

NEXT STEPS Series “Brought to the Light” Message title: “The Light of Love” **12/21/25**

Next Steps are designed to be used in your small group settings. Need a group? Let us help!

The scripture lesson comes from Luke 2:8-20. It is not printed here due to length.

PLEASE take the time to read this passage prior to completing this Next Steps.

This is the fourth and final Sunday of the season of Advent. This season, which includes the 4 Sundays prior to Christmas, is called Advent. The word Advent means “the arrival” or “to come.” We are looking for Christ to come! We have looked at how Jesus brings in the light of hope, peace, and joy. Today we focus on how Jesus brings the light of love. How has love changed your life? How has God shown you that He loves you deeply? Share your thoughts.

What is the craziest thing you have ever done for love? Maybe you don’t have an over-the-top example in your own life. What have you seen others do to make sure someone knew that they loved them? We have seen the pictures of rose petals placed on the floor spelling out the word “love”. What are some other examples? Why didn’t the person just tell them that they loved them? Why was it important to follow through with actions?

God has shown us nothing but love. He is love. The Bible tells us over and over how much and in what ways He loves us. Would it be enough for Him to tell us? What actions did/does He take to show you that He loves you?

How does God demonstrate His love for the shepherds that were in the field watching over their flocks by night? He spoke to them giving them information. What was their response? Did they just keep the information to themselves and think about it a while? They went to get closer to God by coming to witness the Christ Child that had just been born. They could have stayed in the field. They could have gone back to their flocks after seeing Jesus and just kept the information to themselves. That isn’t what they did. They went and immediately told others about the Good News. Is that how you respond to what God has done or is doing in your life? Do you keep it to yourself?

God went to extreme measures to show His love for us. He gave us the best gift ever, His son. God was fully aware of the implications of Jesus coming to shed light in this darkness. His commitment to loving us was greater than any concerns He had. That is how God loves. Extravagantly. Over the top. Unconditionally. Are you thankful for that truth? Do you live your life in a manner that others would know how thankful you are for His presence?

God’s love doesn’t just reach us. It forms us. It transforms us. How has God’s love changed you? When you have experienced the love of God, He leads you to share the story. What story do you have to share? What would it take for you to share it with others?

Invite someone to join you for Christmas Eve Communion. Ask them to come adore Jesus. Who deserves to join you on this journey? When will you ask?

Remember, we have gathered in worship; now it is time to go and be the church.

“Living intentionally in a Christlike manner to bring glory to God”

the Church