

# Advent Wreath Readings ~ 12/2

## Scripture ~ Isaiah 60:1-5

Arise! Shine! Your light has come; the Lord's glory has shone upon you.

Though darkness covers the earth and gloom the nations,  
the Lord will shine upon you;

God's glory will appear over you.

Nations will come to your light and kings to your dawning radiance.

Lift up your eyes and look all around:

they are all gathered;

they have come to you.

Your sons will come from far away,  
and your daughters on caregiver's hips.

Then you will see and be radiant;

your heart will tremble and open wide,

because the sea's abundance will be turned over to you;

the wealth of nations will come to you.

## Reading

Today we celebrate the wonder of the season like children on Christmas morning—with eyes wide open and hearts full of hope. And like Jesus, we say, “Let the children come to me, for the Kingdom of God belongs to them.” We celebrate the wonder of the signs from God to announce the fulfillment of our deepest hopes and dreams—the birth of Emmanuel, God with us.

Today we focus on the hope we have in knowing that Jesus is the answer for our deepest needs.

## Prayer

God of hope, open our eyes to the gifts of wonder this season and help us to limit those things that distract us so that we may focus on you. Amen.