

Good morning, Church. Daily Reading, John 4.

Hebrews 13:8 "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever." (ESV)

This past week, I saw where John L. posted that it was the last night before all the lights and decorations came down for another year. (Another great display, John.) Then, on Saturday, a bunch of people came down to put away all our church Christmas lights, trees, and decorations. (Thanks for everyone's help.) All over town lights and decorations are coming down. Valentine's Day has replaced Christmas in the stores, and anything Christmas is discounted 50-75% off. After all, who has room to store last year's items. Out with the old and in with the new.

Some are sad to see Christmas put away, while others look forward to their living rooms and counter tops being put back in order. It is amazing how much space Christmas can take.

My prayer is that as Christmas is taken down and stored away, the joy of Jesus lingers on through the year. And while the lights are unplugged and stored away, the True Light shines bright in your hearts. That your faith is growing and maturing and not as fragile as the ornaments stored in their original boxes. And that the love and passion that went into each display is the same love and passion you will share all year long.

Yes, Christmas has been put away, but the mercies of God are new and fresh every day. His grace will continue to be more than sufficient, and His love for us unwavering.

While our homes look different on the inside and outside with Christmas put away, our Jesus remains as faithful as always. God bless you this new year.