

Advent: The "Nothing is Impossible with God" Season

By the Rev. Dr. Cathi Braasch, STS – Interim Pastor

Welcome to Advent, the first season of the Christian Church Year. During these four weeks of Sundays beginning November 30, we'll prepare for the coming of Christ: Past, Present, and Future.

As Advent approaches, I'm reminded of the truth that an angel once spoke to a certain woman of faith in another place and time. Her name was Mary. Her mission: Make the invisible *visible*. Become the Mother of God-in-the-flesh. Her Savior, your Savior and mine. Jesus our Christ. Luke 1:37 states the holy truth:

"For nothing is impossible with God."

The invisible God became visible to us in Christ more than 2,000 years ago. What seems impossible – new life starting now and never ending – becomes possible by nothing more and nothing less than faith. And what an incredibly liberating gift it is -- to know that our eternal future is secure. Bought and paid for by the precious blood of that little Baby Jesus, who came and grew up, lived and died and rose again, to save us from our sin and ourselves.

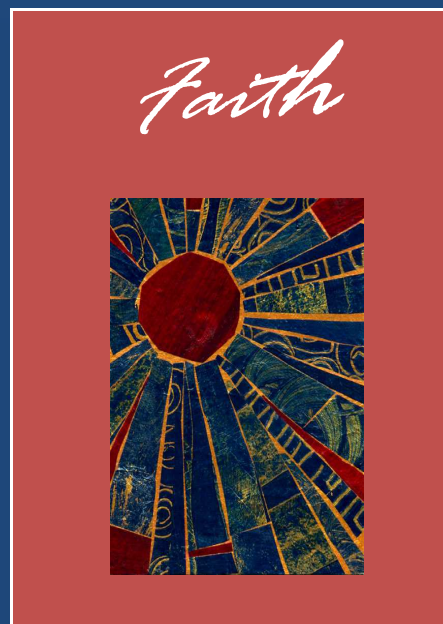
From seeing the invisible, to believing the impossible, to receiving the incredible – that's the journey of faith. It's also the journey that Peace Lutheran Church is on right now as we prepare for the identification, call and welcome of the next pastor who will serve here. And, there's no better time than Advent to engage this journey of faith in an even bolder, more vigorous, more intentional way.

As I write these words, you and I are barely three months into the interim journey that we began late in September. The Holy Spirit has been and continues to be at work, as God's people of Peace have not skipped a beat in terms of your life together. The Christ who has been with Peace Lutheran Church from its beginnings continues to be among us: In Word, in Sacrament, and in a holy community that is being prepared for its next stage of mission and ministry. Christ promises to continue to be among you, and He looks to us to keep on being faithful until He returns in person.

This Advent brings glimpses of confident faith many ways great and small. I've seen it as you continue your current ministries while you are being prepared to recognize, welcome and work together with the pastor the Lord is already preparing to lead you next.

*Come, Lord Jesus – at Advent, at Christmas, throughout the church year, now, and always.
Make Your home with us, that, by faith,
we would see the invisible, believe the impossible and receive the incredible.
After all, NOTHING is impossible with You. Amen!*

In Christ and His Service, Pastor Cathi



Sees the
invisible...
Believes the
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Receives the
incredible....

*"For nothing is
impossible
with God."*

*Thank you, Women of the Word and Peace, for remembering me with the surprise gift for Pastor Appreciation Month! Red and I enjoyed a special lunch together thanks to your gift. We appreciate you!
~ Pastor Cathi & Red*