

Advent Credo (1983)

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It is not true that this world and its inhabitants
are doomed to die and be lost.

This is true: For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son,
that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life.

It is not true that we must accept inhumanity and discrimination,
hunger and poverty, death and destruction.

This is true: I have come that they may have life, and that abundantly.

It is not true that violence and hatred should have the last word,
and that war and destruction have come to stay forever.

This is true: For unto us a child is born, and unto us a Son is given, and
the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called
wonderful counselor, mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of peace.

It is not true that we are simply victims
of the powers of evil who seek to rule the world.

This is true: To me is given all authority in heaven and on earth, and lo, I am
with you always, even unto the end of the world.

It is not true that we have to wait for those who are specially gifted, who are the prophets of the church, before we can do anything.

This is true: I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall have dreams.

It is not true that our dreams for the liberation of humankind, our dreams of justice, of human dignity, of peace are not meant for this earth and for this history.

This is true: The hour comes, and it is now, that true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth.

So let us enter Advent in hope, even hope against hope. Let us see visions of love and peace and justice. Let us affirm with humility, with joy, with faith, with courage: *Jesus Christ—the Life of the world.*