

# CHRISTMAS EVE

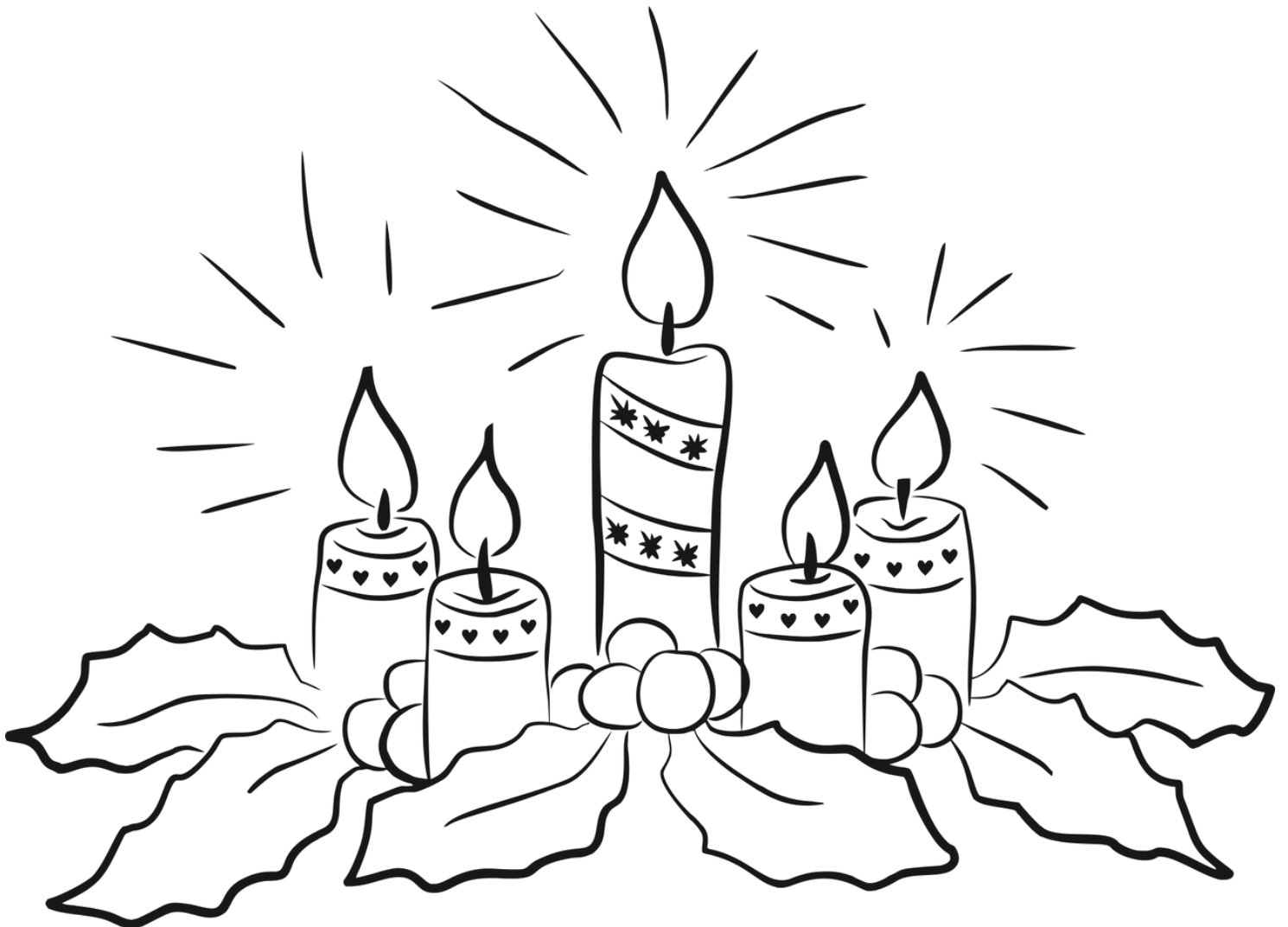
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2024

5:00 PM WORSHIP

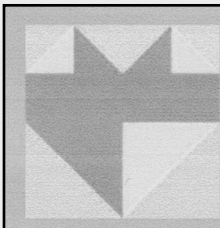


Children are a treasured part of our community. Please find a Worship Adventure Packet or a Busy Box at the tables in the foyer. Children are free to use these resources in the pews or in the Wiggle Room, a mostly soundproof room on the north end of the sanctuary where young worshippers and people who need to move around can see and hear the service.

*Every minor in the Wiggle Room must be attended by an adult.*



We invite you to look at the banners hanging above the sanctuary and note that they display quilt square designs from our theme this Advent season, "Words for the Beginning". Each quilt square is a visual representation of the theme for one given worship service of Advent. This evening's theme is:



**LOVE KNOWS YOUR NAME** The love of God is represented by a heart with three triangles that seem to fold inward, ready for embrace..

*We gather on the unceded ancestral lands of the Coast Salish people, past and present. With gratitude, we honor the land itself and the legacy of the First People of Seattle, the Duwamish Tribe. May we remember that the oppression of Native peoples is not a relic of the past but continues today. And may we, through God's Spirit, repent and walk forward together, changing systems that discriminate as we live into authentic diversity and healing.*

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

*\*If it is comfortable, you are invited to stand.*

*Children and youth are welcome to set up the nativity with the pastors during the prelude.*

Preludes

Christian Broughton

“Pastorale on a Christmas Plainsong”

VIRGIL THOMSON

“Lo, How a Rose”

JEAN PASQUET

Variations on “Adeste Fideles”

MARCEL DUPRÉ

One: In those days,  
in the beginning,  
Joseph and Mary traveled to Bethlehem. He was to be registered,  
and she was expecting a child.  
The time came for Mary to give birth,  
so she delivered her child,  
wrapped him in bands of cloth  
and laid him in a manger.

**ALL: And the angels sang,  
“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth, peace to all whom God favors.”**

One: Let us worship our with-us God.

**ALL: Let us sing songs of praise!**

Passing the Peace

**\*Hymn**

“O Come, All Ye Faithful”

ADESTE FIDELES

1. O Come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem!  
Come and behold him, born the King of angels,  
*Refrain:* O come, let us adore him, O come let us adore him,  
O come let us adore him, Christ, the Lord.
2. God of God, Light of Light,  
Lo! God abhors not the Virgin’s womb;  
Very God, Begotten, not created: [*refrain*]
3. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation!  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above:  
“Glory to God, all glory in the highest,” [*refrain*]
4. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born in us this evening,  
Jesus to thee be all glory giv’n.  
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing. [*refrain*]

Scripture

ISAIAH 9:6 (NRSVUE)

Donna Ward

For a child has been born for us,  
a son given to us;  
authority rests upon his shoulders,  
and he is named  
Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,  
Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

Reader: For the word of God in scripture,  
for the word of God among us, and for the word of God within us,  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Inola and Danny de la Cruz and  
daughters Elle, Julia, and Katerina

**\*Candle Lighting Song 107** (v. 1-4)

REJOICE, REJOICE

“Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn”

Anthem

“O Holy Night”

Sanctuary Choir

O holy night, the stars are brightly shining; it is the night of our dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope, the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!  
Fall on your knees, O Hear the angel voices! O night, divine!  
O night, when Christ was born.

Truly he taught us to love one another; His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall he break for the slave is our brother, and in His name all  
oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! Praise His name forever! His power and glory evermore proclaim!

Prayer

Pastor Leigh Curl-Dove

Call to Giving and Offering

Brent Marble

## \*Hymn

## “Hark! the Herald Angels Sing”

MENDELSSOHN

1. Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King:  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With th’angelic hosts proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”
2. Christ, by highest heav’n adored; Christ the everlasting Lord!  
Late in time behold him come, offspring of a Virgin’s womb.  
Veiled in flesh the God-head see; hail th’incarnate Deity,  
Pleased with flesh in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King.”
3. Hail the heav’n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all he brings, ris’n with healing in his wings.  
Mild he lays his glory by, born that all no more may die;  
Born to raise us all from earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King!”

## Scripture

## LUKE 2:1-20 (NRSVUE)

In those days a decree went out from Caesar Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth and laid him in a manger, because there was no place in the guest room.

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, “Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger.” And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying,

“Glory to God in the highest heaven,  
and on earth peace among those whom he favors!”

When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another,

“Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us.” So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Reader: For the word of God in scripture,  
for the word of God among us, and for the word of God within us,

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Message	“Love Knows Your Name”	Pastor Anita Peebles
Communion		Pastor Anita Peebles and Pastor Leigh Curl-Dove

*All are welcome to partake of the Lord's supper, regardless of baptismal status or denominational affiliation. We serve gluten free bread and grape juice for communion. Tonight, we share communion by intinction (dipping the bread into the cup of grape juice). Those who are comfortable may come forward and partake of the bread and cup. If you are more comfortable remaining seated, please raise your hand and you will be served at your seat.*

Communion Music	Christian Broughton
“Es ist ein Ros' entsprungen,” Op. 122, No. 8	
JOHANNES BRAHMS	

### Communion Hymns

#### **Away in a Manger**

1. Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay;  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing; the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes.  
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.

## What Child Is This

1. What child is this who laid to rest on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?  
This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering;  
Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.
2. Why lies the Child in manger bare where ox and ass are feeding?  
Give heed, draw near for sinner here the silent word is pleading.  
This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering;  
Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.
3. Bring gifts of incense, gold, and myrrh, come join in jubilation;  
The Holy Child though meek and mild, has come with God's salvation.  
This, this the angels sing is Christ God's holy offering;  
Haste, haste your praise to bring the babe, the child of Mary.

*The pastors will bring the light from the Christ candle to the congregation. When it is your turn to receive the light, tip your unlit candle towards the flame. You are welcome to keep your candle lit through "Silent Night" and the benediction. Children are welcome to use their glow sticks instead of candles, as their grown-ups advise.*

From "The Mood of Christmas"

Pastor Anita Peebles

HOWARD THURMAN

"I will light Candles this Christmas,  
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,  
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,  
Candles of courage for fears ever present,  
Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,  
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,  
Candles of love to inspire all my living,  
Candles that will burn all year long."

## \*Hymn

"Silent Night"

STILLE NACHT

1. Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright;  
'Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.



2. Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight.  
Glories stream from heaven afar;  
Heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior is born! Christ, the Savior is born!

3. Silent night, holy night; Son of God, love's pure light.  
Radiant beams from thy holy face,  
With the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord at thy birth, Jesus, Lord at thy birth.

Benediction

Pastor Anita Peebles

**\*Hymn**

“Joy to the World!”

ANTIOCH

1. Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare him room,  
And heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
And heaven and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth! The Savior reigns: Let all their songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
The glories of his righteousness,  
And wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
And wonders and wonders of his love.

*Please deposit your used candles in the baskets by the sanctuary doors on your way out.*

Postlude

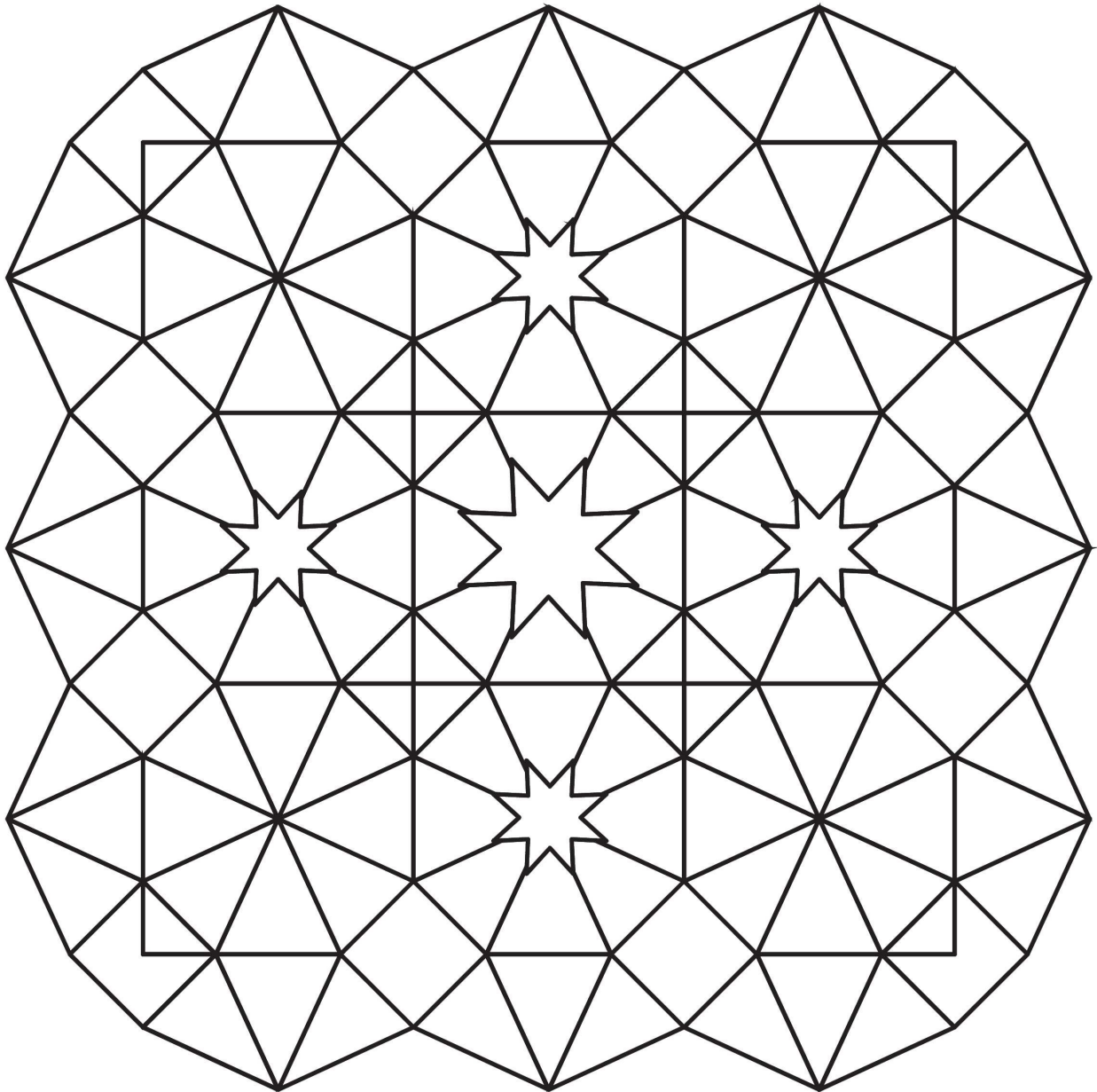
“God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

Christian Broughton

ALFRED V. FEDAK

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Email [contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org](mailto:contact@seattlefirstbaptist.org) to reach any SFBC staff or council members.

#### **STAFF**

Rev. Anita Peebles, *Pastor*

Rev. Leigh Curl-Dove, *Pastor*

Darren Hochstedler, *Church Administrator*

Christina Sunstone, *Office Manager & Small Group*

*Ministries Coordinator*

Ben Luedcke, *Minister of Music*

Christian Broughton, *Organist & Communications Manager*

Dick Steele, *Facilities Manager*

Chase McAdams, *Caretaker*

Stephenie Simmons, *Chef*

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Inola de la Cruz, *Treasurer*

Roem de la Cruz

Heather Dodge

Janet Hasselblad

Mary Keith

Bob Sittig

David Young

## ARTIST'S STATEMENT



Christmas Eve | WORDS FOR THE BEGINNING  
**LOVE KNOWS YOUR NAME**



### ABOLITION BABY

by Nicolette Peñaranda

Inspired by Luke 2:1-20, Isaiah 9:6

*Paper collage on canvas*

Before I started this piece, I went to the Harvey B. Gantt Center for African-American Arts and Culture in Charlotte, North Carolina.<sup>7</sup> As our guide explained some of the architectural features of the building, I learned that abolitionists used to hang quilts outside of their homes to signal safety for those on the underground railroad. A few minutes later, I walked into an exhibit of large quilts draping the vibrant exhibit hall with explicit stories from slavery, 1990s ballroom culture, and an interpretation of Greek mythology. I was mesmerized by the manipulation of fabric and the storytelling that took place within each stitch. Are quilts symbols of resistance?

This trip inspired me to take a different approach to creating art for the Christmas story. While I typically produce maximalist canvases with overwhelming details, this piece is toned down and more precision-oriented. As someone who has never been able to draw a straight line, creating this quilt design out of paper was a discipline in and of itself. Creating it made me think of the kind of diligence and patience needed to sew a fabric quilt. These are projects made with love. The hands that sew them should never be taken for granted.

It is for this reason that I titled this piece, *Abolition Baby*. Even though we are over 150 years removed from the Civil War, abolitionism is still relevant today. The United States is only 4% of the world population, but it contains nearly 25% of the world's incarcerated population.<sup>8</sup> According to the 13th amendment, slavery is illegal in the U.S. with the exception of incarcerated individuals. Some of the largest prisons in states such as Louisiana and Georgia are former plantations.<sup>9</sup> Prison labor is used by major corporations where they pay Black and Brown people pennies on the dollar.<sup>10</sup>

I will not declare Jesus an abolitionist, but I will note that Jesus would grow up to call out any society that created environments where people are forced to commit crimes or work in unprecedented fields in order to survive. Mary was excited to bring Jesus into the world because she believed in the promise of liberation for her people. Jesus' birth was a symbol of hope for the future, for a freed people. Love knows his name. And it is freedom. —Rev. Nicolette Peñaranda

<sup>7</sup> [ganttcenter.org](http://ganttcenter.org)

<sup>8</sup> [washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/04/30/does-the-united-states-really-have-five-percent-of-the-worlds-population-and-one-quarter-of-the-worlds-prisoners](https://www.washingtonpost.com/news/fact-checker/wp/2015/04/30/does-the-united-states-really-have-five-percent-of-the-worlds-population-and-one-quarter-of-the-worlds-prisoners/)

<sup>9</sup> [daily.jstor.org/slavery-and-the-modern-day-prison-plantation](http://daily.jstor.org/slavery-and-the-modern-day-prison-plantation)

<sup>10</sup> [news.uchicago.edu/story/us-prison-labor-programs-violate-fundamental-human-rights-new-report-finds](http://news.uchicago.edu/story/us-prison-labor-programs-violate-fundamental-human-rights-new-report-finds)