Advent 2020 readings

Week 1

Hope

The first advent candle symbolizes the arrival of hope into the world.

*“The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned.”*

Isaiah 9:2

Darkness is the absence of light. You cannot fill a room with darkness - you make the room dark by removing the light. Darkness is no match for light. The presence of light drives darkness away.

The arrival of Jesus into the world is described as a great light for people walking in darkness. Walking in darkness leads to problems, things go wrong, life is not as it should be. But when a great light arrives, suddenly walking becomes a lot easier.

The arrival of Jesus into the world is described as the dawn of light for those living in a land of deep darkness. We are surrounded by darkness in a broken world. The birth of Jesus is like the first shafts of light breaking through, giving us hope.

*Glory to God in the highest*

*Peace on Earth, good will to all men*

*Let all of the world sing the chorus of joy*

*Because hope was born this night*

Hope was born this night, Sidewalk prophets

*Prayer:*

Loving Father, thank you that you know me and you love me. Your word says that those who hope in you will have their strength renewed. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint. Help me find my hope in you. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.