



From our Pastor - December 2013

Dear family and friends in Christ,

Advent is the beginning, the first season of our Church liturgical year. Advent is a time of waiting and anticipation when the people of God eagerly wait and anticipate the Advent of the Risen Christ.

ADVENT

The Incarnate Son came into the world and has already fulfilled the promise God made that a Savior would come to provide light and hope for a broken world.

We celebrate and give thanks for what Jesus has already done for us, among us. We celebrate Jesus, the Incarnate Son of God who is the Light in the darkness, our beacon and our hope.

We remember, celebrate and anticipate what God has already done, What God is doing now, and what God will continue to do until the return of Christ in glory.

As we prepare our homes and gifts, let us also remember to prepare ourselves, body, mind, and spirit. Let us remember to PRAY, to WORSHIP and to GIVE THANKS to God, offering all we are and all we do to God as we participate in seasonal festivities.



The apostle Paul writes in Colossians 3:17 "Whatever you do, do all in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ giving thanks to God the Father by him."

Let us also remember to be a WITNESS to God's gift- we do this when we invite others to share in our joy. Invite a neighbor to come to worship with you during the season. People often are looking for something meaningful—something more than the usual. Our invitation offers welcome—our actions can be our witness—a spreading of the LIGHT to others through our joyful faith in Christ.

When we INVITE others to experience the season in our homes, when we SHARE what we have, when we GIVE to those who have need we are extending the generous invitation and WELCOME OF GOD. And here is the MYSTERY and WONDER; that by offering God's welcome to others, we welcome Emmanuel into our hearts and homes.

God's peace to you and yours and all you meet,

Pastor Marianne