

Pastor Brian's
Mid Week Message
December 2, 2020

“COMING ATTRACTIONS”

The true Light who gives light to every man was coming into the world. John 1:9

This evening we take another step into the Season of Advent. Tonight, marks the first of our three midweek Advent worship services. The theme for our Wednesday meditations this year is the messianic prophecies of Isaiah and their fulfillment “coming” in Jesus. The first installment focuses on light, the light of Christ...“A Coming Light”. The worship begins promptly at 6:00pm, and I am certain that there will be plenty of good “socially distanced” seats available for you. You can also take part online through our Facebook page. The Advent season is our time to focus on the coming of Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior. This a time of looking back to the incarnation of the eternal Son of God and preparing once again to receive Him as the Babe of Bethlehem who is born into the world to save us from our sin. “*She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.*” (Matthew 1:21) These were instructions given to Joseph by an angel of the Lord. We look forward to the celebration of Christmas and the joy that it brings as we recall our “Emmanuel”, that God is indeed with us in His only begotten Son who has come into the world. At the same time Advent is a time to be and remain prepared to receive Christ as He comes to us in our lifetime, each and every day. As we gather in worship Jesus Christ comes to us in the Word, and as He invites us to the altar to receive His body and blood with the bread and the wine. We are prepared as we remain connect to Him, the True Vine, and continually receive nourishment for our body soul and spirit through Him. Ultimately, we prepare for the imminent return of Christ as the conquering king and judge of all mankind. True faith is what ensures our being prepared to receive the crown of righteousness in heaven. Faith in Jesus and all that He has done for us in His life, death and resurrection enables us the receive from Him the righteousness of God while He takes upon himself all of our sin, destroying its power over us. Yes, tonight we look at Jesus, the Light of the world. *The true Light who gives light to every man was coming into the world.* (John 1:9) Next Wednesday evening the focus shifts to “A Coming Servant”, the “Suffering Servant” that Isaiah foretells of in Isaiah 53 who endures unimaginable scorn, abuse, ridicule, torture and death in our place, who suffers hell for us so that we won't have to. Finally we fix our eyes on “A Coming King”, one who will reign forever with us in God's heavenly Kingdom. We look forward to that day with great hope and expectation as our joy becomes complete and all sin is removed, along with the suffering and death that comes with it. Advent is a wonderful time to take stock in the goodness of God, to remember all of the wonderful things that He has done for us up to now, and to place our trust in Him for all things going forward. The world around us seems stuck in darkness, but we have the Light. *The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.* (John 1:5)