

Advent –The Light of the World

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Matthew 5:14-16

December 17th, 2023

Our God is a God of patterns

The Gospels show us Jesus is the ultimate bright light.

*In what ways have you seen Jesus as a pattern of light in your life?

The light is precious, treasured and essential

Jesus is essential.

*What are some ways we take light for granted?

*How have you treasured Jesus as essential lately?

Light is also transferrable and can be shared

Read and discuss Matthew 5:14-16 (NIV)

¹⁴“You are the light of the world. A town built on a hill cannot be hidden. ¹⁵Neither do people light a lamp and put it under a bowl. Instead they put it on its stand, and it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven.

*What do we see in this passage about light?

*How might this passage have formed people hearing from Jesus at the beginning of his ministry?

We are the light of the world

We are not the source of the light, but we are connected to the source.

*How does the lightbulb illustration help us understand our purpose in the world around us?

*Who has been a light in the darkness for you – a filament of Jesus’ light?

*Who is the Spirit inviting you to shine around?

As a reminder from week I consider beginning every day of this season with this Prayer of Wakefulness

Unexpected light of Jesus, your advent alarms us.
Wake us from a drowsy life and drowsy worship,
Wake us from the sleep that neglects love,
And wake us from the sedative of misdirected frenzy.

Awaken us now to your coming, and bend our angers into your peace.
King Jesus from the heavens your rain down mercy and kindness,
Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch,
that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy
Raise our heads in expectation,
That we may yearn for the coming day of the Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns for ever and ever.
Amen.