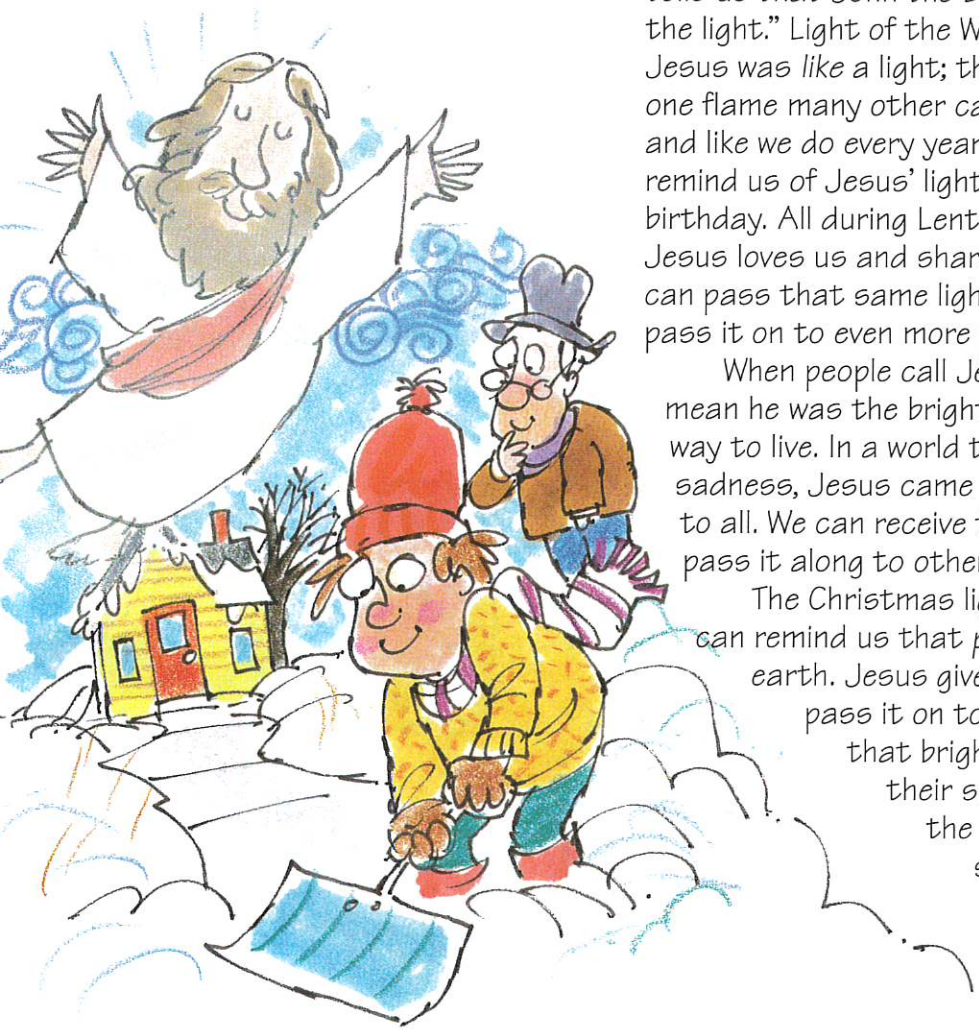




Third Sunday of Advent (B)
John 1:6-8, 19-28 • December 13, 2020

**GOSPEL
THEME**
The Light of the
World is coming
soon.



Turning on the Light

A light can do many things. Some lights help us to see when it is dark. Others give us a special message, like a green traffic light that says it's okay to "go." In comics or cartoons a light bulb sometimes appears over a person's head to show that someone has a bright new idea. People talk about being *enlightened* or they say, "Now I see the light."

Jesus is often called "the Light of the World." Today's gospel tells us that John the Baptist "came as a witness to testify to the light." Light of the World, when applied to Jesus, means that Jesus was like a light; that his love works like a candle flame. From one flame many other candles can be lit, like on a birthday cake, and like we do every year at the Easter Vigil Mass. Both serve to remind us of Jesus' light. All during Advent we prepare for his birthday. All during Lent we prepare for his rebirth in Resurrection. Jesus loves us and shares his light with us. If we love others, we can pass that same light of Jesus on to them, and then they can pass it on to even more people — and on — and on...

When people call Jesus the Light of the World they also mean he was the bright light that helped people see the right way to live. In a world that was filled with confusion and sadness, Jesus came like a shining light to bring help and hope to all. We can receive that light and guidance from Jesus and pass it along to others, too.

The Christmas lights that people put up during Advent can remind us that people spread Jesus' love and light here on earth. Jesus gives his love and light to us and we can pass it on to others in many ways. We can be the light that brightens an older person's day by shoveling their snow or doing their shopping. We can bring the light of Christ to a younger brother or sister by helping them with their homework or reading them a story.

(Adapted from *Advent is For Children* by Julie Kelemen)

SHARING the GOOD NEWS

Activity for Class
or Family

DOUGH ART

1 cup flour 1/2 cup salt 1/2 cup water

Mix ingredients together until the mixture is firm and easy to mold. It should not stick to your fingers. Test it to see if it can be molded easily into shapes. If the dough is too soft, add more flour; if too stiff, add more water — a little at a time. Use waxed paper under your dough as you mold it. The dough can be rolled into long thin pieces and shaped into geometric designs. It can be stacked to make a three-dimensional effect. Be sure to leave a hole at the top of each ornament so you can insert a hook or string for hanging. The dough will take up to a week to dry without baking. Today's ornament will not be baked.

THIS WEEK'S ORNAMENT A CANDLE

This week's ornaments will need some additional supplies, but only a small amount of dough art.

John "came to testify to the...true light, which enlightens everyone, [and] was coming into the world." This week's ornament for your Advent project will be a candle to represent Jesus, the Light of our World.

You will need:

Cardboard rolls from bathroom tissue.

White poster paint, magic markers, glitter.

Yellow or pink facial tissues.

Small amount of dough art.

- Mold dough art around the top of the cardboard rolls to resemble dripping wax. Let dry.
- Paint your cardboard rolls white. Let dry completely.
- Using magic marker, draw a Chi-Rho on each candle.
- Decorate your candles with glitter, sequins, anything to make them look festive.
- Tuck one facial tissue into each candle, drawing it up so that just enough shows to resemble a flame.

Getting to Know You

Do you know who you are and what God expects of you? Actually, God expects you to be a little bit like John the Baptist. Solve the acrostic to see how you can be like John. First solve the clues, then transfer the letter to their numbered spaces below.

- | | | | | | |
|----------------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|
| 1. Camp shelter | 4 | 13 | 5 | 9 | |
| 2. Used to water the lawn | 17 | 10 | 8 | 6 | |
| 3. Large sea mammal | 2 | 12 | 1 | 14 | 13 |
| 4. Phantom from the grave | 16 | 12 | 10 | 7 | 11 |
| 5. Identical sisters or brothers | 18 | 2 | 15 | 5 | 8 |
| 6. Glow, shimmer | 7 | 12 | 3 | 5 | 13 |

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18		

