December 25, 2023



CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS

By Sr. Jane DeLisle, CSJ

An Excerpt from Today's Gospel

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came to be through him, and without him nothing came to be. What came to be through him was life, and this life was the light of the human race; **the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.**

JOHN 1:1-5

Reflection

It is Christmas! A day of great rejoicing for 2000 years! And still, we search for signs of God's abiding among us. We seek for Light that will overwhelm the darkness of our beautiful and broken world. The truth is *GOD IS WITH US* and dwells within each person.

It is Christmas! God waits for us to be about the work of God in our weary

world.

It is Christmas! It is ours to reveal the light of God's love, compassion, and mercy desperately needed by so many of God's people. Let us be the Light of God's love and presence every day through our words and actions and intentions.

It is Christmas! God is with us as promised and made visible in you and me.

"Incarnation" by H. Brokering

Incarnation is... the fact that God is here in every moment in any place.

He came to wash feet
To be called on, to be tired out,
to be asked, to be eaten, to be received.

He was the gift to the world. His followers are now gifts For the world.

It is CHRISTMAS! it is time to be gifts sent out.



Floating Lanterns Photo by Pixabay

For Pondering

- What significance has the Incarnation had in my life?
- How has my understanding/appreciation changed over the years?
- How do I reflect the face and presence of God in the world?

For Prayer

Come, Lord Jesus!

Everything is wrought by your love and grace: both our prayer in the days of contemplation and our outward achievements. Therefore, I pray, 'Stir up your life in me!'

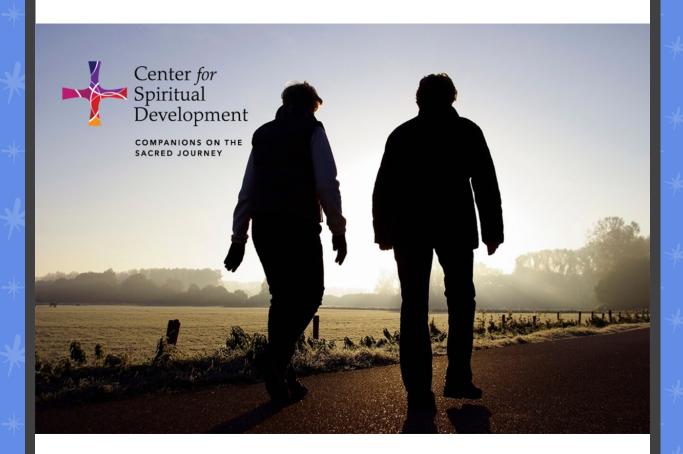
May I not only perceive more clearly but also feel more deeply that you alone are the God of my heart and my portion in eternity: that you are with us though apparently hidden, helpless, forgotten, and ignored at this Christmas

Season. Be the Light of my life and bless me to reflect your Love and alert all to your Divine Presence among us. Amen.

ADAPTED FROM PRAYER BY KARL RAHNER

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