



Christmas Eve Service

24 December 2023

We Gather to Worship God

Welcome Advent Reading/Call to Worship Lighting of the Christ Candle

We Listen to the Word

Prayer Christmas Message: "Seated to Receive"

We Come to the Table

The Lord's Prayer We Eat and Drink Together

We Share the Light of Christ

We Go to Live in the Reign of God

Closing Remarks

Blessing and Sending

Words to music, responsive readings and The Lord's Prayer will be on the screen

YOU BELONG HERE

11AM SUNDAY WOR NURSERY FOR AGES BIRTH TO TWO YEARS KIDS' PROGRAM AGE 3 THROUGH 5TH GRADE



online at tablelifechurch.org WHETHER YOU'RE A SKEPTIC, DREAMER, BELIEVER, OR SOMETHING ELSE, THERE'S A PLACE AT THE TABLE FOR YOU. COME AS YOU ARE. WE MEAN IT.

11:00 AM **DECEMBER 31** 2023

New Year's Eve

Wear your favorite comfy pj's and join us for worship as we say goodbye to 2023 and hello to 2024!

NURTURING A FAITH YOUR

DOESN'T HAVE TO HEAL FROM

MEREDITH

MILLER

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6:00PM FEBRUARY 8TH

This book is valuable for anyone one who wants to nurture faith in those around them, especially children and those without a church background.

Order your own copy of Woven and join us for dessert and discussion! Friends are welcome. Childcare is optional. Email olivia@tablelifechurch.org to sign

Seated Christmas Eve: "Seated to Receive" Pastor Kris Beckert

The Story of the First Christmas:

Luke 2:1-7 In those days Caesar Augustus issued a decree that a census should be taken of the entire Roman world.² (This was the first census that took place while Quirinius was governor of Syria.) ³ And everyone went to their own town to register. ⁴ So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. ⁵ He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child.⁶ While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, ⁷ and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son. She wrapped him in cloths and placed him in a manger, because there was no quest room available for them.

Do you find it easier to give gifts or to receive them?

"It is so easy a thing to give—only great men have the courage and courtesy and, yes, the generosity to receive."

-John Steinbeck, author

I. Christmas is about what God wants to

____ and what we are to _____

1. _____ receives a new future

Luke 1:38 "I am the Lord's servant," Mary answered. "May your word to me be fulfilled."

2. _____ receives a course correction

Matthew 1:24 When Joseph woke up, he did what the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took Mary home as his wife.

3. _____ receive good news

Luke 2:15 When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about."

II. What does receiving require?

1	go
2	up
3	in

Doggy Bag-Some questions to chew on:



- 1. What part of this message was most impactful for you and why? What stood out?
- 2. Do you agree with John Steinbeck that it takes great courage, courtesy and generosity to receive? Why or why not?
- 3. Which character in the Christmas story can you relate to the most? Why? How do you imagine they felt?
- 4. What do you need to let go of in order to receive something new from God? How can you begin to open up your life, your time, and your heart to what God wants to do? How can you begin to make space for God and welcome him in?
- 5. This Christmas, what do you need to receive from God?



If you'd like to talk personally and confidentially w/Pastor Kris about your relationship with Christ, please email *pastorkris@tablelifechurch.org* or call 717-774-6444