

On Sunday, we will have the joy of celebrating both the Fourth Sunday of Advent (at our 10:30 a.m. service) and Christmas Eve (at our 7:00 p.m. service). I certainly hope that all of you will find an opportunity to worship with us as we rejoice in the birth of our Savior.

At our 10:30 a.m. service, we will read a text from the prophet Micah, and we will consider parallels between Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer and the tiny village of Bethlehem.

At our 7:00 p.m. Christmas Eve service, we will read the nativity story from Luke, and at the conclusion of the service we will light candles to symbolize how the birth of Christ inspires us to illumine the darkness of the world.

Because we will be having two services on Sunday, we will not host our usual 8:30 a.m. early service.

As we anticipate this wonderful day in the life of the church, let us pray that our Lord will bless us with an even deeper understanding of His love, His hope, and His peace, so that Christ can be born in us and among us. At Christmas, let us open our eyes to see His glory in all things . . . let us hear the hymns of the angels stirring us to worship Him with our lives . . . and let us fill our hearts with the transforming power of the Christ Child. Then we won't have to worry about putting Christ back into Christmas . . . because He would have always been there . . . and there He will always remain.