

Sermon Notes

Matthew 2:1 -12
Isaiah 9: 2 -7

January 4, 2026

Against the Grain: The Messiah Is a...Baby? Pastor Adrienne Ladd

- I. Post-Christmas haze
 - a. 12 days of Christmas
 - b. We're supposed to get back to business.

- II. Living with the gift of Christmas
 - a. New sermon series
 - b. Going against the grain
 - i. Woodworking
 - ii. Socially
 - c. Taking the right path, because it is the right one.

- III. Going against the grain
 - a. God is a God of peace, but also interrupts our expectations.
 - b. The birth of Jesus goes against the grain.
 - c. The Messiah is a baby?!

- IV. What the people expected
 - a. A mighty warrior
 - b. Overthrow Rome

- V. Jesus was different
 - a. From a shepherd's town
 - b. In humble circumstances

- VI. Jesus invites us in
 - a. To feed, to love, to forgive
 - b. Let us ask ourselves who we underestimate.
 - c. Let us wonder where we are not looking for God.
 - d. God might just be there.