

Our Ongoing Witness

Remember: Our role as the church is to point to Jesus in a similar way to how John pointed to Jesus.

Read: John 1:8; Acts 1:8; Ephesians 3:1-13

Consider:

- What are other things that the church can point to instead of Jesus?
- What might your role be in being a witness to Jesus to the "ends of the earth"?
- Our witness is part of God's plan to make his "wisdom known" to the "rulers and authorities in the heavenly places," how might that affect your witness?

Pray

- Spend 5 minutes reflecting on and thanking God for those in your life who were/are "witnesses to the light."
- Spend 5 minutes talking to the Lord about who in your life is still in darkness, and ask him how you might be a witness to the light this advent season?
- Spend 5 minutes thanking God for the witness of the law, the prophets, and the apostles who have handed the Scriptures on to us as a testimony of God's light. Especially thank him for those parts of Scripture that God has used in your life.

Worship Service

December 10th, 2017

Songs of Invitation

We encourage you to begin the worship service with this prayer: "Show us your steadfast love, O LORD" Psalm 85:7

Welcome

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

"Let me hear what God the LORD will speak" Psalm 85:8
Our call to worship comes from Psalm 85.

Songs of the Family

"Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?" Psalm 85:6 ESV
These songs are expressions of the heart of our church family to God

Scripture Reading

John 1:1-18

Sermon

Pastor Sam Paschall

The Word Became Flesh

John 1:5-8

December 10th, 2017

Advent Devotional

John's Unique Witness

Remember: John the Baptist had a unique role in God's plan of salvation to "prepare the way" for Jesus.

Read: John 1:6-8; Matthew 3:14; Luke 1:17; 3:1-6; Malachi 4:5

Consider:

- What is the relationship between the Old Testament prophet Elijah and John the Baptist?
- What does it mean that John "prepared the way" for Jesus?
- How would John's witness to the light help those in the darkness?

John's Incomplete Witness

Remember: John the Baptist was a faithful witness, but even he struggled to "understand" the light of Jesus.

Read: John 1:5; Matthew 11:2-15; 2 Corinthians 3:7-11

Consider:

- How was Jesus different from what John expected?
- The "law and the prophets" were also witnesses to the light, like John, but were "not the light." How is Jesus "ministry" different from the ministry of the "law?"

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

"Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other."

Psalm 85:10 ESV

For Reflection: How can you point to Christ with your words and life?