Advent 2025 - "Wonderful Life - Expectant" Luke 1:39-48 December 1, 2024

Luke 1:39-48

39 In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, 40 and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. 41 And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, 42 and she exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! 43 And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? 44 For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. 45 And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord." 46 And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,

47 and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

48 for he has looked on the humble estate of his servant.

Advent means arrival.

Waiting is connected to hope.

Psalm 130:5-6

5 I wait for the Lord, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

6 my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

7 O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with the Lord there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

Wait expectantly.

Micah 7:7

But as for me, I will look to the Lord; I will wait for the God of my salvation; my God will hear me.

People who wait well have a sense of promise.

God is more bound by purposes than He is to time.

Galatians 4:4-5

4 But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Psalm 97:11
11 Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

Wait together.

Christian hope always changes how we live in the present.

Life Group Discussion Questions

- What did God say to you through His Word during our Sunday gathering?
- Share a memorable moment of having to wait and be patient as a child during the holiday season?
- Why does waiting often feel like wasting time? How does our desire for progress add to the difficulty of waiting?
- Discuss the idea that people who are patient and wait well have a sense of promise and purpose in them?
- How can impatience be fear driven?
- What are some important lessons and perspectives that are revealed through waiting?
- Is there anything you are waiting for you right now?
- In her special season of waiting, Mary goes to see Elizabeth. When has being with someone else helped you wait well?
- In what ways can your life group help you wait with community?