

Advent Devotional December 6, 2020

Scripture

Psalm 25

1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. 2 O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. 3 Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. 4 Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. 5 Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. 6 Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. 7 Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD! 8 Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. 9 He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. 10 All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees. 11 For your name's sake, O LORD, pardon my guilt, for it is great. 12 Who are they that fear the LORD? He will teach them the way that they should choose. 13 They will abide in prosperity, and their children shall possess the land. 14 The friendship of the LORD is for those who fear him, and he makes his covenant known to them. 15 My eyes are ever toward the LORD, for he will pluck my feet out of the net. 16 Turn to me and be gracious to me, for I am lonely and afflicted. 17 Relieve the troubles of my heart, and bring me out of my distress. 18 Consider my affliction and my trouble, and forgive all my sins. 19 Consider how many are my foes, and with what violent hatred they hate me. 20 O guard my life, and deliver me; do not let me be put to shame, for I take refuge in you. 21 May integrity and uprightness preserve me, for I wait for you. 22 Redeem Israel, O God, out of all its troubles.

Devotional

The Very Rev. Virginia Mazzarella '90

At this time of year, merriment and joy swirl all around us. Busyness is the order of the day. But in anticipation of the One who is to come, this season can be a time of quiet contemplation as well.

Advent can be a time to remember the ways of the Lord. It can be a time to strive to follow the One whose paths are steadfast love and faithfulness. Most importantly, it can be a time to connect with the One who loves us enough to send a Savior into our midst.

When we remember God's paths and seek them out, we quiet the hustle and bustle around us and truly center our hearts on the most important thing: the coming of the Christ Child.

Prayer

Loving God, in this season the world seems to move at a frantic pace. Help us in the midst of all the busyness around us to focus on you. May we train our hearts and minds to hear your voice above all else, so that we will be truly ready to welcome our Savior.