

Near:  
When Longing  
December 15, 2019  
Message Notes: Aldersgate Church  
Midland & Cardinal Square



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This is what the Sovereign LORD, the Holy One of Israel, says: “In repentance and rest is your salvation, in quietness and trust is your strength, but you would have none of it. . . . Yet the **LORD longs to be gracious to you**; he rises to show you compassion. For the LORD is a God of justice. Blessed are all who wait for him! Isaiah 30:15,18 (NIV)

## God Fulfills Our Deepest Longings

Jesus offers Intimacy Without Shame.

Every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the Feast of the Passover. When he was twelve years old, they went up to the Feast, according to the custom. After the Feast was over, while his parents were returning home, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but they were unaware of it. Thinking he was in their company, they traveled on for a day. Then they began looking for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they went back to Jerusalem to look for him. After three days they found him in the temple courts, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. Luke 2:41-46 (NIV)

One day Jesus was praying in a certain place. When he finished, one of his disciples said to him, “Lord, teach us to pray, just as John taught his disciples.” He said to them, “When you pray, say: “ ‘Father, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come. Give us each day our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, for we also forgive everyone who sins against us. And lead us not into temptation.’ ” Luke 11:1-4 (NIV)

Jesus gives Assurance that God Enjoys Us.

Everyone who heard him was amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished. His mother said to him, “Son, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously searching for you.” “Why were you searching for me?” he asked. “Didn't you know I had to be in my Father's house?” But they did not understand what he was saying to them. Luke 2:47-50 (NIV)

Jesus leads you to Significance.

Then he went down to Nazareth with them and was obedient to them. But his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus grew in wisdom and stature, and in favor with God and men. Luke 2:51-52 (NIV)

And the boy Samuel continued to grow in stature and in favor with the LORD and with men. 1 Samuel 2:26 (NIV)