

JANUARY 22, 2017
THIRD SUNDAY AFTER
EPIPHANY

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Jesus lights our way, calling us to follow and trust him.

DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	Matthew 4:12-23	Jesus calls his first disciples
Monday	Isaiah 9:1-4	Isaiah and his followers
Tuesday	Luke 1:67-79	Christ, the light dawning
Wednesday	Matthew 9:9-13	Jesus calls Matthew
Thursday	Ephesians 5:6-14	Live as children of the light
Friday	Philippians 2:12-18	The call to shine as stars
Saturday	Psalms 27:1-9	Trusting God
Sunday	Matthew 5:1-12	The sermon on the mount

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

You, LORD, are the light that keeps me safe. I am not afraid of anyone. You protect me, and I have no fears. **Psalms 27:1 (CEV)**

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear Lord, thank you for helping us to see beyond our fears and to follow you with trust and hope. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Lord Jesus, thank you for the drinks we sip and the food we swallow. Please give us strength to serve and faith to follow. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May Christ who is our light shine upon you. May he give you good courage to follow him all the days of your life.



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HYMN OF THE WEEK

*I Want to Walk as a
Child of the Light*

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CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home or small group:

- Tell about a time there was a big change in your life.
- When Jesus called Andrew, Simon, James, and John to follow him, they immediately left their work as fishermen to follow him (Matthew 4:18,21). In what ways has following Jesus changed your life?
- How does trust in God lead us beyond our fears?

DEVOTIONS

Light a candle and read Matthew 4:16. Tell or think about ways that you have experienced Jesus as your “great light.” After each example say or pray, “**You, Lord, are the light that keeps me safe**” (Psalm 27:1a).

SERVICE

Jesus called four of his disciples to follow him and be fishers of people. Encouraging others as followers of Jesus is an important service. Think of someone you can encourage in their journey of faith and identify one of their gifts that strengthen the work of the body of Christ. Take time to support this person by naming the gift in a conversation with them or with a note via social media or a card.

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

Epiphany is a season that emphasizes the light of Christ in the world so that we may follow Jesus without fear. Make a list of things that can make you afraid. Light a candle and name these fears aloud. After each fear is named say,

“You, Lord, are the light that keeps me safe. I am not afraid of anyone. You protect me, and I have no fears.” (Psalm 27:1).

End by praying or singing *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*.

