



### **It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas!**

Dear Friends,

I don't know about you, but I came away from last Sunday's worship, the first Sunday in Advent, encouraged and in the holiday spirit after our children did such an excellent job leading worship! I counted 24 children participating in the annual Christmas pageant! We are blessed indeed to have so many young people in our church family, and it is heart warming to see and hear the good news of the birth of our Savior being passed on to a new generation.

The stories, scriptures, and traditions of the Christmas season have been passed down to us throughout the generations. Many of us enter this season with a swell of memories and emotions as vast as the cultural and religious rituals this holiday holds. Like a tapestry woven throughout time, the Christmas story weaves us in—to remember how God has shown up in the past, to continue the work of collective liberation, to behold the presence of God in flesh and bone.

This year our Advent theme is “From Generation to Generation”. We will examine the choices of the familiar characters of the Christmas story and their impact on generations to come. We will celebrate the ways our lives, histories, actions, and stories are interconnected and woven together. The work of God is always unfolding—in and through us.

Christ is coming for collective liberation: God’s redemption is at work for years to come. Therefore, the promise is meant to be lived out and passed on from generation to generation.

This Advent, may you remember that you belong—to a story etched into the wrinkles of time, to generations that have come before and will come after, to a love that won’t let you go.

Won’t you join us each Sunday to deepen your faith and make this Holiday season the holiest ever.

Blessings!

Pastor Gaye