

NOVEMBER 27, 2022  
10:30 AM

# THE REASON FOR THE SEASON

THE "WHEN" OF CHRISTMAS  
GENESIS 3:1-15



As we begin our Advent series, we start with the wonderful reminder that the promise of the coming savior didn't just come at the beginning of the Bible, but the beginning of time. In Genesis, we get the end of the story right up front. This passage sets the stage for the rest of the gospel. It should recalibrate our thoughts on the reason for the season. It's all about Jesus and what he would do for us!

## Welcome and Announcements

### Call to Worship

*Psalm 34:1-3*

### Songs of Praise

*TBD*

### Confession of Faith

*New City Catechism #48*

*Q. What is the church?*

*A. God chooses and preserves for himself a community elected for eternal life and united by faith, who love, follow, learn from, and worship God together. God sends out this*

community to proclaim the gospel and prefigure Christ's kingdom by the quality of their life together and their love for one another.

References - [2 Thessalonians 2:13](#)

## Offering

[Click to give online](#)

*Please prayerfully consider an online offering*

## Song of Declaration

TBD

## Advent Reading - The Isaiah Candle

[Isaiah 7:14](#)

[Isaiah 9:6](#)

*Reading by Russ and Julie Turner*

## Confession of Sin

*O Lord, we openly admit that you know us thoroughly. Our deepest secrets are open before you. You know our thoughts before they are conceived in our minds. We cannot hide from you. Therefore, we ask that you discover unto us our sins so that we may humble ourselves again in your presence and seek your forgiveness and grace. We admit we have tolerated sinful thoughts about power, lust, greed, jealousy, malice and other things that grieve your heart. We have committed sins of omission and commission. But we seek your mercy and cleansing from our sins by the blood of Christ. And we thank you for your Spirit who enables us to walk in holiness and obedience. Give us the grace to please you this day and forever. In Jesus' name, Amen.*

## Assurance of Pardon

[Romans 5:6-8](#)

## Children's Message

## Sermon - The "When" of Christmas

Sermon Scripture - [Genesis 3:1-15](#)

## The Fall

- Why is it important to start with the bad news?
- What was the state of the world prior to the fall? How does this help us understand the effects of the fall better?
  - [Genesis 1:31](#)
  - [Genesis 2:15-17](#)
- How would we view this passage if we stopped at [Genesis 3:14](#)?

## Shocking Prophecy

- What was root of the first sin? What does the serpent question ([Genesis 3:5](#))?
- What are the results of the fall?
  - *The essence of sin is not (primarily) the violation of laws but a wrecked relationship with God, one another, and the whole created order. - Barbara Taylor*
- What is shocking about the response of God?
  - [Genesis 3:15](#)

## Timing

- When does the promise of a redeemer come? Why does it matter?
- When was this plan put in place ([Ephesians 1:3-4](#) and [Acts 2:26](#))?
- How does this passage set the stage for the rest of the gospel?

## Song of Response

TBD

## Benediction

1. How does knowing the end of the story ([Genesis 3:15](#)) help us understand the Bible as a whole?

2. Why do we typically focus solely on the birth of Christ at Christmas? Why is it important to understand his life and ministry?
3. What would it have been like to live in a pre fall world? A world that God stated was “very good” ([Genesis 1:31](#)).
4. What is the most shocking aspect of scripture?
5. Read [Ephesians 1:3-4](#). What do we learn from this passage?
6. What are you looking forward to this holiday season?