

Union Methodist Church

**2024 Theme: "A fruitful church that wins souls,
making and nurturing disciples of Christ."**

Proverbs 11:30 NKJV

Sunday, December 1st, 2024

First Sunday in Advent

Sermon

The Gospel:

***“Jesus is *the Christ*,
the promised Anointed One”***

What is Christmas About?

- **Celebrating & Sharing the Gospel** - Good News
- *What Good News?*
 - ▶ **the Arrival [Advent] of Jesus, the Christ [Messiah]**
 - ▶ *The Christ* is God's Solution to EVERY HUMAN PROBLEM

What is Christmas About?

- **SIN: Spiritual root cause of human problems**
 - ▶ *Every human problem can be traced to sin (**breaking God's laws** - 1 John 3:4)*
 - ▶ *Original Sin = Adam & Eve's Sin (GENESIS 3)*
- **The Christ is God's Solution to SIN & EVERY HUMAN PROBLEM**

What is Christmas About?

- **SIN leads to**

- ▶ ***Guilt and Feelings of Guilt***

- ▶ ***Death (spiritual and physical)***

- ▶ ***Fear of Death - Hebrews 2:15 NIV***

- ▶ ***Slavery to sin, Human weakness***

“I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I do. 20Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I that do it, but sin that dwells within me. 21So I find it to be a law that when I want to do what is good, evil lies close at hand.”

Romans 7: 19-21 NRSV

What is Christmas About?

- **In Jesus, *the Christ*, we have**
 - ▶ ***Forgiveness from sin***
 - ▶ ***Freedom from slavery to sin and fear of death Hebrews 2:15 NIV***
 - ▶ ***Grace to overcome Human weakness***
***“Wretched man that I am! Who will rescue me from this body of death?
25Thanks be to God through Jesus Christ our Lord!” Romans 7: 24-25***

1. What is the GOSPEL?

- **JESUS IS THE CHRIST!**
- Christ (Greek)
= Messiah (Hebrew)
- Christ = “Anointed One”

1. What is the GOSPEL?

- JESUS is anointed to 3
Divine offices:
 - **PROPHET**
 - **PRIEST**
 - **KING**

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

- **ONLY JESUS is anointed to ALL 3**

Divine offices:

- **PROPHET**

- Moses, David, Samuel

- **PRIEST**

- Aaron, Sons of Aaron, Eli

- **KING**

- Saul, David

1. What is the GOSPEL?

- The Anointing on JESUS

“The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him— the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord...” Isaiah 11:2 NIV

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

1. Jesus, Anointed to Impart **GRACE** to us

▶ *John the Baptist:*

“I have baptized you with [in] water; but he will baptize you with [in] the Holy Spirit.” Mark 1:8 NRSV

▶ *John Wesley defined **GRACE** as “the power of the Holy Ghost enabling us to believe and love and serve God.”*

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

2. Jesus, Anointed to SAVE

- ▶ **“with righteousness he will judge the needy, with justice he will give decisions for the poor of the earth.”**
- ▶ **“Righteousness will be his belt and faithfulness the sash around his waist.”** Isaiah 11:4,5 NIV

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

3. In Christ, A NEW CREATION

- ▶ **“If anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come [that person is a new creation]: The old has gone, the new is here!”**

2 Corinthians 5:17 NIV

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

3. In Christ, A NEW CREATION - Now & Future

19For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; **22**We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; **23**and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.” Romans:8:19, 22-23 NRSV

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

3. In Christ, A NEW CREATION - Now & Future

Isaiah prophesied (chapter 11):

6 The wolf will live with the lamb,
the leopard will lie down with the goat,
the calf and the lion and the yearling together;
and a little child will lead them.

7 The cow will feed with the bear,
their young will lie down together,"

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

3. In Christ, A NEW CREATION - Now & Future

Isaiah prophesied (chapter 11):

and the lion will eat straw like the ox.

8The infant will play near the cobra's

den, and the young child will put its

hand into the viper's nest.9They will

neither harm nor destroy on all my holy

mountain

2. What is Jesus Anointed To Do?

3. In Christ, A NEW CREATION - Now & Future

Isaiah prophesied (chapter 11):

9 They will neither harm nor destroy
on all my holy mountain,
for the earth will be filled with the
knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.

3. Experiencing The Continuing Ministry of Jesus

- **Prophet**

- His Anointing is still at work

- **Priest**

- Our eternal High Priest
- Makes Intercession for Us

- **King**

- Delegated Authority to Us

3. Experiencing The Continuing Ministry of Jesus

- **Preparation**

3the voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

**'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight,' "**

4John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of **repentance for the forgiveness of sins.**

Mark 1:3-4 NRSV

3. Experiencing The Continuing Ministry of Jesus

- **Preparation**

15 This is what the Sovereign Lord, the Holy One of Israel, says:

“In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength...”

Isaiah 30:15 NIV

3. Experiencing The Continuing Ministry of Jesus

- **Preparation - Wait On The Lord**

“the Lord longs to be gracious to you; therefore he will rise up to show you compassion.

For the Lord is a God of justice.

Blessed are all who wait for him!”

Isaiah 30:18 NIV