

THE THIRD MONDAY OF ADVENT

Awesome

*He provided redemption for his people; he
ordained his covenant forever - holy and
awesome is his name.*

Psalms 111:9

**"Isn't this an awesome burger?" "I got an
awesome parking spot right in front of
the store."**

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Language is always changing. For example, one hundred years ago the word awesome was used to describe fear-inspiring events in nature, such as an erupting volcano. It was also a word reserved as a sign of deep respect when speaking of God's majesty, greatness and transcendence.

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Starting in the 1970s, awesome became a slang word popularized by teens. Now the word is simply another superlative that can mean anything from "like, really good" to "super excellent." As a result, we use it to describe everything from a burger to a parking spot.

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When we see awesome used in Scripture, it is a mark that the human writer has come to the limits of language. It is as though they're standing on the precipice of where our words can carry us, and they're standing, breathless and humbled, at the edge of eternity. Our Advent journey carries us to a place of wonder as we recognize that our awesome God has provided a way for us to draw near through the gift of his Son.

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Today, I pause to surrender in wonder to you, Lord. You are indeed awe-inspiring, and I revere you. Words come to their limits as I consider who you are.

***FOR FURTHER REFLECTION READ
PSALM 66***