

Devotion, Week of December 14, 2025

Rev. Jeanne Simpson

This past Sunday we celebrated Lessons and Carols, where with 7 scripture readings and various musical offerings, we went through the Christmas story, from Genesis to John 1. I tend to get teary when I read John 1, and did so again this time. I'm not sure why. There's something about the sense that Jesus is bigger than this baby we're waiting for. He's bigger than the man who walked the earth preaching and saving people's souls and bodies. In the beginning he was with God, and he decided to come down to us in the flesh to save us. He is light and life and he gives us that light and life, even though we don't deserve it. Read these words again, and I hope you will be as moved as I am, ever time I read them. This is what we're waiting for. This is what God has sent us, purely out of love and grace.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.

May the light shine among you this week and dispel the darkness.

Jeanne