

Sun., Dec. 27: Christmas Sunday, Holy Communion

Memory Verse: "Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" -2 Corinthians 5:17

Message: One Size Fits All

Sermon Scripture: John 3:10-18

Blurb: We're having a special carol service this Christmas Sunday! So, be sure to gather round and be ready to sing some of your favorite carols. We'll also celebrate Holy Communion, and hear a meditation from Pastor David.

WELCOME -Pastor David

Sunday of Christmas

Special Carol Service, shorter!

Holy Communion - use the elements in your Christmas bag, or get your own

MEMORY VERSE -Pastor David

"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!" -2 Corinthians 5:17

WORSHIP MUSIC SET: Carol Sing -Bonsells

SERVE MOMENT: Christmas Offering: Feed My Starving Children

All offerings: You can give by mail or drop it off in the church office. Or, most conveniently, you can make an automated transfer or a debit card payment on the church website.

MESSAGE: "One Size Fits All" (Pastor David sitting in a chair in front of the Christmas trees)

A. Intro: Here is a typical "Dad" gift for Christmas: socks! [Show socks]

-Yet actually, I do highly value good socks...irritated at short socks when pants ride up!

-This is a good gift, let me tell you!

B. Message Theme: One Size Fits All

-Something on these socks grabbed my attention this Christmas - making them Xmas socks!

-It says, "One size fits all."

-Now this past year I've been losing weight

-I have come to know that "one size fits all" really isn't true.

-One size fits *most*

-Like when I used to try on those robes in hotels

-Or those hospital gowns...one size does NOT fit all!

-I flash my back side down the hallway with a cool south breeze

-But you know, one size fits all does work in God's sizing

-You know, that's really the message of Christmas!

-The little baby born at Christmas is so small, but yet this little baby really is for all!

C. Scripture: John 3, story of Nicodemus

When this Baby Jesus grew up, early in His public ministry, a high person from the Jewish council, the Sanhedrin, came to Jesus secretly at night.

His name was Nicodemus, and he asked Jesus about God's Kingdom.

Jesus said that anyone who wants to be in God's Kingdom must be born again.

They talk for awhile about spiritual rebirth.

And then Jesus tells him what have become perhaps the most famous verses in the Bible.

John 3, starting in verse 10 "Jesus answered, "You are a teacher of Israel and you don't know these things? 11 I assure you that we speak about what we know and testify about what we have seen, but you don't receive our testimony. 12 If I have told you about earthly things and you don't believe, how will you believe if I tell you about heavenly things? 13 No one has gone up to heaven except the one who came down from heaven, the Human One. [Jesus is talking about Himself] 14 Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the wilderness [Jesus refers to a story in Exodus], so must the Human One be lifted up [Jesus means dying on a cross] 15 so that everyone who believes in him will have eternal life. [There it is, one size fits all, so EVERYONE who believes might have eternal life. Then comes John 3:16] God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him won't perish but will have eternal life. 17 God didn't send His Son into the world to judge the world, but that the world might be saved through Him. 18 Whoever believes in Him isn't judged; whoever doesn't believe in Him is already judged, because they don't believe in the name of God's only Son."

D. Application

Right there is the best Christmas present, ever!

Jesus is one Savior, but for everyone!

You don't have to be important, like Nicodemus (who struggled to understand Jesus)

You don't have to be clean or good or deserving

It doesn't matter who you are, or what you've done

The salvation Jesus came to bring is truly "one size fits all"

Jesus comes to you, and the salvation He offers is just your right size, fits you perfectly

This is a truly "feels good" Christmas present

E. Conclusion

So, I'll happily wear these socks in the year ahead

And I want to encourage you to put on the salvation that Jesus came at Christmas to bring

It's your perfect Christmas present that will "fit right" all new year

So, let's make a point to do that. Let's put on Jesus' "one size fits all" Christmas present

We do that by celebrating Holy Communion. . . .

HOLY COMMUNION:

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Words of Institution

Prayer for the Holy Spirit

Partaking of the Elements

Closing Prayer

SONG: *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silent* -Pastor Andrew

ANNOUNCEMENTS -Pastor David

Video devotionals: Monday, Wednesday, Friday.

No Wednesday programming

Next Sunday, begin new message series: Momentum, working through the Beatitudes

MEMORY VERSE -Pastor David

“Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come: The old has gone, the new is here!” -2 Corinthians 5:17

BENEDICTION -Pastor David

Merry Christmas, and Happy New Year!