

\* Prayers Anchored in the  
Gospel of John  
John 1:9-13

Wednesday January 8

\* O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, you Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

\* **The Collect**  
Collecting your thoughts so you can focus  
on God.

## John 1 (NIV)

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. 2 He was with God in the beginning. 3 Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. 4 In him was life, and that life was the light of all mankind. 5 The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

6 There was a man sent from God whose name was John. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. 8 He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

9 The true light that gives light to everyone was coming into the world. 10 He was in the world, and though the world was made through him, the world did not recognize him. 11 He came to that which was his own, but his own did not receive him. 12 Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God— 13 children born not of natural descent, nor of human decision or a husband's will, but born of God.

14 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.

15 (John testified concerning him. He cried out, saying, "This is the one I spoke about when I said, 'He who comes after me has surpassed me because he was before me.'") 16 Out of his fullness we have all received grace in place of grace already given. 17 For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. 18 No one has ever seen God, but the one and only Son, who is himself God and is in closest relationship with the Father, has made him known.

 **Scripture**

\*This is a time when you will want to reflect (pray) on some part of the passage (John 1: 1-18) so that you and God are communicating. It can be a time for questions to God or to put into words some of the stirrings in your heart.

“God became man so that man might become ‘partakers in the divine nature.’” Augustine and Athanasius both taught that the incarnation makes it possible for us to live godly lives. Jesus, I am thrilled to know that you cleared the way for me to have your mind, to behave like you and to commune with your Father like you did.” Len Thompson

\*Meditation

\* “Father, orphans almost always want a real active father to embrace. Jesus invited me to become one of Your children by letting him show me what you are like. If You will love me like You love Jesus or in the same way as he loves me, then count me in. I don’t ever want to be an orphan when I can be loved with perfect love. And I don’t care how strenuous the house rules are in your family as long as I get to be loved as your child.” Len Thompson

\* **Meditation**

\* “Spirit, thank you that you have taken part in me becoming a child of God. I have been “born of the Spirit and water” as Jesus told Nicodemus and I a so thankful. The Father, the Son and the Spirit have welcomed me into the wonderful family of God.” Len Thompson

\* **Meditation**

## God Became What We Are

What does the Incarnation say about God? That God loves us so much that God is willing to become one of us—not just to meet us halfway as a superhero but to come all the way down and identify with the lowest, dying a criminal’s death. But it also means that God loved us so much that he raised the now-human Jesus back to life and brought the human Jesus—not just his soul, but his resurrected body—into the Godhead, into the Trinity, to reign over the universe. So what does the Incarnation say about us? Not only that we are loved, but there is nothing fundamentally wrong with flesh, with being human. Being human is good. God became human and was in no way tarnished by evil. And it means that God understands us, having shared our existence, our sorrows, and death itself..

 **Meditation**

Steve Holaway:

<http://www.harborchurchblockisland.org/clientimages/49048/sermons/12-26-10.pdf>

\*“I accept your offer to become a child of God.”

Every Christian

\***Response**



\* Thank all members of the Trinity that you have been given the right to become a child of God.

\* Prayer



\* Pray for those who have not yet made up their minds about Jesus - especially the people that you know.

\* Prayer

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. Matthew 5:9

 **Blessing**