

Theme: This Advent 2015 series examines the grand story of the Bible, from God's original purpose in creation to the accomplishment of the purpose at the end of history, and how the coming of Jesus is central to that story.

## I. Creation & Blessing

- A. Theme: The story begins with creation and God's blessing, which were given to us as His image, and were intended to be multiplied throughout life.
- B. Text: John 1:1-3
- C. Response:
- D. Benediction: Psalm 134:3; 90:17
- E. Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, creation, blessing, humanity of Christ, deity of Christ

## II. Sin & Exile

- A. Theme: The great dilemma in the Christmas story surrounds the problem of sin, which produces our exile from God, His purposes, and His blessing.
- B. Text: Genesis 3:23-24
- C. Response: Communion
- D. Benediction: Psalm 79:9
- E. Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, fall and curse, sin

## III. Redemption & Forgiveness

- A. Theme: The Christmas story celebrates Christ's coming as the Lamb of God to redeem us from our sins so that we might be forgiven.
- B. Text: Luke 1:76-79; John 1:29
- C. Response: Prayer
- D. Benediction: Hebrews 13:20-21
- E. Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, redemption, forgiveness; salvation and deliverance

## IV. Restoration & Return

- A. Theme: The story celebrates the coming of Christ to fully restore us to God, bringing us home from exile and placing us under God's blessing again.
- B. Text: Mark 1:1-5
- C. Response: Prayer
- D. Benediction: Deuteronomy 1:11
- E. Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, salvation and deliverance, blessing, community

## **V. The Story Comes To Life**

- A. Theme: In the Incarnation of Christ, the story came to life, as Our Creator came to us in our exile to redeem, deliver, and restore us to His full blessing.
- B. Text: John 1:1-3; 14-18
- C. Response: Silent Night Candle lighting
- D. Benediction: 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17
- E. Teaching keywords: Advent and Christmas, incarnation, 2nd Adam; redemption, forgiveness; salvation and deliverance; blessing

The Story - Series Outline  
Advent 2015