

Expectant Hope

December 1, 2013

Luke 1:46-56

Expectant Hope

- The Promise Fulfilled; Long Hope Met
- The Promise Coming; We Hope Still

Mary's Song

The Story (Luke 1:5-25; 26-38; 39-45)

The Song (Luke 1:46-56)

The Great Reversal; The Long Promise; God's Faithfulness

Good News!

Good News – Jesus has come!

Every ... Song, Party, Gift ... An echo of Celebration that is Due!

Longing

Jesus is the Great Fulfillment of the Promise!

But there is more! – Signs of Spring; Inauguration vs Culmination

It is Good to Long

- Every Disappointment points to Bigger Promise
- Embrace Longing – not sated with lesser things
- Expectant Hope – Image of Pregnancy
“Hope” vs “Expecting” – Hope with Reason

This Christmas Season

All the Celebration Reminds us of Jesus

The best news ever

The best gift ever

The best reason to celebrate

All the Disappointment Stirs our Longing

We have been promised more and better

Our disappointment shaped by this longing

Not idle hope; Expectant Hope!

Collects for Advent

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.