

December 25

Luke 2.6-21

We are here. We have arrived. Our advent journey has led us to a most inauspicious place. A quiet place, in some ways. A noisy place, in others. But mostly, a rough-hewn place in which to be born, to begin anew, to bring about the dawning of a new day, a new era, a new world.



The Star of Bethlehem | Edward Burne-Jones | c. 1885-1890

This story, this truth, this calling would be formidable enough for the oldest of sages, the most weathered of beings. For a baby and his bewildered parents, it is unthinkable. And yet, for those witnesses visited by the angels, entrusted with such a wondrous secret, it is a time for complete and utter joy. For he is here. The Messiah. The One promised for such a long, long time. And we lowly shepherds get to watch him grow up. We learned magi get to wait for news as his ministry begins. We, each and every one of us, get to ponder everything he says. We get to marvel at everything he does. We get to wrestle with the way his life, and his death, unfolds.

But, all of that awaits. Now, in the wake of such a breathtaking entry, we get to consider. What do we give in response? How do we express our thanks? What do we do? How are we to be? What is worthy enough for this wee one?

May God help us to live into the advent of God's arrival in our world, and the advent of God's return to restore God's creation. Come, Lord Jesus, Come. Amen.

Pastor Kim Jackson