



### Advent Wednesday Mornings

I want to walk as a child of the light. I'm not so sure we do. Truth be told we like the darkness quite a bit. There is a certain familiarity with the darkness. And there isn't anything worth following, there isn't anything worth committing to, there isn't anything worth sacrificing for, worth dying for. So we Follow ourselves. At least we can trust ourselves. And we continue "to walk as a child of the dark."

...until one day someone comes along and says, "come and see." That happen to Nathanael in John's Gospel account. Jesus called Philip. "Follow me" he said and Philip did. And Philip found Nathanael and said, "Come and see, Jesus". And he did. And Nathanael saw Jesus and said, "Rabbi, you are the Son of God! You are the king of Israel."

Seeing in John's gospel is more than just with your eyes. It is the seeing of faith that sees Jesus as the Son of God and savior. So how do we witness to this world and its following of false and empty gods and promises? Like Philip we say, Come and see. Faith comes not by proofs or argument. Faith comes by hearing. Come and hear. Come and see. And then ...walk as a child of the light. In him is no darkness at all.

—Todd Riordan

### Welcome

#### Opening Versicles

*Please stand.*

☞ This is the day which the Lord has made;  
☞ **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting, **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**  
Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty, God shines forth.

**Our God shall come He does not keep silence.**

Prepare the way of the Lord. **Make His paths straight.**

Shower, O heavens, from above, and let the skies rain down righteousness.

**Let the earth open, that salvation may sprout forth.**

From the rising of the sun to its setting, **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### Hymn

Jesus Loves Me

*Jesus loves me! This I know, For the Bible tells me so.  
Little ones to Him belong; They are weak, but He is strong.*

*Yes, Jesus Loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.*

*Jesus loves me! He who died Heaven's gates to open wide.  
He has washed away my sin, Lets His little child come in.*

*Yes, Jesus Loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me, The Bible tells me so.[LSB 588]*

### Readings—Come and See

Nov 30 | Andrew—Christ Gives Us Eyes to See | *John 1:35-42*

Dec 7 | Phillip and Nathanael—Calling Friends and Family to see Jesus | *John 1:43-51*

Dec 14 | The World Refuses to See | *John 9:1-41*

Dec 21 | Thomas—Seeing by Believing | *John 20:24-39*

This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

[Psalm 50:3a; Isaiah 40:3; 45:8]

## Responsory

[Jeremiah 23:5,6b]

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch.

**This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

He shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.

**This is the name by which He will be called: The Lord Is Our Righteousness.**

## Hymn

This Little Light of Mine

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

*Hide it under a bushel? NO!, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Hide it under a bushel? NO!, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Hide it under a bushel? NO!, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

*"Don't let Satan" blow it out, I'm gonna let Him shine.*

*"Don't let Satan" blow it out, I'm gonna let Him shine.*

*"Don't let Satan" blow it out, I'm gonna let Him shine.*

*Let Him shine, let Him shine, let him shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.*

*Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine*

## Sermon

### The Prayers

In peace let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For reasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

For \_\_\_\_\_, let us pray to the Lord:

**Lord, have mercy.**

Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord: **Lord, have mercy.**

## Collect of the Word

Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, on God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

**I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let You holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

## Blessing

[Psalm 103:11]

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve you. **Amen.**

*We share the peace of the Lord with one another. Please place offering & completed pew cards in the basket at the door.*

## Postlude

Acknowledgments—Come and See Graphic. Reprinted under oneLicense.net #A-710394. All Scripture quotations, unless otherwise indicated, are taken from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version. ©2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. The order of service is from Lutheran Service Book. © 2006 Concordia Publishing House Reprinted by permission.