

January 28 – February 11

***Out of the Whirlwind:
Creation and Wonder
in the Book of Job***

Speaker:

Rev. Dr. Kathryn Schifferdecker

Professor and Chair of Old Testament
Chair of the Bible Division
Luther Seminary, St. Paul

Introduction:



The book of Job is a profound meditation on suffering. It is also a profound meditation on creation and humanity's place in creation. In this

series, we will explore the book of Job for insights about God, creation and humanity. We will ponder questions the book raises: Where is God in the midst of suffering? What kind of world is this? What is our place in this world? We will also talk about how we read this ancient book as Christians, marked by the cross of Christ.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Schifferdecker frequently contributes to the websites WorkingPreacher.org and EntertheBible.org, where she co-hosts a podcast called *Everything You Wanted to Know about the Bible but Were Afraid to Ask*. Kathryn's first book was on Job. She is delighted to teach again at Salem.

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**Sunday
Lecture Series
Winter 2023-2024**



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Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's good will is—his good, pleasing, and perfect will.
Romans 12:2

December 10 & 17

***Following Aslan:
Principles for Life and
Childrearing from the Life
and Writings of C.S. Lewis***

Speaker:
Dr. Jaqueline Glenny

Professor of Communication
University of Northwestern, St. Paul

Introduction:



Nuggets from C. S. Lewis's life story and his *Chronicles of Narnia* can inspire parents, grandparents, children, and grandchildren to more intentionally embrace Christian

principles for living. Themes from Lewis's life story and *The Chronicles of Narnia* will be discussed along with ideas for intergenerational sharing. Especially at Christmastime, let us embrace some of the whimsy of Lewis to defeat the White Witch who makes it "always winter and never Christmas."

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Glenny has a special interest in C. S. Lewis garnered from several sabbaticals as a visiting scholar at Cambridge University, UK. She has written a *Walking Tour Guide to C. S. Lewis's Cambridge*.

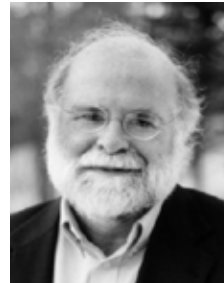
January 7 & 14

***Believing Again:
Stories of Folks Leaving and
Returning to Faith***

Speaker:
Dr. Daniel Taylor

Professor of English Emeritus
Bethel University, St. Paul

Introduction:



Religious faith and church attendance have been in steep decline for decades and much studied. But many of those who leave eventually return. Why? We will explore

stories of departure and return and discuss reasons for both, offering some ideas of how the church can be more welcoming to those who wrestle with faith (calling them "Yearners," "Doubters.")

Speaker Bio:

Dr. Taylor taught literature and writing for 33 years at Bethel University. He is the author of more than twelve books, including four novels, *Letters to My Children*, and *The Skeptical Believer*. He is the senior stylist for the New Living Translation of the Bible.

January 21

The Language of Love

Speaker:
Pastor Terri Russell

Community Engagement Pastor
Salem Covenant Church

Introduction:



We often use the word "love," but loving chocolate is different than loving a child. Love is complex and multifaceted. The Bible speaks of love—including

describing the very being of God and how we relate both to Him and to others. Biblical languages (Hebrew and Greek) use various words to express the concept of love. What do these words tell us about the nature of love? Join us as we explore what the Bible reveals about this about this short, yet powerful word.

Speaker Bio:

Terri will receive her M. Div. from Bethel Seminary in May 2024 with concentration in Biblical Languages. Terri has found studying biblical languages a helpful tool in knowing God better through the biblical text.