

Hope in the Lord

Come and Adore Him

Jeremiah 33:14-16

EXPLORING THE SERMON

- * What did you hear?
- * What did you think or feel about what you heard?
- * What is one thing you can take away from the sermon this week?

KEY VERSES

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

REFLECTION

This week's lectionary text from Jeremiah offers us a counter-intuitive path to hope. The natural way we think about being hopeful is through a sense of positivity. Instead, in naming the difficulty, brokenness, injustice in our lives, we can find healing when we move toward it. **What troubled part of your life do you need to move toward right now?**

Because our hope is found in the person of Jesus, we know that this hope is coming to take on our brokenness and redeem it. Before Jesus came, the people were only able to anticipate his arrival through Jeremiah's prophecy. This "in between" time in which we live allows us to see glimpses of how God is already at work making all things right. **Read the passage again, and compare our perspective to that of the people to whom Jeremiah originally spoke. How does this broaden your faith?**

When we remember our prayers of "already," we can face the "not yet." **As we enter this Advent season, what are your prayers of "already"? How does this different pathway to hope encourage you to develop better memories?**

Heavenly Father, thank you for placing us in this "in between time" in which we can remember what You have already done for us so that we can face the "not yet." We praise You for the hope we are able to have, because we remember how you have brought us each this far and will bring us safely home. Amen.