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Women of Faith are collecting new socks during the month of December to donate to the City Rescue Mission. The basket for these is in the Narthex.

Thank You to  
Our Staff

Christmas is our time of year to show how much we appreciate our staff and volunteers who take care of this church. Please show your appreciation by placing your love offering in the offering plate by Sunday, December 18.



Our Christmas Eve Service will be at 7pm. Come early and help put the luminaries out front. Invite your friends and neighbors to celebrate the night of our Savior's birth.

Christmas Day

Christmas is on Sunday and we will gather together to worship our Savior at 10 am. Please join us. You can wear your new Christmas sweater!!!

December 11, 2022  
Luke 1:46b - 55

Canticle of Mary  
(Magnificat)

My Soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,  
**my spirit rejoices in God of my Savior,  
who has looked with favor on me, a lowly servant.**  
From this day all generations will call me blessed:  
**the Almighty has done great things for me,  
and holy is the name of the Lord,  
whose mercy is on those who fear God  
from generation to generation.**

The arm of the Lord is strong,  
and has scattered the proud in their conceit.  
**God has cast down the mighty from their thrones,  
and lifted up the lowly.**  
God has filled the hungry with good things,  
and sent the rich empty away.  
**God has come to the aid of Israel, the chosen servant,  
remembering the promise of mercy,  
the promise made to our forebearers,  
to Abraham and his children forever.**

## Isaiah 35: 1-10

The wilderness and the wasteland shall be glad for them,  
And the desert shall rejoice and blossom as the rose;

<sup>2</sup>It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice,  
Even with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,  
The excellence of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the LORD,  
The excellency of our God.

<sup>3</sup>Strengthen the weak hands,  
And make firm the feeble knees.

<sup>4</sup>Say to those who are fearful-hearted,  
“Be strong, do not fear!

Behold, your God will come with vengeance,  
With the recompense of God;  
He will come and save you.”

<sup>5</sup>Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,  
And the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped.

<sup>6</sup>Then the lame shall leap like a deer,  
And the tongue of the dumb sing.

For waters shall burst forth in the wilderness,  
And streams in the desert.

<sup>7</sup>The parched ground shall become a pool,  
And the thirsty land springs of water;  
In the habitation of jackals, where each lay,  
There shall be grass with reeds and rushes.

<sup>8</sup>A highway shall be there, and a road,  
And it shall be called the Highway of Holiness.

The unclean shall not pass over it,  
But it shall be for others.  
Whoever walks the road, although a fool,  
Shall not go astray.

<sup>9</sup>No lion shall be there,  
Nor shall any ravenous beast go up on it;  
It shall not found there.

But the redeemed shall walk there,  
<sup>10</sup>And the ransomed of the Lord shall return,

And come to Zion with singing,  
With everlasting joy on their heads.

They shall obtain joy and gladness,  
And sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

## James 5: 7-10

<sup>7</sup>Therefore be patient, brethren, until the coming of the Lord.  
See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, waiting  
patiently for it until it receives the early and latter rain. <sup>8</sup>You also be  
patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand.

<sup>9</sup>Do not grumble against one another, brethren, lest you  
be condemned. Behold, the Judge is standing at the door! <sup>10</sup>My  
brethren, take the prophets, who spoke in the name of the Lord, as an  
example of suffering and patience.

## St Matthew 11: 2-11

<sup>2</sup>And when John had heard in prison about the works of Christ, he sent  
two of his disciples <sup>3</sup>and said to Him, “Are You the Coming One, or  
do we look for another?”

<sup>4</sup>Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which  
you hear and see: <sup>5</sup>The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are  
cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have  
the gospel preached to them. <sup>6</sup>And blessed is he who is not offended  
because of Me.”

<sup>7</sup>As they departed, Jesus began to say to the multitudes concerning  
John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken  
by the wind? <sup>8</sup>But what did you go out to see? A man clothed in soft  
garments? Indeed, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’  
houses. <sup>9</sup>But what did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I say to  
you, and more than a prophet. <sup>10</sup>For this is he of whom it is written:

‘Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,  
Who will prepare Your way before You.’

<sup>11</sup>“Assuredly, I say to you, among those born of women there has not  
risen one greater than John the Baptist; but he who is least in the  
kingdom of heaven is greater than he.