# **Receiving & Believing**

**Remember:** We can respond to God's gracious light by either rejection and hate, or receiving and believing.

**Read:** John 1: 9-12, John 3:16-21

#### Consider:

- What do these passages tell us about God's decision to move toward us in Jesus Christ?
- What do these passages tell us about the two potential responses to God's light?

#### Pray:

 Spend 10-15 minutes prayerfully considering God's call for us to receive and believe in Jesus Christ. In what ways might God be calling you to receive and believe even more deeply this advent season?

# **Children of God**

**Remember:** If we receive and believe we are graced with the status of being God's beloved children

Read: John 1:4-5; 1 John 3:1, Galatians 3:26

### Consider:

 What do these passages teach us about our primary identity as those who have faith in Christ?

### Pray

 Spend 10-15 minutes prayerfully sharing your heart with God. Express your gratitude for all that he has given you in Jesus. Talk with God the Father as his beloved child.

# **Worship Service**

December 17th, 2017

## Songs of Invitation

We encourage you to begin the worship service with this prayer: "Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name."

Matthew 6:9

#### Welcome

"Welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God." Romans 15:7

Our welcome is a time for us to greet one another, introduce ourselves to those who are new, and to embrace one another as family.

## Call to Worship

"The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad."

Psalm 126:3

Our call to worship comes from Psalm 126.

## Songs of the Family

"...our tongue with shouts of joy..." Psalm 126:2 ESV
These songs are expressions of the heart of our church family
to God

Scripture Reading
John 1:1-18

#### Sermon

Pastor Jamin Goggin

## Offering and Church Life

"Honor the LORD with your wealth and with the firstfruits of all your produce" Proverbs 3:9 ESV

Each week we collect financial gifts which our church family uses to help those in need and further spread the good news of Jesus. We also stay updated on what is going on in our church life.

### Sending Blessing

"Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God..." 1 John 5:1 ESV

For Reflection: What might it look like to truly embrace your identity as a child of God?

The Word Became Flesh John 1:9-13

December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2017 Advent Devotional

## Jesus is the True Light

**Remember:** God, who dwells in unapproachable light, has approached us with his light in Jesus Christ.

**Read:** 1 Timothy 6:13-16, Isaiah 49:6, John 1:9, 1 John 2:8

#### Consider:

- What do these passages tell us about God's plan and movement toward us in Jesus Christ?
- What do these passages tell us about God's response of grace toward a darkened world?

#### Pray:

 Spend 10-15 minutes prayerfully considering this profound truth that the eternal God who dwells in unapproachable light condescended to us by sharing his light with us in Jesus Christ. How might this truth renew in your own heart a sense of wonder and joy at the gift of Christ this advent season?