

November 30, 2021

**Pathways**  
**Psalm 25: 1-10**

*<sup>10</sup> All of the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and decrees.*

In this reading, David is praying to God for guidance and deliverance from his enemies. This is a theme that occurs in the Psalms frequently. While we aren't royalty in the ancient Biblical world in need of God's aid in battle, we still ask God for guidance and help.

Importantly, David asks God to "lead me in your truth, and teach me" in verse 5. Later, in verses 8-9, David says that the Lord "instructs sinners in the way . . . leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way."

In the final verse, highlighted above, David again refers to faith in the Lord as following a path, and that love and faithfulness are granted to those who strive to follow God's path.

As we come to the third day of Advent, we are still early on the path to Bethlehem. Jesus, in his birth, comes to all to fulfill what David has asked of God in this Psalm. The King of Kings will be born in meager circumstances, to decidedly common people.

His disciples will come to call him Rabbi – teacher. Jesus comes to instruct those who would hear in how to leave sin and follow him. He will live as a humble man, though also God in flesh, as an example of God's steadfast love and faithfulness to his creation, leading us to life eternal.

He sets the path, but it is up to us to follow these roads through faith in him. The road to Bethlehem, and, ultimately, to Calvary, is long and difficult, but the rewards of following the path of Jesus are truly great.

***Prayer:** Lord, thank you for the path you set for us with your coming. We anticipate the celebration of your birth as we travel nearer to you and to our salvation through you. In Jesus name, Amen.*

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