



PROJECT RECONNECT

.. CONNECTING PEOPLE WITH GOD, EACH OTHER AND THE COMMUNITY

PROJECT RECONNECT

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Advent 1, Year B, November 29th

Presenter: Rev Dr John Squires

Focus Reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

Message: 6 minutes 15 seconds

"Tear Open The Heavens!"

Discussion Starters

1. What was the most striking statement in this reflection? Do you agree with it? Or does it challenge you?
2. How do you approach God in prayer? How might Isaiah 64 change that?
3. What place do the Hebrew Bible readings have in regular worship in your church?
4. What resources are in your community to help people impacted by trauma? How can they be utilised?

Readings for this day

Psalms 80:1-7, 17-19 The psalmist pleads for a powerful God to forgive the people and act on their behalf. The image of God as shepherd connotes care, yet people have shed tears over God's absence or neglect.

1 Corinthians 1:3-9 Paul assures the readers of God's actions within the individual and the community to enrich, strengthen, and grant peace as the church waits for the revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Mark 13:24-37 Jesus teaches that the unpredictable Human One (or Son of Man) will affect nature and result in the establishment of a community of the elect. The church responds to the promise of this event by maintaining a sense of expectancy, even in uncertainty.

Abingdon Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year B. Copyright c2014 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. (Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

Intergenerational Talk: Maria Williams

Length 5 minutes 23 Seconds

"How to Serve Jesus"

Precis of IT:

Advent is the time to receive the answer that Isaiah cried out for 500 years before. A child born to show us the way of Love and Welcome into God's family. A child who grew to a man to be our Lord and Guide, to help us find the right path. This Holy One can be found in the most unexpected places. Fred's story helps us to understand this....

Uniting in Worship (Blue Book). Psalm 80: 1-7 (only shown) – page 305

Rev Dr John Squires

Is a retired Uniting Church minister living in Dungog NSW. Is the current Editor of *With Love to the World*. His passions are gardening and history, and has written several family histories with his wife Elizabeth. Both are members of the Dungog Historical Society. Justice for First Peoples is also a keen interest supported in Reconciliation Dungog.