

Advent Devotional - Day 16

2025

December 16th



Scripture: John 1:14 Verse: *"The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the one and only Son, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth."*

Reflection:

The heart of Christmas is startlingly simple and life-changing: God didn't stay distant but became one of us and lived among people. That truth gives everyday moments dignity and makes places like kitchens, bus stops, classrooms, and workbenches places where God is present and at work.

For Penn Hills, this means our mission should grow from the shape of our streets and relationships rather than from abstract programs. Bringing Christ's presence into the neighborhood looks like neighbors who show up to listen, volunteers who fix what's broken, and friends who make room at their tables—small, steady acts that honor the sacredness of ordinary life.

Knowing that God didn't stay distant, frees us from the pressure to be spectacular; it calls us to do ordinary things with extraordinary love. When we practice faithful presence—bearing witness by serving, sharing, and staying—we make visible the reality that God dwells with us, and the gospel is lived out not just on Sundays but in every corner of our town.

Prayer: God with us, help us bring your presence into every ordinary place we live and work; give us humble hearts to show up, listen, serve, and love our neighbors so your life is visible in our streets, shops, schools, and homes. Amen.

Today's Mt Hope Mindful Response Challenge:

Consider ways that we could work better with Penn Hills schools to provide tutoring, supply drives, develop teacher appreciation teams, or provide .



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