

Week One

Advent Readings

The Psalms of Ascent (Psalms 120-134) were songs sung by the Israelite people on their way to Jerusalem. In Old Testament times, faithful Jews made a pilgrimage to Jerusalem three times a year to celebrate different festivals, and to worship God in the temple. On their way, they would sing these songs.

These “songs for the road”, as my favorite writer Eugene Peterson calls them, are meant to be sung today by those of us who follow Christ. They songs sing of discipleship, of the joy of following Jesus, of the life that is ours because of what God has done for us.

As you read these Psalms this week, picture yourself on a pilgrimage to Bethlehem, to see the newborn Christ in the manger. Imagine your voices joining with those of old in singing praises to the Lord. Allow these words to build in you a longing to see and to know Jesus Christ, our King.

Monday, November 28 – Psalm 121

Tuesday, November 29 – Psalm 122

Wednesday, November 30 – Psalm 123

Thursday, December 1 – Psalm 125

Friday, December 2 – Psalm 127

Saturday, December 3 – Psalm 130

Sunday, December 4 – Exodus 15:1-21