

BE INTENTIONAL: Know the Fruits of the Holy Spirit:

Love	Joy	Peace	Kindness	Goodness	Gentleness
	Faithfulness.			Self-control	

Inspirit Bible Discussion Materials

For Sunday, December 22, 2024

Zoom link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82867650055>

Meeting ID: 828 6765 0055

LAST SUNDAY

3rd Sunday of Advent- JOY. Our Sanctuary Choir, musicians and narrators brought messages of joy.

While no one preached. We heard and sang hymns and listened to the Word of God. What impacted you?

NEXT SUNDAY

4th Sunday of Advent LOVE. Mary sings her song in Luke 1:39-55. Christmas belongs to the few who live in wonder at the coming of Christ, and respond as servants. “Here am I, body and soul.” Pastor Paul will be preaching.

I know we did talk about the Canticle of Mary last week. I think this reflection by Dietrich and the other by Oscar Romero is an excellent extension of our discussion last week. Our focus is on our discipleship of service. Whom do we serve? How do we serve?

Dietrich Bonhoeffer said of the Magnificat:

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“The song of Mary is the oldest Advent hymn. It is at once the most passionate, the wildest, one might even say the most revolutionary Advent hymn ever sung. This is not the gentle, tender, dreamy Mary whom we sometimes see in paintings; this is the passionate, surrendered, proud, enthusiastic Mary who speaks out here. This song has none of the sweet, nostalgic, or even playful tones of some of our Christmas carols. It is instead a hard, strong, inexorable song about collapsing thrones and humbled lords of this world, about the power of God and the powerlessness of humankind.”

Oscar Romero: “A church that doesn't provoke any crises, a gospel that doesn't unsettle, a word of God that doesn't get under anyone's skin, a word of God that doesn't touch the real sin of the society in which it is being proclaimed . . . what gospel is that?”

Other Christian Communities read these scriptural passages at their services on Sunday. Micah 5:2-5a, Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalm 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10 and Luke 1:39-45(46-55)