

Message Outline
Teaching Tradition: The Light

John 1:1-18



Intro: This Advent, looking at the Biblical text behind some Christmas traditions...

- History of Christmas Lights...
 - Martin Luther's walk in the woods...
 - Edison's invention...
- Lights around the original Christmas (Lk.2:8-9, Mt.2:2, 9-10)...
- Jesus is the Light (Jn.8:12, Is.49:5-6)...

Read: John 1:1-18

v.1—Logos and ancient understanding...

- Reference to Jesus...

v.2-4—Word's role in Divinity and Creation...

v.5—Significance of Light...

v.6-8—The witness of John the Baptist...

v.9-11—Rejecting God...

v.12-13—Receiving God...

- Brought into the Family by God's Son...

v.14-18—Jesus' origins, beginnings, and understanding OT story...

Lessons from the Light

- Light in everyday life: rhythm, warmth, energy, clarity, sterilization, etc...

1) Light brings L_____ (v.4, 9)

- Jesus' life-giving power (cf. Jn.5:26, 14:6)...
- Jesus offers life beyond simply breathing...

2) Light brings C_____ (v.18)

- Wonder what God is like? Look to Jesus!
- We can understand God better because of Jesus (Jn.14:7-9, Col.1:15, Heb.1:3)...

3) Light defeats D_____ (v.5)

- Darkness reminds us the worlds not right, yet Christ came to shine in those spaces.
- Image of Christmas Eve candlelight...

3rd Sunday of Advent: Candle of Joy



The Magnificat: Mary's Song of Praise

⁴⁶ *Mary responded,*

"Oh, how my soul praises the Lord.

⁴⁷ *How my spirit rejoices in God my Savior!*

⁴⁸ *For he took notice of his lowly servant girl,*

and from now on all generations will call me blessed.

⁴⁹ *For the Mighty One is holy, and he has done great things for me.*

⁵⁰ *He shows mercy from generation to generation*

to all who fear him.

⁵¹ *His mighty arm has done tremendous things!*

He has scattered the proud and haughty ones.

⁵² *He has brought down princes from their thrones*

and exalted the humble.

⁵³ *He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away with empty hands.*

⁵⁴ *He has helped his servant Israel and remembered to be merciful.*

⁵⁵ *For he made this promise to our ancestors,*

to Abraham and his children forever."

-Luke 1:46-55 NLT