Parkman Congregational Church

THIS WEEK'S CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday, December 12

Third Sunday of Advent Sunday school, 9:00 am Fellowship Time, 10:00 am Worship Service, 10:30 am Communion

Monday, December 13

Women's Fellowship Christmas Party, 7

Elders, 7:00 pm

Friday, December 17

Movie Night, 6:30 pm

Saturday, December 18

But First-Coffee, 9:00 am

AA, 8:30 pm

Sunday, December 19

Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday school, 9:00 am Fellowship Time, 10:00 am Worship Service, 10:30 am Communion



Please add your prayer requests to the
Log on the prayer podium.
-We ask that you continue to
Keep those loved ones in your daily prayers.

Parkman Congregational Church December 12, 2021



Romans: Helping the Gentiles understand God better		
12/12 –Romans 6:12-14	Instruments of Righteousness or Unrighteousness	
12/19 –Romans 6:15-23	What Then?	
Luke 16:1-13	No One Can Serve Two Masters	
Christmas Eve		
12/24 –Revelation 12	The Promised Child	



Parkman Congregational Church December 12, 2021



NOT God's plan for my life
BUT my life for God's plan
NOT God's vision for our church
BUT our church for God's Vision



SCRIPTURE OF THE MONTH Romans 6:23



Parkman Congregational Church December 12, 2021



LOOKING AHEAD

December 13 – Women's Fellowship Christmas Party

December 17 – Movie Night, 6:30 pm



Christmas Eve Candlelight Service Friday, 12-24-21 at 7:00 pm

> December 25, 2021 MERRY CHRISTMAS

Parkman Congregational Church December 12, 2021

Member of the Conservative Congregational Christian Conference

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On the Web: www.parkmanchurch.com

Http://facebook.com/parkmanchurch

Pastor: Reverend Will Coley

Email: parkman.pastor@yahoo.com

Cell Phone: (978) 473-9605

'Pastor Will's Cell Phone is turned off after 9:00 pm' If there is an emergency, please call one of the Elders' listed below - Thank you

James Pavlic	Small Groups & Church Plant	440-635-7700
Jim Toth	Elder	440-632-0478
Frank Bosak	Elder / Moderator	330-674-6576
Denise Villers	Treasurer	440-548-2939
David Smith	Back-up Treasurer	440-548-2113
Laurie Hauser	Financial Secretary	440-655-3039
Alison Oliver	Church Clerk	440-289-0780

Parkman Congregational Church December 12, 2021



A Birth of Christ Narrative???

Revelation 12 retells the whole of human history as a drama involving three characters: a woman,

a child and a dragon.

The woman appears first (12:1-2). She could be Mary since she gives birth to Jesus. But she's more likely to be the people of God as a whole, from whose seed the Messiah came. Isaiah portrayed Israel as a woman in childbirth, waiting to bring forth the Messiah (Isaiah 26:17, 66:6) and the woman in Revelation spans the whole history of redemption. Revelation 12:17 refers to Christians as "the rest of her offspring" – the product of the mission of the church.

The child is Jesus. Verse 5 says the child "will rule all the nations with an iron scepter." It's a quote from Psalm 2:9 where God's Messiah receives an iron scepter to rule the nations.

The dragon is clearly identified as Satan in Revelation 12:9: "The great dragon was hurled down- the ancient snake called the devil, or Satan, who leads the whole world astray." But the Old Testament also often describes great empires and evil forces as a dragon or some other monstrous creature (Psalm 74:12-14, 89:10; Isaiah 27:1, 30:7; Ezekiel 29:3, 32:2-3; Habakkuk 3:8-15). The dragon has "seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads" (Revelation 12:3). Ten and seven are symbols of completeness, so the dragon's ten horns and seven crowns represent his false claim to complete sovereignty (Daniel 7:7,24). In Revelation 12:4 we're told that "its tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to earth." It's a reference to Daniel 8:10, which describes Antiochus Epiphanes, who would persecute God's people in the third century BC. John's use of this allusion suggests that behind the hostility of Antiochus on earth was the hostility of Satan in heaven. This is typical of the way John reapplies an Old Testament critique of idolatrous power to his own day.

The drama of chapter 12 unfolds in three acts.

Act One: The Coming of Jesus
 Act Two: The Defeat of Satan

3. Act Three: The Warfare of the Church

Tim Chester "Revelation for You."