

# caring sharing daring

Greetings to members and friends of Green Street Church in the name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ this Christmas season!

I am privileged to be your pastor, and I feel incredibly blessed and honored to serve with you. My prayers are with you always.

You truly are a “Christmas” people because Christ is incarnated in every act of love and kindness you extend to each other and this community. No church does this better than you! Your generosity provides hope to those who have no hope, and that is especially evident during this season!

We feed people physically and spiritually, all year long. Hundreds of people come to our church each week for food and other assistance programs. However, this season we want to do even more for those who need it most.

On Thanksgiving Day, we served 300 meals to this community. Folks were expecting to receive a great meal. They were surprised to also receive a \$20 gift certificate to purchase additional food! We plan to distribute these same gift certificates during December to all who receive food at Green Street Church via the Food Pantry, Community Meal, and Fresh Food Initiative. We also plan to distribute them to Hand2Hand backpack participants. This is an ambitious project, but it is good for the recipients, good for local business, and it will make you feel good to be generous! If you would like to contribute to this special outreach, just write “Christmas” on your donation. Let’s surprise people with hope by our generosity this season, and thank you for considering this.

During this season, it is my prayer that each of you would find opportunities to reflect on your own faith and relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ and his church. Whatever it is we think we desire, whether we realize it or not, our ultimate desire is Jesus himself,

and if we have forgotten that, by choice or by accident, this is the time to meet again for the first time, the Christ child.

With the angels in Bethlehem, our faith moves us to sing: “Glory to God in the highest and peace to His people on earth!” We recognize that true peace on earth comes from our recognition and praise of God in our lives.

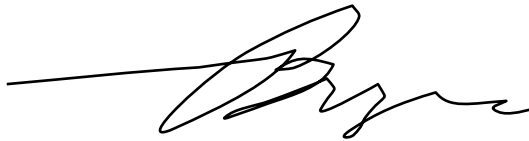
Christmas has a way of bringing to church people who, for various reasons, have not been to church for months or years. What a wonderful opportunity to put aside past differences and old habits and begin anew that relationship with the Lord and his church community. I extend to all of you an open, grateful heart of welcome. Together, may we grow in grace and celebrate together God’s presence in our lives.

With this, I invite you to stay connected this season. We need each other more than ever before. Don’t underestimate the value of your presence, service, prayers, witness, and gifts.

May you be filled with the grace of Mary, the obedience of Joseph, the joy of the angels, the eagerness of the shepherds, and the peace of the Christ child.

Merry Christmas!

Blessings, Bryce



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## Advent Sermon Series

This year our Advent sermon themes will follow the leading characters of the scripture readings. Figurines of those characters will be located on the ledges of the stained-glass windows. You will see the characters “travel” each Sunday toward the front of the church, until the entire Holy Family is located on the altar for Christmas Eve services. Listed below are the specific themes and scripture readings for each week:



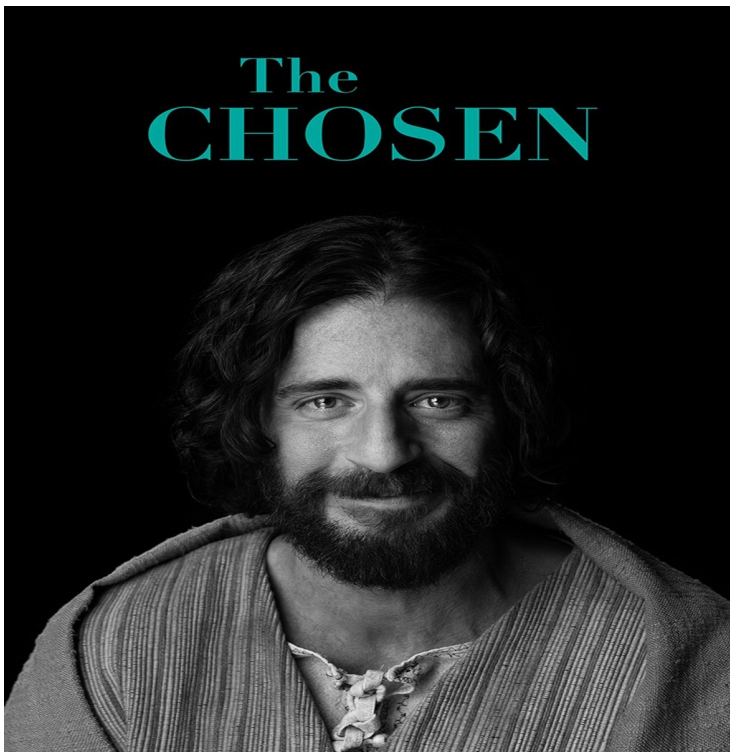
Sunday, November 28 – Angels and Prophets – Luke 1:1-25

Sunday, December 5 – The Angel and Mary – Luke 1:26-38

Sunday, December 12 – Mary and Elizabeth – Luke 1:39-56

Sunday, December 19 – Joseph and Mary – Matthew 1:18-25

Friday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Services at 2:00 pm and 7:00 pm



**Coming in January** - We will be diving into an 8-week small group study on the life of Jesus and what it means to be chosen by Him. Each session will include an episode from Season 1 of **The Chosen** as well as discussion centered around scripture and themes that directly parallel the episode.

**What is The Chosen?** It's a groundbreaking television series about the life of Jesus and His followers. **The Chosen** brings familiar characters and stories to the screen in a way that feels fresh, alive, and relatable. You will come to see these Biblical events, and maybe even Jesus Himself, from an entirely new perspective.

Perhaps you've never heard of **The Chosen**, or maybe you're already an ardent fan! Regardless, we hope you will jump in the water and join us on this journey! There will be many different small groups meeting at different times and in different places so we hope you will join one! Please contact Matt St. Jacques if you would like more info on **The Chosen**, and look for more information about this in the coming weeks!



**Special thanks to the many folks who helped decorate the church for Christmas!** We had a great evening of food, fellowship and fun! There is nothing more beautiful than this church at a Christmas Eve Candlelight service. You won't want to miss it!



# KidZone



## Advent

As we prepare to celebrate Jesus' birth in KidZone this month, take time to prepare as a family at home. Each family was sent home with Advent Conversation Cards. Go through one card each day as a family. Find a time that works for your family to read the scripture, discuss the questions, and do the activity.



### Memory Verse

For a child will be born for us, a son will be given to us, and the government will be on his shoulders.

He will be named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace.

Isaiah 9:6



### Missions

The noisy collection will be on **December 5th**. We will be collecting to help with adopting a family for Christmas.

1

MARY

Luke 1:1-25

2

MARY & ELIZABETH

Luke 1:26-38

3

JOSEPH & MARY

Luke 1:39-56

4

JESUS IS BORN

Luke 2:1-21

**Green Street Church**  
**209 W Green Street**  
**Hastings, MI 49058**  
**(269) 945-9574**

**Address Service Requested**



**2:00 pm and 7:00 pm**

**Sunday Worship**  
**In-Person**  
**and**  
**Facebook LIVE**  
**10:00 AM**

**December 2021 Newsletter**