

Reflection Week 1 of Advent 2025, by Angie Lu



The reading speaks of staying awake in preparation. Today also marks the start of the Advent season, the word itself being a prefix to the word adventure. So this morning I want to share with you a moment in my life that makes me think of both.

6 years ago I had the privilege of going on a hike with friends in Iceland. We went on the night of the summer solstice meaning the sun never set. This picture was taken at around 1am after a few waterfalls and before walking between two glaciers. I think of the deafening silence as we paused to reflect where we were that night, and the euphoric connection we all felt between each other, Mother Nature, and for me, God himself.

Staying awake and finding adventure looks a little different these days. It involves finishing piles of marking on a school night, exploring Melbourne's latest offerings, and even embarking on the journey of marriage with my incredible fiancé. What is clear to me though is that I'm also re-engaging with God in both familiar and new ways. Familiar because His presence is as powerful as it was that night I felt Him atop those Icelandic waterfalls and glaciers. But new in the way of how I live out Christ's Gospel through a different set of adventures and circumstances.

So I think that's what I take from today's readings. That is, I reflect on my capacity to be prepared and adventurous through an open mind and heart today, with every hope and joy for tomorrow.