



Abney Street Church of God

.....*A Christ Centered Church*.....

Rev. Jennie Lawrence, Sr. Pastor

God sends us out as messengers with his good news. Who has brought that news to me? Who needs me to carry that news to them?



December 9, 2018



WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: *"Angels We Have Heard on High"*

INVOCATION

CONGREGATIONAL HYMN #145: *"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"*

CONGREGATIONAL SONG OF WORSHIP: *"Adore Him"*

OUR WORSHIP IN GIVING

DISMISS CHILDREN TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH

ADVENT READING

MESSAGE: *Advent Series – "Love"*

PERSONAL PRAYER TIME

CONGREGATIONAL SONG OF RESPONSE: *"Come To The Altar"*

BENEDICTION

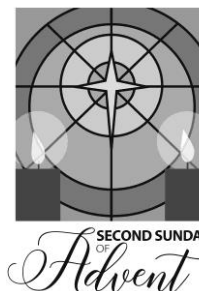
Today God Is First

A MERRY BALANCE

In Luke 10:38-42, Martha gets a bad rap. After all, we need Marthas to get things done and to show hospitality. (Note that Martha is the one who opens up her home to Jesus in the first place!)

Marthas are needed in December, but holiday preparations shouldn't shift our focus from the reasons for the season. When we become "worried and distracted" as Martha did (v 41, NRSV), we're tempted to trade God's "one thing" (v.42) for the world's many worthless things. Yet if we're only like Mary, we may forget to let the world know who we're celebrating!.

So this Christmas, keep a proper balance between your inner Mary and your inner Martha. Take time to "be Mary," kneeling at the manger, so that all the merry things you do as Martha have meaning and serve the newborn king.



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Sermon Notes

Good Morning! We're one week closer! As we prepare our worship space and our homes for the coming of Jesus at Christmas, let us also prepare our hearts.