

St. John Progressive Missionary Baptist Church

December 22, 2024

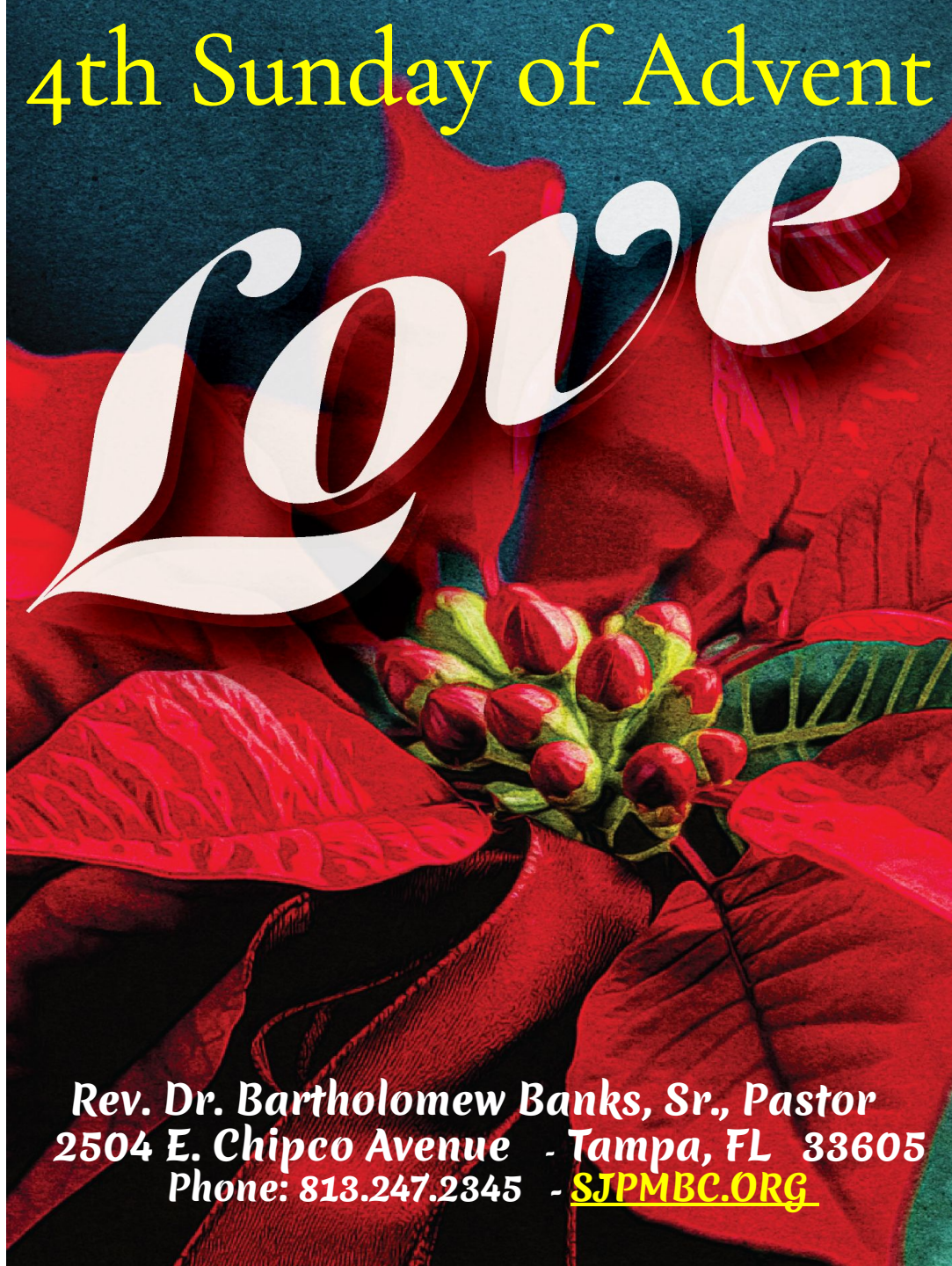


Fourth
Sunday of Advent

Merry Christmas!

4th Sunday of Advent

Love



The **Fourth**
Sunday of
Advent
candle, we
remember
God's love in
sending Jesus
into the world
and Jesus'
LOVE for all
people. This
candle
reminds us
that God sent
the baby Jesus
because God
LOVES us.

Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., Pastor
2504 E. Chipco Avenue - Tampa, FL 33605
Phone: 813.247.2345 - SJPMBC.ORG

*Beloved, let us
love one another:
for love is of God;
and every one
that loveth is
born of God, and
knoweth God. He
that loveth not
knoweth not
God; for God is
love. In this was
manifested the
love of God
toward us,
because that God
sent his only
begotten Son
into the world,
that we might
live through him.
-1 John 4:7-9*

Early Morning Worship Service

8:00 a.m.

Musical Prelude.....	Musicians
Call to Worship.....	Psalm 122:1-2
<i>I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.</i>	
Praise Service.....	Praise Team
Invocation.....	Pulpit/Deacons
Responsive Reading (<i>Please Stand</i>).....	Appointee/Congregation
<i>(Luke 2:8-16)</i>	
Selections.....	Choir
Sermon.....	Pastor Banks
Invitation to Discipleship.....	Pastor Banks
Worship in Giving.....	Deacons/Ushers
Offertory Scripture.....	Malachi 3:10
Acknowledgement of Visitors.....	Pastor Banks/Greeter
Announcements.....	Church Clerk/Appointee
Remarks/Benediction.....	Pastor Banks

Morning Worship Service

11:00 a.m.

Musical Prelude.....	Musicians
Call to Worship.....	Psalm 122:1-2
<i>I was glad when they said unto me, let us go into the house of the Lord. Our feet shall stand within thy gates, O Jerusalem.</i>	
Devotion	
Selection.....	Choir
Mission and Education Offering.....	Deacons/Ushers
Doxology.....	Choir and Congregation
Responsive Reading (<i>Please Stand</i>).....	Appointee/Congregation
<i>(Luke 2:8-16)</i>	
Selections.....	Choir
Pastoral Remarks.....	Pastor Banks
Worship in Giving.....	Deacons/Ushers
Offertory Scripture.....	Malachi 3:10
Congregational Hymn #56.....	<i>"Silent Night, Holy Night"</i>
Sermon.....	Pastor Banks
Invitation to Discipleship.....	Pastor Banks
Intercessory Prayer.....	Pulpit
Acknowledgement of Visitors.....	Pastor Banks/Greeter
Announcements.....	Church Clerk/Appointee
Remarks/Benediction.....	Pastor Banks

RESPONSIVE READING: LUKE 2:8-16

LEADER: 8 And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night.

CONGREGATION: 9 And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid.

LEADER: 10 And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

CONGREGATION: 11 For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

LEADER: 12 And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

CONGREGATION: 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying,

RESPONSIVE READING: LUKE 2:8-16

LEADER: 14 Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

CONGREGATION: 15 And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us.

ALL-TOGETHER: 16 And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger.

*For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whosoever believeth in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.*

-John 3:16

ANNOUNCEMENTS

December 25th - Merry Christmas!

- ❖ December 29th: ***Unity Service***
 - Combined Sunday School 8am***
 - Worship Service @ 9:30am***
- ❖ December 31st: ***Watch Night Service @ 9:30pm***

For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.

~ Isaiah 9:6



Rev. Dr. Bartholomew Banks, Sr., Pastor
& Lady Vanessa Banks

JOIN US FOR OUR WEEKLY **PRAYER CALL**

**EVERY THURSDAY
7:30 PM**

Before they call
I will answer;
while they
are yet speaking
I will hear.

ISAIAH 65:14



Prayer Request Line: 1-520-525-8790
No access code required



If you're interested in facilitating
or praying on one of the weekly
calls, just let us know.
Simply call the office:
@ 813.247.2345.

-3 John 2-

*Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper
and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.*

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*Today's Promise for You*

*Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth,  
and keepeth his garments.*

*~Revelation 16:15~*

Although we know Christ will return one day, it often slips to the back of our minds as we walk through life. But He wants us to wait in anticipation - to always be ready. For He says He will come "as a thief." There will be no grand announcement, no set date or time for His return.

**So prepare your heart, and wait expectantly.**

# Daily Word: Love

## *On My Advent Journey, I abide in Love*

One of the most beloved verses of scripture calls me to recognize love as the greatest of spiritual blessings.

Today I will take the words of the apostle Paul to heart and abide in love everywhere I go. To the marketplace, I spread my warmth with kind interactions with clerks and fellow customers. At meetings, whether work related or social, I offer words of cheer that greet everyone as a beloved child of God. I express my love in moments of unconditional appreciation to all people.

The more I look for reasons to share my love, the more I will find. Especially during the Advent season, there are many opportunities to visit, to care, to give. I will choose the ones that fill my heart to overflowing. Today I will abide in love

*And now faith, hope, and love abide, these three;  
and the greatest of these is love.*

*—1 Corinthians 13:13*



# LOVE

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Herein is LOVE, not that we loved God, but that he loved us, and sent his Son.

1 JOHN 4:10, KJV

# Daily Word: Christmas

*My Joy is complete. Christ is Reborn in Me.*

Christmas Day is the culmination of a busy season of planning, visiting and volunteering, and celebrating with joyous activities.

I feel joy and gratitude as I enjoy the day. I may gather with family and friends or spend time in peaceful solitude. However I celebrate, I revel in understanding this is the fulfillment of the Christmas season, the celebration of the birth of Jesus and the rebirth of my Christ self.

All the busyness of the season and outward preparation are symbolic of inner preparation for spiritual rebirth. I am grateful for the Christ spirit reborn in me. I give thanks for my heart-to-heart connection with dear ones near and far and bless all others with thoughts of love and peace and best wishes for a merry Christmas.

*I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.*

*—Luke 2:10*



The  
**Christmas**  
**Day** candle,  
we  
remember  
the time of  
waiting is  
over, we  
celebrate  
Jesus' birth.  
(Read Luke  
2:1-20). It  
reminds us  
that Jesus is  
the light of  
the world.

*December 25th*



*Christmas Day*

## Luke 2:1-20

And it came to pass in those days, that there went out a decree from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be taxed.

(And this taxing was first made when Cyrenius was governor of Syria.)

And all went to be taxed, every one into his own city.

And Joseph also went up from Galilee, out of the city of Nazareth, into Judaea, unto the city of David, which is called Bethlehem; (because he was of the house and lineage of David:)

To be taxed with Mary his espoused wife, being great with child.

And so it was, that, while they were there, the days were accomplished that she should be delivered.

And she brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn.

And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.

And it came to pass, as the angels were gone away from them into heaven, the shepherds said one to another, Let us now go even unto Bethlehem, and see this thing which is come to pass, which the Lord hath made known unto us. And they came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And when they had seen it, they made known abroad the saying which was told them concerning this child.

And all they that heard it wondered at those things which were told them by the shepherds.

But Mary kept all these things, and pondered them in her heart.

And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.



WISHING YOU A MERRY

*Christmas*

LET'S CELEBRATE THE SAVIOR