

A Word on Wednesday from Pastor Tonia

"We Begin Our Wait" 11/29/23

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in the land of the shadow of death, upon them a light has shined.

For unto us a Child is born, unto us a Son is given, and the government will be upon His shoulder. And His name will be called Wonderful, Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. (Isaiah 9:2, 6)

This Sunday begins the Season of Advent, a time spent waiting and preparing for the coming of Christ, which we celebrate at Christmas. Each week we light a candle in our Advent Wreath. The first candle reminds us of the hope we hold onto as we wait.

The season of Advent occurs at the darkest time of year. The sun shines only for a few brief hours each day, rising after we rise and setting long before we go to bed. It seems like most of our time is spent in darkness. Sometimes our spirits reflect the darkness which seems to pervade this time of year. Yet Advent is not a season of darkness, rather it is a season of light, a season of hope. While it is still dark, we look to the faint glow on the horizon and we see the hope of daylight.

And just as the Advent wreath grows brighter each week as we light a another candle, so too, we sense the Light of Christ preparing to rise in our hearts.

During advent we prepare for the coming Christ - the true light coming into the world. We prepare to celebrate His first coming as He came to us in His birth and we prepare for His second coming as we look longingly with hope for the coming of His kingdom, when, as the scriptures say: There will be no need for sun or moon to shine, for the glory of God will be our light and our lamp will be the Lamb.

During the season of Advent, we see the first glimmerings of the Light of Christ.

Please pray with me:

Thank you, Lord, for this time of waiting. Remove our anxiety and our impatience and help us to hold on to the hope we have in Your coming to be with us. We thank You for Your presence and for the peace it gives to us. Continue to fill us with Your joy as we wait. You bless us with Your love and it keeps us secure as we await Your Kingdom. Thank You for the gift of Your Son, may we focus on Him through this Advent Season.

Amen.