

We'll Leave the Light On for You

For many years one of the national motel chains promised “we’ll leave the light on for you.” People often do that when they are expecting guests to arrive at their home, especially after dark. The idea is that your guests are welcome, even if they come in after hours, perhaps even when the homeowner is sleeping. The porch light is a sign that you are welcome there, and they are expecting you.



I took a walk in the neighborhood after dark last night. Thanksgiving Day has passed and everyone is getting ready for Christmas. Part of that preparation is the outdoor Christmas lights many homes display in the neighborhood. Christmas preparation at church began, too. We celebrated the first Sunday of Advent in church, illuminating the first advent candle. In many Christian churches the first candle represents “hope.”

The word Advent means “coming.” Advent is a time of anticipation and preparation for celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ will be the “light of the world”. The anticipation of His coming brings hope, love, joy and peace to the world. Jesus is the coming “light of the world” as He would later fulfill the promise to bring us hope for eternal life and the joy that living a spiritual life brings to us.

Now that the Advent season has officially begun turn your attention to the difference Jesus has brought to your life. Christmas is the annual celebration of His birth, yet His coming had been predicted for thousands of years. God is now fulfilling His promises to us. So, we can anticipate his birth with the full knowledge of what is to come.

It is time to turn on your Christmas lights as a witness to others in the neighborhood that you believe Jesus is your light in this world. I experienced that personally in the final steps of my late night walk last night. The Christmas lights literally illuminated the pathway to my home. It is my hope and prayer His light will brighten your day and illuminate your path to the hope for an eternal life with Him.



Welcome Jesus into your heart. Say to Him, “you are welcome in our home, no matter what time you come. We’ll leave the light on for You.”

Question: This Advent season, what are you spiritually doing to prepare for the celebration of Jesus’ birth?

Scripture: *May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit (Romans 15:13).*

Prayer: Most gracious Heavenly Father. Let us be a witness to others as we anticipate the celebration of the birth of Jesus Christ. It is our prayer that others will see the hope, love, joy and peace in our hearts as a result of our faith. Amen.

Note: The four Advent candles represent Hope, Love, Joy and Peace.