

# Unto Glory

## A PROPHETIC PILGRIMAGE



**November 30 – Daniel 3:1, 8-30**

“Then, Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego replied, “King Nebuchadnezzar, we do not need to defend ourselves before you in this matter. If we are thrown into the blazing furnace, the God we serve is able to deliver us from it; God will deliver us.”

Today's Scripture passage is a favorite in children's sermons. But its story of obedience, sacrifice and the saving grace of God have profound significance for people of all ages.

### Consider:

- What do you think prompted King Nebuchadnezzar to build the statue? What do his actions reveal about his pride and priorities?
- In your opinion, who was the fourth figure in the fiery furnace and what did this person represent in the story?
- What golden-statue temptations or fiery-furnace trials are you facing? Where or how do you feel God's presence?

### On a sacred journey (John 18:36-37)

“Jesus answered Pilate, ‘My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.’ Pilate asked him, ‘So you are a king?’ Jesus answered, ‘You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.’”

Today we begin the first Sunday of Advent by lighting the candle of Hope. For Advent, write a short manifesto or a Creed of Hope. What does it mean to belong to truth? To listen and live by the voice of Jesus? Write out – either succinctly or poetically – what you believe it means to be a part of the kin-dom of God?