

HAPPY THANKSGIVING

No scheduled programming
this week at THF!

Enjoy time with family and friends & stay safe.

Please continue to check all of our social media outlets
and our website for updates to weekly activities
and Sunday Services.

www.theheightsfellowship.org



FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

	<i>Week of 11/15/20</i>	<i>Year to Date</i>
Budget Giving	\$19,940.77	\$732,340.32
Budget Needs	\$15,970.00	\$734,620.00

Free wifi: THFGuest No password needed.



The Minor Key

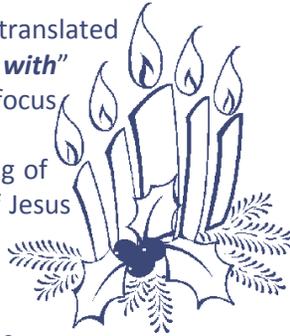
The people who walk in darkness will see a great light; those who live in a dark land, the light will shine on them.

LAMENT IS THE MINOR KEY OF WORSHIP Isaiah 9:2

The celebration of Advent is possible only to those who are troubled in soul, who know themselves to be poor and imperfect, and who look to something greater to come.

ADVENT AS A RESPONSE TO THE CRASS MATERIALISM OF CHRISTMAS OBSERVANCE - Dietrich Bonhoeffer

- ✓ Comes from the Latin word *adventus*, or **COMING** translated from the Greek word *parousia* which means **“being with”**
- ✓ Originally had nothing to do with Christmas - was a focus on the baptism of new believers in January
- ✓ 6th Century - the Church linked *Advent* to the coming of Jesus - but not the incarnation, rather the coming of Jesus at the **RAPTURE** !
- ✓ In the Middle Ages that *Advent* settled on its the current emphasis
- ✓ The *Advent* wreath first appeared in Germany in 1839



In some places a fifth Sunday is observed just before the first Sunday of *Advent*. This Sunday is called *Totensonntag* or *Totenfest*. It referred to as the ‘*Sunday of the Dead*’ or ‘*Eternity Sunday*’ and is a Sunday of **LAMENT**

Song of Sorrows AT LEAST 1/3 OF THE PSALMS ARE LAMENTS

Lament v. - **TO EXPRESS GRIEF, SORROW, REGRET; TO MOURN; PROTEST; CRY OUT**

EXAMPLES OF BIBLICAL LAMENTS

When we **GRIEVE** John 8:52

When our hearts are **BROKEN** Psalm 130:1

When we feel **HELPLESS** and overwhelmed Psalm 6:3

When we are confronted with **INJUSTICE** in the world Psalm 94:3-7

When we recognize our **SIN** 2 Corinthians 7:10

Many times people - even believers - tend to deal with pain by DENIAL or by DESPAIR

Lament gives **PROPER EXPRESSION** to human pain!

Lament talks to God about pain. It has a unique purpose: trust. It is a divinely given invitation to pour out our fears, frustrations, and sorrows for the purpose of helping us to renew our confidence in God - Mark Vroegop

An Important Distinction: WHINING ≠ LAMENT

9 Nor should we put Christ to the test, as some of them did and then died from snakebites. 10 And don't grumble as some of them did, for that is why God sent his angel of death to destroy them. 11 All these events happened to them as examples for us. They were written down to warn us, 1 Corinthians 10:9-11 nlt **CF NUM 14**

Grumbling is a venting from a posture of **SELF-INTEREST** (pride)

Grumbling **IGNORES** the gospel of God

Lamenting is not rehearsing your **ANGER** or airing your **RAGE**

Lamenting is a **PRAYER** to God about **PAIN** !

How Do We Lament? Psalm 13

THE VAST MAJORITY OF LAMENTS MOVER FROM CRUSHED TO TRUST

TURN (to God) vv1-2

TELL (God what's going on) vv1-2

TALK (What you want Him to do) vv3-4

TRUST (God Inspite of it all) vv5-6

Insights and Applications

→ Lamenting brings us into **HONESTY** with God

→ Honest expression brings us to a place of **SECURITY** in God's Sovereignty

→ Truth never destroys **FEELING**, Love, or **COMPASSION**

→ Biblical lament connects us with '**GOSPEL WEARINESS**'