

Grace Anglican Church
Advent
The Best Gift



Advent is a season of remembrance of Christ's first coming and is one of preparation as we await the second coming of Jesus. As we prepare to celebrate Christ's birth, let us do so with open hearts acknowledging that Jesus is our King. He is not just dropping by for a visit rather He is coming to dwell among His people. We have a month to get prepared to receive Him. In preparation for our friends and families for Christmas we clean our houses, and it is the same in our spiritual houses, we need to clean them and be prepared for our guest. We need to cleanse our hearts, that is repent from those things we have done that we ought not to have done. There are just a few weeks left to prepare to receive the Christ the King Who is coming into the flesh of our hearts. Are we ready and willing to welcome Him and serve Him as Mary did?

The significance of Christmas and Church, all started with a Baby in a manger! A child was given in the flesh to Mary by the power of the Holy Spirit, a child she welcomed. This child born of the human flesh, is Jesus Christ and He is head over all of us. He came as a child; yet we are His children and representatives of His Body.

I invite us now to look at the King coming and to see with His eyes what His expectations are. I would imagine that He would like to see our hearts cleansed: cleansed from the garbage and burdens that we do not need to carry; cleansed from the hurts we have experienced; cleansed from the commercial aspects of Christmas; cleansed from worrying about what others will think if you proclaim that Jesus is the King; cleansed from anxiety and discord; cleansed...

I would imagine that He would like to see baking done baking to give others the Bread of Life; baking to feed the hungry. I imagine He would like to see gifts wrapped and under the tree: gifts to give away; gifts to give Him, after all it is His birthday that we are celebrating. What gift will you give the King when He comes to your home? I would imagine that we will have lots to eat and more than likely too much, however, let us pray the Lord give us someone to share with.

As we await the coming of Jesus, I pray that we will give away: Love, Peace, Joy, and Hope. Jesus gives us all we need, He feeds us more than we can ask for, He

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Loves us and gives us Peace, Joy, and Hope. These are some of His gifts to us. As we approach Christmas Day, I pray that as a Church, we are prepared to pave the way for others to have the opportunity to experience and share the true gift of Christmas in receiving Jesus Christ.

During this season of Advent, I pray that we will be prepared for the coming of Jesus Christ and that we will be prepared to give Jesus the best Birthday gift ever this Christmas, Our heart! Amen

The Reverend Trudy Hardy