



**SUMMIT**  
— C H U R C H —  
DIRECTION FOR THE JOURNEY



## SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE

December 17, 2023 | "Advent" Week 3



### GROWING CLOSER TOGETHER \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Are you an early or late Christmas gift shopper?
- 2) Which person or group from the Christmas story do you most relate to and why? (Mary, Joseph, Wise Men, Shepherds, Inn Keeper, Herod)



### MESSAGE REFLECTION \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) Review the main points of the message then share something that stood out to you, inspired you, or encouraged you.
- 2) What is one of the challenges of living in between the advents?
- 3) How does the coming of Jesus bring hope to the world generally? How does Jesus' coming bring hope to you personally?
- 4) What does it look like to invite Christ into the mundane of your life?
- 5) How is it possible for you to hold fast to hope in the midst of the pain, suffering, the unknown and darkness experienced in this world?
- 6) Why does the presence of the Holy Spirit bring hope to you as a Christian?
- 7) What are some of the longings you've felt that remind you of the eternal satisfaction only found through hope in Christ?



## GOING DEEPER \_\_\_\_\_

READ – Romans 8:18-25 together

- 1) What jumps out at you from these passages that is interesting or thought-provoking?
- 2) How is it possible to have the hope and confidence that Paul writes about in verse 18? Do you have this hope and confidence? Why or why not?
- 3) Share about a moment that you've waited in "eager expectation" for.
- 4) How do verses 22-23 capture the idea of the Christian living "in between" of the advents? (hint: think justification, sanctification & glorification)
- 5) How are patience and hope related and how are they different?



## LIVING IT OUT \_\_\_\_\_

- 1) What thoughts or pursuits keep you from the **eager expectation** of the second coming of Christ? Confess this to God and ask him to help you wait in **eager expectation** of his triumphant return.
- 2) Think of something you can do to offer hope for someone else this week then do it!



## LIFT EACH OTHER UP \_\_\_\_\_

*Take some time to pray for each other in your life group*

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