

December 23, 2023
21st Day of Advent

- 3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands
that live by their true king's commands.
And blessed be the hearts he rules,
the humble places where he dwells.
He is the rightful Son of bliss
who fills our lives and makes us his,
creator of the world,
our only strength for good.
- 4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;
our hearts are open wide in trust.
Oh, show us now your lovely grace,
upon our sorrows shine your face,
and let your Holy Spirit guide
our journey in your grace so wide.
We praise your holy name,
from age to age the same!

Fling Wide The Door (ELW 259)

I am a list maker. I love to cross off my tasks and see that I am making progress. Sometimes when the lists feel daunting and my success in mastery is lacking, I will add items that I have already completed to my long list of undone tasks, just so I have the opportunity to place the needed check mark or so I can cross an item off. When my lists are completed and I no longer have tasks to check off, I feel free and open. Not a care to be had. But does that happen often? Seriously, how often are all of our lists done? How often do we really have nothing to do? Our lives are in constant motion. We are always being pulled from place to place and from person to person. Here is where we need a BIG reminder. It is OK that our lists are long and that our tasks are undone. We are not alone. We have a guide with us. The map maker and map holder has us. This journey that we are on is not for us to travel alone and so we can be free and open and comforted knowing that we have our Holy Spirit guide with us at each and every step.

Dear Heavenly Father,

We see you as our guide and know that though our lists are long, our focus being pulled daily, that you are the one present and constant. We thank you for being the really only item that we need to check off each day. You are the start and end of our list.

In your name we pray,

Amen

With love and admiration, Kristin Johnson Weight, wife, mother, teacher, list maker
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