hold onto things that aren't good for us or our world?*
2. *Is there a tree in your life that is bearing less than good fruit? Can you lay that down before God?*

**Prayer Focus** We acknowledge that we don't always have the strength or insight to see where we're missing your mark. You see all of us, God of Grace. Show us what needs changing. You are the one who can root out and clear away everything that is wasting our life in you.