

Mon., Dec. 12

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## **Scripture**

Revelation 3:7-13

<sup>7</sup>"And to the angel of the church in Philadelphia write:

These are the words of the holy one, the true one,

who has the key of David,

who opens and no one will shut,

who shuts and no one opens:

<sup>8</sup>"I know your works. Look, I have set before you an open door, which no one is able to shut. I know that you have but little power, and yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. <sup>9</sup>I will make those of the synagogue of Satan who say that they are Jews and are not, but are lying — I will make them come and bow down before your feet, and they will learn that I have loved you. <sup>10</sup>Because you have kept my word of patient endurance, I will keep you from the hour of trial that is coming on the whole world to test the inhabitants of the earth. <sup>11</sup>I am coming soon; hold fast to what you have, so that no one may seize your crown. <sup>12</sup>If you conquer, I will make you a pillar in the temple of my God; you will never go out of it. I will write on you the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem that comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name. <sup>13</sup>Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the churches."

## **Devotional**

During the Advent Season we celebrate the coming of Christ. Various texts in the New Testament celebrate aspects of His coming to be received by us and remembered during this season. The message of the risen Christ to the church of Philadelphia proclaims some features of Christ's coming that are worth remembering this season. In this text the risen Christ declares that His presence with His church means that we have access to God. He has opened that door through his death and resurrection and no one can ever shut that door. His presence means that even though we might be weak, we have power. We have the power to be faithful to His word. This means that we also have victory in any time of trial. Our access to God provides power that enables us to conquer both sin and death and share in Christ's victory.

## **Prayer**

We thank you, O God, for the victory we have in Jesus Christ. May we walk in the power of that gift, Amen.