

(Topics and Lead-in Below)

# The Light of the Living Christ

Isaiah 9:2; Luke 1:78-79; 2:8-14; John 8:12

♩ = 54

*D<sub>sus</sub>*  
A      *Dm*      *A<sub>7sus</sub>*  
D      *Dm*      *A<sub>7sus</sub>*  
D      *Dm*      *Gm<sup>7</sup>*      *Am<sup>7</sup>*

1. The Light of all the world has come, Flood - ing the skies,  
2. Our bound - less joy be - gins to - night, Com - ing to birth,  
3. This love now guides us on our way, Mak - ing it clear,  
4. Our bound - less joy be - gins to - night, Com - ing to birth,

*Bb*      *A<sub>7sus</sub>*      *Dm*      *A<sub>7sus</sub>*  
D      *Dm*      *D<sub>7sus</sub>*      *Dm*      4th time to Coda

Fill - ing our eyes. Cre - a - tion greets the Ris - ing Sun  
Fill - ing the earth. Now all the gifts of love u - nite  
Draw - ing us near, Till dark - ness dies in end - less day  
Fill - ing the earth. Now all the gifts of love u - nite

*Bb*      *Am<sup>7</sup>*      1      *Dm*      *Gm<sup>7</sup>*      *A<sup>7</sup>*      2, 3  
Dm

Here in the face of Christ. Christ.  
Here in the Liv - ing Christ.  
Here in the face of Christ!

WORDS: Ken Bible  
MUSIC: Traditional Folk Tune and Ken Bible

LIGHT OF LIFE  
Irregular

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Gm7      F/A      B♭6      Gm7      F/A

In - to our world where fears di - vide, In - to our hearts where

B♭6      A7      Gm      C7/G      Dm/A      Gm6/B♭      Gm6

sor - rows hide, In - to our bleak and blind - ed lives He has

D.C. ⊕ CODA

A sus      A      B♭      Gm6      A sus      Am7

come! Here in the Liv - ing

Dm      Gm      Gm6/E      D

Christ.

TOPICS: Advent; Christmas

LEAD-IN: *The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned. (Isaiah 9:2, NIV)*

LEAD-IN DEVOTIONAL READING:

## The Ultimate King

Hear these words from Psalm 72:

*Endow the king with your justice, O God,  
the royal son with your righteousness.  
He will judge your people in righteousness,  
your afflicted ones with justice.  
The mountains will bring prosperity to the people,  
the hills the fruit of righteousness.  
He will defend the afflicted among the people  
and save the children of the needy;  
he will crush the oppressor.*

*He will endure as long as the sun,  
as long as the moon, through all generations.  
He will be like rain falling on a mown field,  
like showers watering the earth.  
In his days the righteous will flourish;  
prosperity will abound till the moon is no more.*

*He will rule from sea to sea  
and from the River to the ends of the earth.*

*All nations will be blessed through him,  
and they will call him blessed.  
(vv.1-8, 17b, NIV)*

Psalm 72 is a royal psalm, probably written as a prayer for the king's coronation. Its heading or title is literally "Of Solomon" in the original Hebrew. This could mean that it was written by him, for him, about him, or that it belonged to him. Down through the centuries, most have considered it a prayer of David for his son, Solomon.

So what does a royal psalm have to do with Messiah? As we saw above in the piece, "God's Promise to David", God guaranteed that David would always have a descendant ruling as king. Messianic prophecies in the Old Testament, such as Isaiah 9:1-7, say that Messiah will be the final fulfillment of this promise. Thus the royal psalms, though originally written about an earthly king, find their ultimate fulfillment in the ultimate King, Jesus Christ.

With that in mind, notice what Psalm 72 tells us about Christ's reign:

1. He will be gifted with God's own justice and rightness. What higher prayer or praise could we ever have for our leader than that He always be completely just and right as God Himself is just and right?

2. Prosperity—people always want their leader to bring them prosperity. Under Christ, creation itself will pour out on His people all the natural, lavish, overflowing fruitfulness of its Creator. Christ will bring the fullness of all God's blessings, all that the Father's heart ever wanted for His children.
3. Unlike many leaders, His friends won't be the rich oppressors. He will crush them. Those nearest to Him will be the weak, helpless, and needy. Christ will be their Champion.
4. He will rule forever. Other human kings are limited by human weakness. They come and go, they fade and die. Christ breathes the unending, unlimited life of God. He and His Kingdom are forever.
5. Christ will not simply be a Jewish king, or the Lord for Christians or for one country alone. He will be Sovereign Ruler of the entire earth, King of all Kings and Lord of all Lords.

Christ will be the Ultimate King: universal and eternal, bringing overflowing prosperity and God's perfect justice to everyone everywhere, including the most helpless among us. In Him the highest hopes of heaven and earth will forever become reality.

*If you want to see your future,  
look at Jesus Christ.  
We will be  
like Him,  
with Him, and  
in Him,  
completely and forever.*