

Advent Resources

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Advent - "Lift the Veil"

Note: Believing that Christ is alive among us, our Christmas preparations are not for a coming event but rather for clarity of vision to recognize what is already here. Thus we are invited to "lift the veil". One source of inspiration for this endeavor is from the wonderful field of Children's Literature. Many of our theological claims are embodied in beautifully illustrated books. The following books, with scriptural notes, are chosen to move us through the process of "unveiling" the already - if not yet - of the Kingdom of God.

Prayers

Advent Litany

Singing at a new baby's birth
Weeping with a widower
Christ is alive, all the time.

May we have eyes to see.

Nagging the heart of the warrior
Pleading for mercy with the executioner
Christ is alive, all the time.

May we have ears to hear.

Holding the one with faltering steps
Pushing the reluctant prophet
Christ is alive, all the time.

May our imaginations envision.

Children's Books and Scriptures

Advent 1 - The Polar Express
Chris Van Allsburg
(Houghton Mifflin, 1985)
"the skin of his face was shining, and they
were afraid to come near him"
Exodus 34:29-35

Advent 2 - Christmas Tapestry
Patricia Polacco
(Babushka, Inc.; 2002)
"Does not wisdom call, and does not
understanding raise her voice?"
Proverbs 8

Call to Worship (Matthew 25)

Shivering in the cold
Struggling in prison
Suffering from hunger
The long awaited presence of God cries out.
Who will answer?
May we have ears to hear.

Chorus and Explanation

Let all who have eyes, see!
Let all who have ears, hear!
The One we await is already with us;
Let us rejoice and sing!

Advent 3 - December
Eve Bunting, David Diaz
(Harcourt, 1997)
"Do not neglect to show hospitality to
strangers, for by doing that some have
entertained angels without knowing it."
Hebrew 13:2

Advent 4 - The Christmas Candle
Richard Paul Evans, Jacob Collins
(Simon & Schuster, 1998)
"Just as you did it to one of the least of
these who are members of my family, you
did it to me."
Matthew 25
