



12/03/2023 "The Wonder of You"

1. What stood out to you from this week's message? Why?
2. Share what your holidays looked like growing up?
3. How much did the story of Jesus and traditional Christmas play a role in your holiday traditions?
4. Read Matthew 2:1-12. How did the Magi describe Jesus? In what ways does this description create tension for Herod?
5. Do a quick internet search for "Herod the Great". What are some things you learn about him?
6. This story is shared to highlight a shift in Israel's history and hopes—something new. In what ways does the Christmas story initiate something new in history?
7. What does Matthew 4:15-17 declare happens because of Jesus' life? What do you think is meant by "living in darkness"? (See also John 8:12 and 12:44-46)
8. What do you think "light" represents in these passages?
9. The shift from light to darkness also marks something new. In what way does 2 Corinthians 5:17-21 state that this new life is meant to have an impact on us and others?
10. Advent doesn't just look back to Jesus' coming, it looks to Jesus' coming here-and-now. As you prepare for Advent, where do you need God's light?
11. When you think of your relationship with God and others, where do you want to experience God's newness? Where do you need hope this holiday season?
12. What can you do to partner with God during Advent to apply this week's message and scripture passages?