

# An ADVENT DEVOTIONAL

From Mary Magdalene Church

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## **Week ONE— begins November 30th**

\*\*[Good Trouble Tuesday on 12/2 = Rev. Celie, preacher; Kathy Welch, music minister]

Our Advent theme this year is “*a new heart*.” The prophet Ezekiel speaks about the power of God to “create in us a new heart...” to “replace a heart of stone with a heart of flesh” (Ez. 36:26).

So much about the time we are living in can cause us to run the risk of hardening our heart in self-protection; we can be tempted to close ourselves off or become cynical. Yet in this season, as we prepare ourselves for the birth of the Christ child, many of our scriptures invite us into a time of renewal, rebirth, and connecting with the divine child inside ourselves as well. As we begin this four-week journey, here are some guiding questions to ask, and a verse for each coming weekday that you might choose to sit with in prayer or meditation and ponder in your heart.

### **GUIDING QUESTIONS** for this week:

- \* How are your heart and spirit right now?
- \* What keeps your heart open and tender, amidst everything going on in the world?
- \* Can you, like the prophet Isaiah, see signs of renewal written around us in the earth, even in wintertime? What do you notice?

### **DAILY VERSES** for meditation:

MONDAY: Ezekiel 36:26  
TUESDAY: Psalm 95:8  
WEDNESDAY: Isaiah 65:17  
THURSDAY: Revelation 21:1-4  
FRIDAY: Psalm 104:30