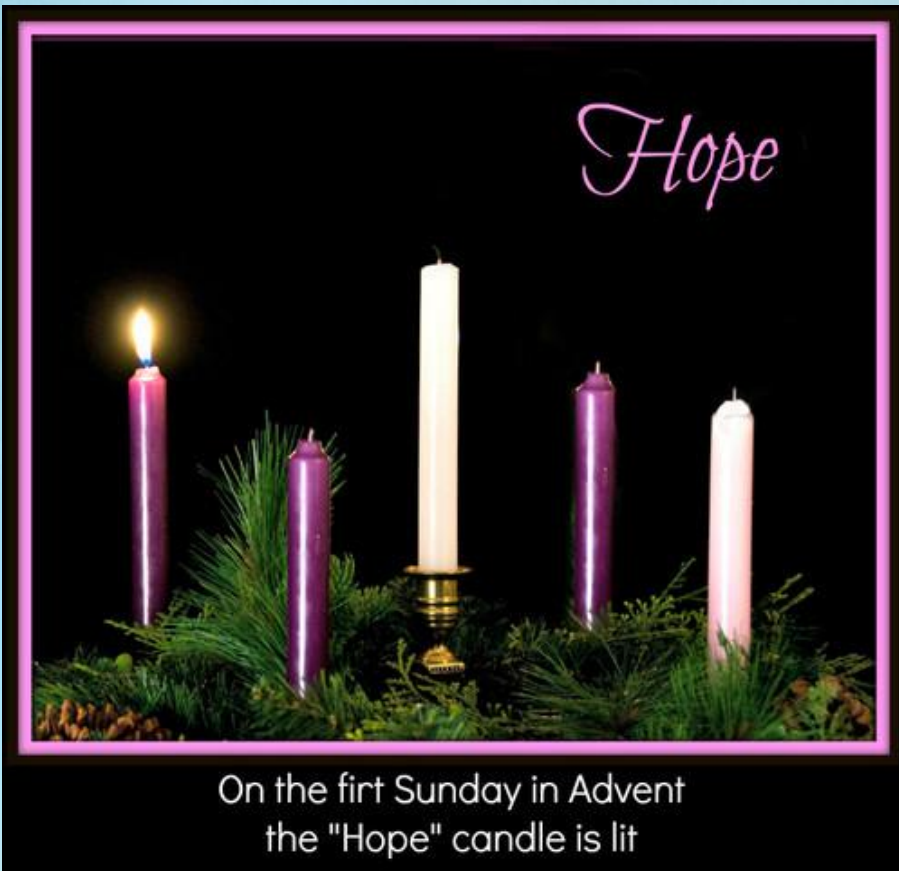




Knowing Christ

Sun of Righteousness



On the first Sunday in Advent
the "Hope" candle is lit

The Second Distinguishing Mark

- ^{NAS} **John 4:46** He came therefore ...⁵⁴ This is again a second sign that Jesus performed, when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.



The Request

- ^{NAS} **John 4:46** ...And there was a certain royal official, whose son was sick at Capernaum. ⁴⁷ When he heard that Jesus had come out of Judea into Galilee, he went to Him, and was requesting Him to come down and heal his son; for he was at the point of death. ⁴⁸ Jesus therefore said to him, "Unless you people see signs and wonders, you simply will not believe." ⁴⁹ The royal official said to Him, "Sir, come down before my child dies."

The Distinguishing Mark

- ^{NAS} **John 4:50** Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your son lives." The man believed the word that Jesus spoke to him, and he started off. ⁵¹ And as he was now going down, his slaves met him, saying that his son was living. ⁵² So he inquired of them the hour when he began to get better. They said therefore to him, "Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him." ⁵³ So the father knew that it was at that hour in which Jesus said to him, "Your son lives"; and he himself believed, and his whole household. ⁵⁴ This is again a second sign that Jesus performed, when He had come out of Judea into Galilee.

Day of the LORD

- ^{NAS} **Malachi 4:1** "For behold, the day is coming, burning like a furnace; and all the arrogant and every evildoer will be chaff; and the day that is coming will set them ablaze," says the LORD of hosts, "so that it will leave them neither root nor branch." ² "But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall... ⁵ "Behold, I am going to send you Elijah the prophet before the coming of the great and terrible day of the LORD.

Hope is Here

- ^{NAS} **Malachi 4:2** "But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall."

The Healing Messiah

- ^{NAS} **Psalm 147:3** He heals the brokenhearted, And binds up their wounds.
- ^{ESV} **Isaiah 53:5** But he was wounded for our transgressions; he was crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace, and with his stripes we are healed.
- ^{NAS} **Jeremiah 33:6** 'Behold, I will bring to it health and healing, and I will heal them; and I will reveal to them an abundance of peace and truth.
- ^{NAS} **Hosea 14:4** I will heal their apostasy, I will love them freely, For My anger has turned away from them.

The Wings of God

- **NAS Ruth 2:12** "May the LORD reward your work, and your wages be full from the LORD, the God of Israel, under whose wings you have come to seek refuge."
- **ESV Psalm 17:8** Keep me as the apple of your eye; hide me in the shadow of your wings,
- **NAS Psalm 36:7** How precious is Your lovingkindness, O God! And the children of men take refuge in the shadow of Your wings.
- **NAS Matthew 23:37** "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, who kills the prophets and stones those who are sent to her! How often I wanted to gather your children together, the way a hen gathers her chicks under her wings, and you were unwilling."

The Sun of Righteousness

- **NAS Psalm 84:11** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; The LORD gives grace and glory; No good thing does He withhold from those who walk uprightly.
- **NAS Psalm 89:35** "Once I have sworn by My holiness; I will not lie to David. ³⁶ "His descendants shall endure forever, And his throne as the sun before Me. ³⁷ "It shall be established forever like the moon ...
- **NAS Isaiah 60:19** "No longer will you have the sun for light by day, Nor for brightness will the moon give you light; But you will have the LORD for an everlasting light, And your God for your glory.
- **NAS Revelation 21:23** And the city has no need of the sun or of the moon to shine upon it, for the glory of God has illumined it, and its lamp is the Lamb.

Applications

Our Hope

- ^{NAS} **John 1:12** But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, ¹³ who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.
- ^{NAS} **1 John 3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Fruit of Hope

- ^{NAS} **Philippians 2:12** So then, my beloved, just as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your salvation with fear and trembling; ¹³ for it is God who is at work in you, both to will and to work for His good pleasure.
- ^{NAS} **2 Corinthians 3:18** But we all, with unveiled face beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as from the Lord, the Spirit.

Conclusions

Sun of Righteousness

- ^{NAS} **Malachi 4:2** "But for you who fear My name the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings; and you will go forth and skip about like calves from the stall."

Christ, Our Hope

- ^{NAS} **Colossians 1:4** since we heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and the love which you have for all the saints; ⁵ because of the hope laid up for you in heaven, of which you previously heard in the word of truth, the gospel, ⁶ which has come to you, ...it is constantly bearing fruit and increasing, even as it has been doing in you also since the day you heard of it and understood the grace of God in truth;
- ^{NAS} **Romans 5:5** and hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.
- ^{NAS} **2 Thessalonians 2:16** Now may our Lord Jesus Christ Himself and God our Father, who has loved us and given us eternal comfort and good hope by grace, ¹⁷ comfort and strengthen your hearts in every good work and word.

Our Identity, Our Hope

- NAS **1 John 3:2** Beloved, now we are children of God, and it has not appeared as yet what we shall be. We know that, when He appears, we shall be like Him, because we shall see Him just as He is. ³ And everyone who has this hope fixed on Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.

Who You Say I Am

- Who am I that the highest King
Would welcome me?
I was lost but He brought me in
Oh His love for me
Oh His love for me
- Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am
- Free at last, He has ransomed me
His grace runs deep
While I was a slave to sin
Jesus died for me
Yes He died for me
- Who the Son sets free
Oh is free indeed
I'm a child of God
Yes I am