

Sermon Notes



Today's Scripture December 22, 2024

PASSAGE: "The Greatest Peace," Advent Series: Week Four

TEACHER: Kirk Crager, Lead Pastor

Bulletin Updates

HELP WITH HOT COCOA BAR AND CHAIRS ON CHRISTMAS EVE

We're looking for a few helpers to take the lead on a hot cocoa bar in the lobby after our Christmas Eve service on Tuesday. We also need a few people to help stack chairs after the service. Sign up for all or a portion of it online or by emailing Kirk at kirk@coleccommunity.org.



BAKE OR BUY BAKED GOODS TO BRING ON CHRISTMAS EVE

We'd love for you to bring holiday treats to share at our Eve Christmas service to show hospitality along with our hot cocoa bar. If you are willing to bake or buy cookies, we'd love for you to bring them to share! Please feel free to drop them off in the kitchen before the service.

CHURCH OFFICE TO BE CLOSED

The church office will be closed and there will be no staff available December 24 at 2 P.M. - January 1 so that our staff can sabbath rest well and serve well throughout the year ahead. If you have emergency needs, you can email info@coleccommunity.org. The office will reopen to normal hours on January 2.

HOLIDAY LIBRARY HOURS

Be sure to swing by the library today, December 22 before and after service before Christmas! The library will be closed December 25 and January 1.

YEAR-END GIVING OPPORTUNITIES

As we wrap up the year, we wanted to draw attention to two special giving opportunities. First, we're saving up for several significant facility maintenance costs coming in the new year: our roof and our heating/cooling units.



Additionally, some of you may have received an ask from Cole To The World on behalf of our global outreach workers. As we wrap up this year, a donation to our "Global Outreach General Fund" would greatly bless a number of outreach ministry efforts.

If you feel led, please donate online, on our Church Center app, or by marking a fund on a check donation.

<i>Financial Update</i> as of December 16, 2024	
This Week's Giving	\$83,097
YTD Spending	\$510,566
YTD Giving	\$579,179

Give online at coleccommunity.churchcenter.com/giving

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSROOMS

A few volunteer openings are available if you would like to serve in the Children's Ministry for teachers, helpers, and the check-in team. Most classes could use extra volunteers to rotate into schedules. Please contact Ashlee at ashleec@coleccommunity.org if you have questions. Training will be held in January.



REMEMBRANCE STONES VIDEO SIGN-UP SHEET

We're working on a new project to sit down with saints from this church and discuss their walk with Christ. Many of you have amazing testimonies and stories from your years of walking with Jesus, and we want to capture them on video for future generations. If you are interested, please reach out to Kirk by January 5.



SHARING CHRISTMAS WITH YOUR CHURCH FAMILY

As a church we believe that we are family in Christ. As a family, we seek to make sure every family member is taken care of during the holidays. We have at least one church member that needs a place to celebrate Christmas with so we'd like to help match needs with places if possible. Please let us know if you also need a place to celebrate or if you can offer a place for people to be with you by emailing kirk@coleccommunity.org or by filling out this form.



REGISTER FOR THE 2025 MEN'S RETREAT

Come join us for our annual Men's Retreat at the Quaker Hill Conference Center in McCall happening January 24-26, 2025. Registration is \$150 for the weekend.



A Note From The Pastor

Dear church family,

As we continue to celebrate the joy of the advent season, I was reminded of Psalm 95:1-2, which says: "Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!" I personally love the Christmas season for the sheer amount of singing and opportunities to joyfully proclaim the goodness of the coming of Jesus! I want to encourage you to take every opportunity to express joy as we talked about last week. One particular way we are doing that this year is joyfully giving to two funds at the end of the year. One is for our upcoming building and maintenance in 2025, and the other is for our "Cole to the World" mission arm. Please hear me when I say (and truly mean it) that we in no way are trying to pressure you to give. But we know the end of the year is often when people want to give joyfully out of the overflow of their year. If that is the case for you, I believe these two funds are worthy to receive any joyful giving. But no matter what, please join with me this week and next as we continue to enjoy the opportunity this season affords to come and sing and make a joyful noise to our worthy savior. I am really looking forward to doing that with our friends from New City Church on Christmas Eve, so please come and invite friends, family and neighbors to our service at 4:30 P.M.

In Him,
Kirk Crager